

**Regular Meeting
Highway Committee
November 14th, 2016**

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jeff DeMuri, Wendy Gehlhoff, and Tiffany White

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steber.

Approval and/or revisions to current agenda: A motion was made by Neuens, seconded by Dzekute, and voted unanimous to revise the agenda by moving item #6(a) to immediately follow the Approval of Minutes.

Approval of Minutes: It was then moved by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler, and voted unanimous to approve the minutes of the October 10th Regular Highway Committee meeting.

New Business

RMA signing – Jeff Hess w/ WisDOT: Jeff Hess stated that the Dept. of Transportation is very thankful for all the work that the County Highway Commission has done over the course of the year. State-wide the total Maintenance program is about \$170 million which is the same as 2015. That is divided into approx. \$141 million for the RMA (Routine Maintenance Agreement) program, roughly \$17 million for the PBM (Performance Based Maintenance) projects and approx. \$12 million for Winter Reserve. Florence County's budget for 2017 is \$497,100. This is an increase of about \$5,000 from 2016. On top of that, there is also a salt budget of \$164,200 for State work and a PBM project scheduled for a crack-sealing project along US-2 which is estimated at around \$33,000. Also, if there is a light winter this year and the Winter Reserve is not used up, WisDOT will use some of that reserve to fund other discretionary road projects throughout the region. DeMuri asked about a PBM he applied for to crack-fill on Hwy 70 from 139 to US 2 to help preserve one of the county's older roads that is in fair condition. Jeff Hess said that although it wasn't designated as the PBM project, it is possible that a project like that could be done as a DMA (Discretionary Maintenance Agreement) if money is freed up due to a light winter. A motion was made by Bomberg, seconded by Modschiedler, and voted unanimous to sign the Routine Maintenance Agreement.

Old Business

Update on CTH 'N' STP project: Corre held the open house meeting in Aurora re: the project. Invites for it went out to all property owners on the project and it was also posted at the Aurora Town Hall and in the newspaper. Approximately 15 people attended the meeting who asked questions re: driveways, culverts and the Fisher Lake Parkway intersection. DeMuri also reported that he made contacts with some potential property owners who could provide additional dirt in the area for filling in side slopes. Overall, the plan sets are nearly completed and the wetland delineation is completed. Neuens asked if any changes were planned for the intersection by Aurora Liquors. DeMuri said there might be some changes to curving or the way drainage is going, but for the most part it will remain as it is.

New Business

Winter Highway Conference: The Winter Highway Conference will take place January 16-18 in WI Dells. If any committee members are interested in attending, please reach out to DeMuri so we can get registration taken care of.

Highway Building & Grounds: Kleiman Pump & Well Drilling came out to inspect our well and give us an estimate for repairing it because we're having trouble getting enough volume to make brine for the winter months. Kleiman tested the pump and pipe and said it is pumping 15 gallons/minute when it should be at 35 gallons/minute. The pump/pipe are approximately 31 years old and although Kleiman thinks the issue is mainly the pipe, they recommended replacing the

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pump, too due to its age. Kleiman provided an estimate of \$4,100 to replace the pump and pipe. After some discussion, a motion was made by Dzekute, seconded by Modschiedler and voted unanimous to move forward with the replacement to fix the well.

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

WI State Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(c) and (e) The purpose of the meeting is to discuss, strategize and move forward with a weight limit plan for Florence County roads.

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

Reconvene to Open Session: A motion was made by Bomberg, seconded by Neuens and voted unanimous to take the information that was received during the closed session and develop a plan to move forward. More information should be ready for the next regular Highway Committee meeting.

Commissioner's Report: DeMuri reported that the crews are finishing up shoulder grading. The trucks are set-up for winter and the salt spreaders are being calibrated this week. A representative from WisDOT was in today to do a salt conservation presentation. They are advocating a move to more anti-icing measures, putting brine on the roadways before storms, to cut down on the amount of salt used.

Distribute monthly financial statement: The monthly financial report was presented by White. It was then moved by Bomberg, seconded by Neuens and voted unanimous 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 Modschiedler and voted unanimous to approve payment of the bills not to exceed \$187,244.03.

Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items: The agenda for next month's meeting will include Weight Limits and the Winter Highway Conference. Neuens mentioned that it was nice to hear the compliments that Jeff Hess gave the Highway Commission.

Adjourn to next regular meeting: There being no further business, it was moved by Neuens, seconded by Dzekute and unanimous to adjourn to December 12th, 2016 for the next regular highway meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany White,
Office Manager