

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

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Kevin Trevillian from Coleman Engineering, Jeff DeMuri and Francie Freeberg.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steber.

**Approval and/or revisions to current agenda:** It was moved by Gardner, seconded by Halada and voted unanimous to approve the agenda as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes:** On a motion by Bomberg and seconded by Gardner, it was voted unanimous to approve minutes of the May 12<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup> regular Highway Committee Meetings and the June 26<sup>th</sup> Ad-Hoc Meeting Minutes.

### **Old Business**

**Loaders/Sale:** DeMuri reminded the Committee that a local contractor had purchased the one Caterpillar Loader for \$87,100. At the time he did bid on the second loader and it was recommended that we re-advertise to sell that loader as it wasn't in the first advertisement. Unfortunately, this contractor did not get the contract that he was hoping for so he no longer has a need for another loader. That is why he did not submit a bid. Since no one else expressed an interest in the loader it was returned to Caterpillar for the guaranteed buy back of \$84,500.

**State Performance Based Maintenance Project (P.B.M.):** Previously we were granted a PBM project by the DOT which required our gravel stockpiles to be tested if that material was to be used on this project. That testing has been completed on the gravel in our CTH "D" pit, Sharon DeLaurelle's Pit, and Doreen Skaar's pit in Tipler. All the gravels did pass so the material is good for use on the DOT project. Unfortunately, the DOT over programmed themselves for 2014 so the project has been postponed. This is probably good for us, as we now have plenty of work to get done due to the passing of the bonding projects.

### **New Business**

**Cold Storage Building:** Since we did not bond for a new building DeMuri said that he would like to advertise for bids for the cold storage building that was discussed and approved last year. We still have the money in our budget for this. The plans had to go to the state for approval and we did not get that in time for construction last year. It will be 50' x 72' free span. DeMuri said that he will include an option for an additional 30' in length. The cold storage building will have a gravel floor and is estimated to cost approximately \$40,000 to \$45,000. After discussion it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Gardner and voted unanimous for DeMuri to proceed with the bidding process for this building.

**CTH "N" Bonding Project:** Since the bonding projects were approved by the County Board DeMuri has been working on some of the pre work that needs to be done first, including the installation of culverts and extensions. We've already completed 12 or 13 extensions and we still have nine (9) or ten (10) pipes that cross the road that need to be installed. One of the pipes is a very long one, approximately 90 feet, so we will have to close CTH "N" in order to do the installation. The reason it is so long is that this pipe will be going across the snowmobile trail as well. Traffic will be able to use CTH "NN" during the closure.

DeMuri said that a paving contractor has pulled out of the pit in the Spread Eagle area but then learned that they will be returning for another project in Michigan. They will be in the pit just past the Brule River bridge on US '2'. So this is probably the best time to get a good price, since they will be so close. There are probably three (3) or four (4) tentative bidders including Bacco Construction, Northeast Asphalt, Pitlick & Wick and American Asphalt. DeMuri said that he has been working on the bid specs with the help of Coleman Engineering. There are a lot of extra things that need to be included in the specifications. To name a few is rough stationing along the entire route, some construction material testing, pavement design and testing, etc. We need quality specifications for the bidders. DeMuri said that he would like

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to do something with the curve alignment by the ox bowl. The hill should be cut and the ATV trail may need to be moved. He has talked to the DNR about this area as we need a permit for work of this scope in that area. As it is now, there are safety concerns for the people using this area for recreational purposes. Unfortunately the DNR has been very slow at responding to DeMuri's contacts. Coleman Engineering could draw up the design and slopes for the road in this area. They have written a four page proposal letter explaining their services. Pieces can be added or removed from the contract as needed. The package deal is \$19,000 with approximately half of it related to the curve realignment. They agree that they will work at DeMuri's request and suggestions. If we don't hear from the DNR within the next two weeks, the curve re-alignment probably won't happen. The Committee felt that safety is a key factor and this was critical. They said that DeMuri should push as much as possible to get the necessary paperwork from the DNR. Neuens asked about some of the problems on CTH "U" that were caused by a vibratory roller. In some areas there will be extra aggregate added to the pavement surface which will be pulverized with the old blacktop. This will then give extra strength to the pavement. After discussion, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Gardner and voted unanimous to approve this contract with Coleman Engineer, not to exceed \$19,000.

**Future S.T.P. Project:** DeMuri said that he would like to start on the necessary paperwork for the 2017 STP project on CTH "N" East of Aurora. This will need to be designed by an engineering firm. Since we did that last year for the STP project that was rejected, do we need to re-advertise or can we just shift the project form one section of CTH "N" to another section on CTH "N". After discussion, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Gardner and voted unanimous to have DeMuri start the process and re-advertise for this project.

**Commissioner's Report:** DeMuri said that he has an employee that will be off for an extended period of time as he needs surgery on his neck. He's having the surgery on Monday of next week and DeMuri thinks he will be off a minimum of four to six weeks. The mowing was completed last week. Again, the DOT only allows for one pass alongside the state roads. Center lining was completed on CTH's "B" and "C" last week and DeMuri plans to do more from the 4-way east on "N" to Aurora. Salt prices for this season have increased 15% a ton.

**Distribute monthly financial statements:** The monthly financial statements were distributed and reviewed by Freeberg. It was moved by Neuens, seconded by Halada and voted unanimous to approve the financial report as submitted.

**Present bills:** The bills were presented for review. After discussion, it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Gardner and voted unanimous to approve payment of the bills for a total not to exceed \$77,562.58.

**Committee Members comments, concerns and future agenda items:** In order for the DOT to build the state salt shed there will have to be a variance for the property. Neuens mentioned some information he received in his mailbox at the courthouse. He also had a clipping about a new transportation bill that is soon to be unveiled and an article in the Crossroads magazine about a "high friction surface" being tested on curves and felt we should be looking into this. DeMuri said that is similar to the epoxy surface we put on the Little Popple River bridge on "N" last year. Next month's agenda should include discussions on the bonding work.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business it was moved by Bomberg, seconded by Halada, and voted unanimous to adjourn to August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Francie Freeberg  
Office Manager