

# RESOLUTION

## Resolution Appropriating Funds in FY2025 for the Purchase of Road Weather Information Systems Data (82)

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Division of Transportation to maintain the County Highway System in accordance with the McHenry County Snow & Ice Control Policy to which Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) is an important component; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's five (5) Remote Weather Information Systems (RWIS) located throughout the County require cloud based software services with a vendor to effectively integrate and store atmospheric and pavement data; and

**WHEREAS**, the Procurement and Special Services Department acknowledged that the RWIS leased cloud based software services contract is proprietary; and

**WHEREAS**, the County can utilize the forth option year contract for FY2025 which has a renewal option for five (5) years for RWIS leased cloud based software and services from Vaisala Inc. of Louisville, Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the Transportation Committee has reviewed said purchase.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois that there is hereby appropriated from the FY2025 budget the sum of fifty-eight thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$58,440.00) from County Option Motor Fuel Tax Fund; Fund-Dept.-Div.-Main Account 262-82-8240-413150 (Highway Maintenance Contracts) for the purchase of a leased cloud-based software and services and enter into contract with Vaisala Inc. of Louisville, Colorado; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the County Board of McHenry County, Illinois that the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized to execute the necessary documentation to award the contracts as above said; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that these purchases are hereby designated as Section 25-00000-16-GM; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to distribute a certified copy of this resolution to the Chief Financial Officer, the County Administrator and an electronic copy to the Director of Transportation/County Engineer.

**DATED** at Woodstock, Illinois, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, A.D., 2024.

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Michael Buehler, Chairman  
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

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Joseph J. Tirio, County Clerk

## RESOLUTION

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**SUBJECT:** Resolution Appropriating Funds in FY2025 for the Purchase of Road Weather Information Systems Data (82)

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**Board/Committee Action Requested:**

To approve a resolution appropriating funds for Vaisala Inc. of Louisville, Colorado to provide Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) cloud-based software services for the forth option year FY2025.

**Background and Discussion:** The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) currently has five (5) RWIS sites located strategically throughout the County. RWIS is a specialized computer based pavement weather monitoring system which provides pavement and atmospheric weather data, site-specific pavement weather forecasts, and Road Decision Support Manager for use by the MCDOT's operations and maintenance personnel throughout the year and especially during the winter season.

There is an abundant amount of data retrieved from an RWIS site. Each RWIS has multiple sensors which provide the MCDOT with information utilized to assist as a tool for the decision making process during winter events. The data collected and housed in the cloud based software allows the DOT the ability to react appropriately when dispatching snow and ice removal activities to maximize the safety of the traveling public.

Historically, the MCDOT owned and maintained all five (5) RWIS's. With the RWIS's getting older it is getting harder to maintain and keep the technology updated. Vaisala is the only company on a national level offering an RWIS lease program. The MCDOT has elected to lease the RWIS's as it will be Vaisala's sole responsibility to monitor and keep the RWIS's updated with the latest technology.

Attached are documents for your review. The first document is a RoadDSS on Demand Program Success Story with the City of West Des Moines. The other document is an informational brochure on the value of the RoadDSS on Demand Program. RoadDss On-Demand is a subscription based service:

- no need to purchase equipment (Vaisala Owns Equipment)
- no need to install equipment (Vaisala Installs Equipment)
- no need to Provide Maintenance and Servicing (Vaisala Maintains and Services the RWIS Stations)

Vaisala also provides access to the data through our cloud-based software interface called Navigator. The service also includes:

- access to a 72-hour prediction of the road conditions
- performance index to measure your effectiveness
- Sensor Monitoring

The sensor monitoring feature alerts Vaisala upon any sensor or system error. Vaisala technical experts will attempt to resolve issues remotely if possible. In the event any issue cannot be solved remotely, Vaisala shall make an on-site visit and repair at no cost to the customer.

This RWIS data is shared with our contracted weather service providing them an additional tool for forecasting McHenry County.

The RWIS leased contract was received and opened on August 21, 2020. Vaisala Inc. of Louisville, Colorado was the sole responder. This bid has a renewal option for five (5) years. This is the third year of the contract. Due to the unique type of services being required, it is not unreasonable that only one bid was received after the Procurement and Special Services Department searched for additional vendors.

**Impact on Human Resources:** none.

**Impact on Budget (Revenue, Expenses, Fringe Benefits)** The necessary funds (\$58,440.00) are included in the draft FY2025 budget. Resolutions for subsequent years would be required if the option to renew is exercised for FY2026.

**Impact on Capital Expenditures:** none.

**Impact on Physical Space:** none.

**Impact on Other County Department or Outside Agencies:** none.

**Conformity to Board Ordinances and Policies:** Conforms to purchasing ordinances and policies.