

**Regular Meeting  
Highway Committee  
September 14th, 2015**

Members Present: Gary Steber, Jeanette Bomberg, Larry Neuens, John Halada, and Larry Dzekute.

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 Dzekute, seconded by Neuens, and voted unanimous to approve the agenda as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes:** It was then moved by Neuens, seconded by Dzekute, and voted unanimous to approve the minutes of the August 10th Highway Committee meeting, as printed.

**Old Business**

**2016 Budget:** The preliminary budget for 2016 was reviewed by DeMuri. Steber asked if there were any questions on the proposed budget. There were not.

**5-year Road Plan:** DeMuri presented the 5-year Road Plan for Florence County. Neuens asked if there was any further need for the board to discuss the bonding money for future projects. DeMuri said no, that any future discussion of bond money would be handled by DeMuri, the county's Financial Manager Joe Bestor, and the auditors. Steber asked if there were any questions on the 5-year Road Plan as it was presented. There were not.

**Winter Truck Storage:** Only one quote was received from Grailer Welding in response to the ad for Winter Truck Storage. It was in the amount of \$2,000 for storage for the 2015/2016 winter season (Nov. – April). DeMuri will contact the bidder to discuss the details and make sure the bidder does not have any further questions.

**New Business**

**Release of Right-of-Way & Gravel & Mineral Reservations for 4 parcels all in Section Three (3), Township Forty (40) North, Range Seventeen (17) East, Florence County, Wisconsin:** The County Highway Commission received a request for the release of right-of-way and gravel and mineral rights for the above parcels from Florence Title and Abstract Company. After a brief discussion of what it means and why someone would request a release it was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Halada and voted unanimous 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.

**Equipment Purchases:** DeMuri is looking for a good, used patch trailer to purchase. He is also getting information about a 275 gallon vacuum excavator. A vacuum excavator would allow signposts to be installed easily year-round and allow them to steam and jet culverts on State and County highways, as well as for Townships. The machine has the added benefit of little risk of accidentally damaging underground utilities due to the vacuum suction settings. Neuens inquired about the cost for the purchase of the vacuum excavator. DeMuri said it would be approximately \$40,000. DeMuri said the purchase of this piece of equipment would allow them to get rid of three separate pieces of equipment currently being used, but mentioned that not much would be coming in as revenue from the sale of those three pieces. Neuens asked if it needed to be stored in a heated building. DeMuri said that it does, but with the recent construction of the Cold Storage Building they have much more room in the shop than in past years.

**PASER Rating:** PASER ratings which are determined by inspecting road surfaces, cracks and shoulders, need to be done every 2 years and this is the year for it. He asked the board members if any of them would like to come along to inspect the quality of the county highways. Dzekute, Halada and Neuens all expressed interest depending on the day that is selected for the ratings.

**Highway Committee Meeting**  
**September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**Page 2**

**2014 Financial Report:** The 2014 Financial Report was reviewed by Freeberg. There were no questions about the report.

**Commissioner's Report:** DeMuri said he is in the process of getting a quote for flooring the Highway Commission office. Rather than tile, he is considering a method that will involve grinding the floors down to the concrete, then doing an epoxy overlay.

ATV club representatives were in to discuss the possibility of opening a portion of CTH 'D', from Horseshoe Lane to the Lake Emily park, to ATV use. The issue is that there are several people in the designated area who have ATVs that cannot access the trail system from their homes without driving across private property. The committee expressed concerns for safety. After further discussion, Bomberg requested that DeMuri get a legal opinion of the potential county liability of opening up this portion of CTH 'D' to ATV use prior to the next committee meeting.

**Distribute monthly financial statements:** The monthly financial report was presented by White. 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 \$55,781.00.

**Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items:** Neuens asked if weeds had been sprayed along CTH 'N' and DeMuri confirmed that they had. Neuens also asked where things stood with the Multi-County Truck bids, DeMuri said he would have more information to share with the committee if/when his budget is approved as that is an item on the 2016 proposed budget.

Next month's agenda should include discussions about the 2016 budget and the request to open a portion of CTH 'D' to ATV use.

**Adjourn to next regular meeting:** There being no further business, it was moved by Dzekute, seconded by Neuens and voted unanimous to adjourn to October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for the next regular highway meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany White,  
Office Manager

Update September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 regarding the Release of Right-of-Way and Gravel & Mineral Reservations for 4 parcels all in Section Three (3), Township Forty (40) North, Range Seventeen (17) East, Florence County, Wisconsin:

The Town of Florence recommended the release of County held gravel/mineral reservations on said premises. The Town of Florence recommended the retention of the 66 foot wide strip of ROW being 33 feet on each side of the centerline of Township road Harding Road as it presently crosses said premises. In accordance with the action taken by the Highway Committee at the meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Town of Florence recommendation was accepted.