

**Regular Meeting
Highway Committee
August 10th, 2015**

Members Present: Gary Steber, Jeanette Bomberg, Larry Neuens, John Halada, and Larry Dzekute (seated @ 4:03 PM).

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Jeff DeMuri, Francie Freeberg and Tiffany White.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steber.

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

Approval of Minutes: It was then moved by Neuens, seconded by Halada and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the minutes of the July 13th Highway Committee meetings, as printed.

Old Business

CTH “N” Bonding Project:

The CTH ‘N’ resurfacing project is 99% finished. The center line has been put down and the snowmobile crossings have been finished.

Larry Dzekute was seated.

The only thing to be completed is stenciling the bike/walking path near US ‘2’ up to the County Fair Grounds.

The Highway Department’s responsibilities for the Ox Bowl ATV Trail portion of the project is also finished. The grass is planted and growing, some may need to be re-seeded. The only thing on the trail that is not finished yet is the signage and that is up to the County Forestry Department to complete.

Neuens asked who was responsible for ensuring that the portion of CTH ‘N’ by Lindow’s was raised appropriately to make it a passing lane, the contractor or the Highway Department? DeMuri explained that it was not the contractor’s responsibility, and that while it was raised in some areas, it was not able to be a passing lane due to the lower profile of cars today, not through the fault of anyone. DeMuri said he questioned the line striping company as to why there were no passing lanes in the area when there were before. He was informed that the ones that were there before were illegal.

Update on the Aurora Bridge: Michigan will be doing the work on the bridge next week. We will not have any involvement such as flagging or any extra work as traffic will be done with stop and go lights from MDOT. DeMuri said he may put an ad in the paper re: a disruption to traffic. DeMuri said that he has hired a contractor to do some sup-structure work under the bridge and that will be done tomorrow and Wednesday. During the next inspection cycle DeMuri expects the rating for the bridge to either stay the same “OK” or it may go down a level. In the next 6-7 years he would like to see the bridge get an overhaul of new deck, new railing and new approaches.

New Business

2016 Budget and 5-year Road Plan: DeMuri is waiting on GTAs and RMA’s from the state, so he is unable to complete his budget at this time. It is likely that it will be done in early-September for the next highway meeting. The projects this year have met a lot of the items on the 5-year Road Plan, DeMuri should have more updated plans for revising it at next month’s Committee meeting.

Multi-county Truck Bid: DeMuri said several northern counties, including Oneida, Price and Langlade, have been ordering trucks as a group for the past 3 or 4 years. They determine the specs of the chassis together and then each county makes their own choices as far as cab style, horsepower, etc. Steber mentioned concerns due to experience with a past state bid for trucks. Neuens said he would like to see what the savings would be for a single purchase vs. the multi-county choice. DeMuri will gather more information to present to the Committee.

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Winter Truck Storage: In the past, a truck has been stored in Aurora during the winter months to allow for quick service to the area at the cost of \$1,500-\$2,000 per year. This year the truck will no longer be able to be stored in the same place. They have received an offer from L&H to store the truck in one of their buildings for \$2,500. Steber suggested reaching out to Schomer or Grailer to see if they would have the room to rent space. Bomberg suggested putting an ad in the paper for people to bid on a contract to store the truck.

Commissioner's Report: The Cold Storage building had some new concrete aprons poured and a new Pallet rack system installed. Currently it is holding tar and silt fencing as well as other things that were cleaned out of the main shop. Depending on any future water issues, they may decide pave around the lean-to.

The Aurora resident who was having issues last month has had her driveway fixed with a small lip to keep water running down the curb. It is a temporary fix. There is a culvert on CTH 'B' at the intersection of CTH 'U' is failing. There is a square patch there now holding it together, but that will need to be fixed. If there is extra asphalt he can fix it permanently then the driveway water issue.

There might will be an ad in the paper regarding traffic disruption on the US '2' bridge over the Menominee. With the MI DOT, we will be cutting out and re-pouring the delaminated sections beginning the week of 8/17/2015. It is expected to take 2 weeks. While the work is on-going there will be stop-and-go lights set up because it will be a one lane closure for 5 days for each lane.

Distribute monthly financial statements: The monthly financial report was presented by Freeberg. Upon review, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Neuens and voted unanimous to approve the report as presented.

Present bills: The current monthly bills were presented to the Committee for their review. DeMuri explained the large bills to the Committee. After review and discussion of the bills, it was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Halada and voted unanimous to approve payment of the bills not to exceed \$102,811.95.

Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items: Neuens asked if we still had work to do for the Forestry Department. Some projects are still on-going, but they are winding down. Steber asked if the wage adjustment issue for an employee had been resolved. DeMuri said that since the evaluation forms aren't completed yet, he did an informal review and adjusted the employee's wages accordingly.

Next month's agenda should include discussions about the multi-county truck bid, the 2016 budget and the 5-year road plan.

Adjourn to next regular meeting: There being no further business, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Neuens and voted unanimous to adjourn to September 14th, 2015 for the next regular highway meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany White,
Office Manager