

County of Butler

Board of Commissioners

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COUNTY FUNDS DONEGAL TOWNSHIP BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

The Butler County Board of Commissioners today approved using \$51,594 of the funds collected from the \$5 vehicle registration fee to reimburse Donegal Township's construction and inspection costs for replacing the Rattigan Bridge.

The bridge is located at the intersection of Rabbitt and Rattigan roads. Butler County Bridge and Fleet Director Kevin Gray said the former 28-foot structure, which was built out of concrete and steel beams in 1928, was in poor condition. The new concrete box culvert bridge, which opened in November, spans 33 feet.

The old bridge was 16 feet wide and had a 10-ton weight limit. Weights of up to 40 tons are allowed on the new 24-feet-wide bridge without a permit.

The township is funding \$25,649 of the \$1.54 million total cost with the state covering the remaining \$1.46 million. The total available money in the county registration fee fund is \$1.34 million.

Gray said a new bridge typically needs refurbished after 20 to 30 years, but not need to be replaced for 75 years or more. He said various factors, including age, weight limit and traffic volume, decide whether a bridge is refurbished or replaced.