

**Regular Meeting
Highway Committee
August 8th, 2016**

Members Present: Gary Steber, Larry Neuens, Fran Modschiedler, and Larry Dzekute.

Members Absent: Jeanette Bomberg, excused

Others Present: Jeff DeMuri and Tiffany White

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steber.

Approval and/or revisions to current agenda: A motion was made by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler, and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the agenda as submitted.

Approval of Minutes: It was then moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler, and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the minutes of the July 11th Regular Highway Committee meeting and the August 2nd and August 4th Special Highway Committee meetings.

Old Business

Update on CTH 'N' STP project: Corre is working on environmental/DNR permitting so that side sloping and culvert work can begin. The plan is to start with some of that work this fall if the permits are completed in time.

Update on Chip Seal project: DeMuri said that the chip seal project for CTH 'B' is currently slated for the middle to end of August. He has asked the company that he is purchasing the chips from to screen them down to a smaller size because that a smaller chip size will work better with the fog seal and will lower the cost of the fog seal, the estimate for that is now roughly \$25,000. Since the price for the fog seal has dropped, DeMuri would like to go ahead and do the fog seal on this project. It was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Neuens and voted four (4) to zero (0) to proceed with the fog seal over the length of the chip seal project.

Update on CTH 'U' culvert: DeMuri would like to bid out for a contractor to work on this culvert because we will have two new hires with very little experience and will also have another employee off work for an extended period of time for a medical issue. He would like to have the contractor block off and re-route the water, the excavation and backfill. The highway employees will take down the guardrail, prep the site, supply and haul the materials. DeMuri is going to try to work with various contractors to get the cost below \$25,000 so that it doesn't have to be bid out. If he does have to bid it out, he may have to look into getting a waiver from the DNR because the timeline of the project would likely be pushed into trout season and the stream is a Class A Trout Stream. DeMuri will put a notice in the local paper roughly a week before work on this project as the road will be closed. He will also be contacting the sheriff's department, various fire departments, rescue squads and the school for busing.

New Business

Release of Right-of-Way & Gravel & Mineral Reservations for 2 parcels of land in the Town of Florence: The County Highway Commission received request for the release of right-of-way and gravel and mineral rights for 2 parcels in Section Thirty-one (31), Township Forty (40) North, Range (19) East in the Town of Florence. After a brief discussion, it was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the release of the gravel and/or mineral reservations and the right-of-way based upon the recommendation of the Town of Florence.

2017 Highway Budget: Due to the fact that we will be changing the way the highway books are kept in 2017 (having an Enterprise fund as well as a County Road and Bridges fund) additional time was needed to create the 2017 highway budget. The 2017 budget will be presented to the Committee at the September meeting.

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2016 Transportation Resolutions: The ADRC has a resolution called “Just Fix It” for transportation funding that came from the Wisconsin Counties Association. DeMuri also just received a nearly identical resolution from the Transportation Development Association. It was moved by Neuens, seconded by Modscheidler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to pass the resolution on to the County Board for action.

Town Hall meeting for Transportation funding: The Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA), the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities (LWM) are planning a Town Hall meeting in all 72 counties throughout the state on September 29th. DeMuri is to facilitate the meeting which will include a video explaining WisDOT budget changes. There will then be discussion regarding transportation funding and how to keep the transportation infrastructure in good repair in light of planned budget cuts.

Vehicle Transfer: DeMuri explained that he has received an old squad car from the Sheriff’s Dept. in exchange for moving the radio tower. It will likely be used for parts runs, possibly a flagging car and also at job sites to remind drivers to slow down. Neuens asked about the cost for the vehicle to be insured and DeMuri said he would get that information for the committee.

Adjourn to Closed Session: A motion was made by Dzekute, seconded by Neuens to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to:

WI State Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss applicants for the position of laborer/truck driver.

A roll call vote was taken and all members present voted Aye.

Reconvene to Open Session: A motion was made by Neuens, seconded by Modscheidler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to recommend the hiring of Jeff Sternhagen and Roger Osterberg to the Personnel Committee.

Commissioner’s Report: DeMuri made contact with the property owner on the ATV trail by CTH ‘N’ to see if he would reconsider allowing the ATV trail to run through his property as the snowmobile trail currently does. The landowner is not interested in making any change, so the Forestry Dept. will need to begin looking into a new route for the trail. Also, the epoxy job on the Pine River Bridge is complete. DeMuri expressed kudos to the crew for working long hours in order to complete it in a single day. The bridge was able to be reopened mid-morning of the second day.

Distribute monthly financial statement: The monthly financial report was presented by White. It was then moved by Dzekute, seconded by Neuens and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the financial report as presented.

Present bills: The current monthly bills were presented to the Committee for their review. After review and discussion of the bills, it was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modscheidler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve payment of the bills not to exceed \$42,367.59.

Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items: Next month’s agenda will include updates on the new employees, the STP project, the CTH ‘U’ culvert project and the seal coat project. It will also include the 2017 budget proposal.

Adjourn to next regular meeting: There being no further business, it was moved by Neuens, seconded by Dzekute and voted four (4) to zero (0) to adjourn to September 12th, 2016 for the next regular highway meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany White,
Office Manager