

**Regular Meeting
Highway Committee
September 12th, 2016**

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

Members Absent: Larry Neuens, excused

Others Present: Joseph Bestor, Tom Harrison, 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 Bomberg, seconded by Dzekute, and voted four (4) to zero (0) to revise the agenda by changing item #6(a) to be “ATV/Snowmobile Trail Committee / CTH ‘D’” and to move it to immediately follow the Approval of Minutes.

Approval of Minutes: It was then moved by Dzekute, seconded by Bomberg, and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve the minutes of the August 8th Regular Highway Committee meeting and the August 22nd Special Highway Committee meeting.

New Business

ATV/Snowmobile Trail Committee / CTH ‘D’: An ad-hoc meeting will be held on September 14th at 5:30pm at the Natural Resource Center. Since that committee is just advisory, Bomberg suggested the Highway Committee attempt to make a decision today regarding opening CTH ‘D’ around Lake Emily to ATV traffic. DeMuri mentioned that he is not in favor of having ATV traffic on county highways. However, he said that if there was a trail on CTH ‘D’ the trail traffic would need to stay on the pavement and off the shoulders. Also, the necessary signing for the trail would need to be placed by either Forestry & Parks or the Blue Ox Club. Modschiedler said that a potential trail on CTH ‘D’ would be considered a “route” and that there is specific signing that would need to be done. He also said that the club would be very willing to be responsible for the upkeep of the signs. Steber asked where the trail would be, and Tom Harrison said he would recommend that it be from the current trail near the park, along CTH ‘D’ to the intersection of Lake Emily Drive. Bomberg recommended that if the trail goes into effect on CTH ‘D’ that a notice be put in the paper to create awareness not only for ATVs but also for the general public that there will be ATV traffic on that road. After some discussion, a motion was made by Bomberg, seconded by Modschiedler, and voted four (4) to zero (0) to recommend to the County Board that CTH ‘D’ be opened to ATV traffic from Lake Emily Drive to Lake Emily Drive as long as it is appropriately signed.

Old Business

Update on new employees: Both Jeff Sternhagen and Paul Osterberg started work on August 29th, Sternhagen is already hauling and Osterberg should be completing his CDL soon.

Update on employee positions: DeMuri posted for an interim/acting foreman while Raymond Thomas is off for medical leave and Ryan McLain and Chad Hedmark both applied. Due to his experience, DeMuri has selected Hedmark and will be recommending to the Personnel committee a pay increase to \$21.50 with a letter to Hedmark clearly explaining that it is a temporary increase and that once the foreman is back to work he will return to his normal operator pay rate. Also, since we now only have one operator, DeMuri posted for an operator position and McLain applied. DeMuri would recommend that Ryan be permanently changed from a truck driver/laborer to an operator with the appropriate pay increase for that position. It was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to recommend both changes to the Personnel Committee.

Update on CTH ‘N’ STP project: DeMuri explained that Corre is still working on the wetland permits, and it is unlikely that they will be completed in time to begin doing any work on the project this year.

Update on Chip seal project: DeMuri said that construction-wise, the project has gone according to schedule. The chips were placed on a Monday and Tuesday. At the end of the day signs were placed re: the loose gravel, then the chips were allowed to sit for a few days so traffic could pound them into the asphalt. The road surface was swept on the following

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Monday. There were several complaints due to rocks hitting vehicles, so some options for future chip seal projects would be to use a smaller chip size, sweep the road surface sooner and/or post reduced speed signs. The fog seal still needs to be done and then the centerline will be painted.

Update on CTH 'U' culvert project: A notice appeared in the paper for two weeks regarding the closure of CTH 'U'. The Little Popple will be re-routed into a new channel, then the original culverts will be dug out and rock will be added to get the surface to grade. Then the new culvert sections will be placed with a crane and backfilled. The road will hopefully be re-opened sometime on Friday, 9/16.

Update on Sale of Equipment: One of the tandem trucks (#26) was recently sold. Originally, the plan had been to sell a different truck. However, according to our mechanic, some big repairs were on the horizon so it was determined that this truck was the better option. It was sold for roughly \$27,000

New Business

Adjourn to Closed Session: A motion was made by Dzekute, and seconded by Bomberg 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 for Personnel requested discussion.

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

Reconvene to Open Session: A motion was made by Bomberg, seconded by Modschiedler and voted four (4) to zero (0) to grant McLain his leave of absence request with the stipulation that there is adequate coverage for snowplowing.

2017 Highway Budget: The 2017 budget was presented by DeMuri. Bestor commented on the possibility of bonding in the future for roads projects and in turn lowering the levy amount for the Highway budget. After some discussions and questions a motion was made by Bomberg, seconded by Dzekute and voted four (4) to zero (0) to move it on to the Audit/Budget committee.

Commissioner's Report: DeMuri said that the guys are working hard, and that there is a lot of work they can do before the snow starts coming.

Distribute monthly financial statement: The monthly financial report was presented by White. It was then moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler 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 Bomberg, seconded by Dzekute and voted four (4) to zero (0) to approve payment of the bills not to exceed \$179,918.24.

Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items: Modschiedler asked about the plans for the section of 139 just north and just south of the Town of Long Lake, as it is in poor condition. DeMuri said that at this time the state doesn't have any plans to do any work on it.

Adjourn to next regular meeting: There being no further business, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Dzekute and voted four (4) to zero (0) to adjourn to October 10th, 2016 for the next regular highway meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany White,
Office Manager