



MINUTES

Eau Claire County • Committee on Highway

Thursday, Aug 18th 2016 / 6:15 am

Highway Department Meeting Room 101 • 2000 Spooner Avenue, Altoona, WI 54720

Members Present: Chairman Ray Henning, Vice Chairman Steve Chilson, Supervisor Kathy Clark, Supervisor Carl Anton, Supervisor Katy Forsythe

Staff Present: Jon Johnson, Highway Commissioner; Rich Walthers, Highway Superintendent; Michael Donaldson, Administrative Associate; Rod Thorson, Highway Engineer; Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Frank Draxler, Purchasing Director; Matt Theisen, Facilities Director

Other Present: Roger Nelson, Ayres Associates; Mike Stoffel, Ayres Associates; Lori Rosemare, Ayres Associates

1. **Call meeting to order**

Chairman Henning called the meeting to order at 6:15 a.m.

2. **Confirmation of meeting notice - Review**

Meeting notice confirmed.

3. **August 4th Committee Meeting Minutes - Review/Discussion/Action**

Motion: Supervisor Clark to approve meeting minutes. Motion carried 5-0

4. **Public comment**

No public comment

5. **Phase 1 environmental site assessment report (Ayres) – Review/Action**

Members of Ayres Associates spoke on their findings of the phase 1 assessment of the current Eau Claire County Highway site. In summary, 6 recognized environmental conditions were identified along with a deed restriction area which was put in place by the DNR in a prior year. Next action would either be a phase 2 assessment or no action. The phase 1 assessment is valid for 180 days.

6. **Small Vehicle fleet program development – Review/Action**

Commissioner Johnson spoke of research performed in evaluation of the current condition and value of the aging small vehicle fleet program and options available to replace the aging fleet through leasing or purchasing programs. In analysis, cost savings was identified in which the small vehicle fleet could be replaced in a shorter time period thus increasing the trade in value while minimizing repair and maintenance costs through manufactures warranty. Also a decrease in down time and increase in safety would be recognized. In addition, the possible purchase of a Road Reclaimer, which was discussed at a prior committee meeting, was also viewed as a worthwhile investment.

Motion: Supervisor Clark motioned for both equipment proposals to move forward through the budget process, seconded by Vice Chairman Chilson. Motion carried 5-0

7. **Limited carryover funds in winter maintenance Ordinance – Review/Action**

Commissioner Johnson spoke on the winter maintenance ordinance that limits the amount of carry over which is currently capped at \$250k. In discussion with the committee, it was recommended to increase the amount of possible carry over to at least the minimum winter maintenance budgeted amount which would allow the department to manage to the conditions each year. Next step will include Commissioner Johnson to review the ordinances language with Keith Zehms from Corp Counsel.

8. **Acquisitions of parcels for County Highway H bridge project town of Wilson – Review/Action**
Commissioner Johnson presented the Resolution of Needs and Necessity for CTH H Bridge Replacement to the committee for review. Commissioner Johnson will review resolution with Keith Zehms prior to forwarding to the County Board for approval of acquisition of land.

Motion: Supervisor Forsythe motion to move forward with language updates prior to Corp Council.
Motion carried 5-0

9. **Staff and committee reports – Discussion/Action**

Commissioner Jon Johnson spoke on:

- Performed interviews for LTE Accountant, offer has been extended
- Sept 29th – WCA Town Hall Meeting at Expo Center. Theme is Transportation funding
- Highway Commissioner meeting on 27th of October at 9am.
- Meeting in a couple weeks with MRA to examine our current financial process and look for efficiencies. Working with other counties to standardize processes

Highway Superintendent Rich Walthers spoke on:

- The heavy rains that occurred recently caused a lot of water crossing roads but not much destruction. Some of the shoulder, south of Foster on STH 53, was washed out. We also had one tree down in the Town of Seymour.
- Dells Mill Pond – going to be placing a guardrail on the curve near the bridge to discourage people stopping and parking along dangerous curve where visibility is minimal.
- Sealcoat and cracking program is close to completion.
- Currently working on construction projects on CTH KK by Foster, CTH KK north and CTH HH, west of I94 will start paving next week.
- Held first joint meeting focusing on reducing the dumping and littering along our CTH system. Along with the County Sheriff, DNR, and planning and development, the workgroup is looking at more surveillance tactics and enforcement. DNR fines for illegal dumping can range up to \$800.

Future meeting dates, times, and agenda items – Discussion/Action

Future dates:

- Thursday, Sept 1st, 2016 – 6:15 a.m.
- Thursday, Sept 15th, 2016 – 6:15 a.m.

Future items:

- Discuss Fall Road tour

10. **Future meeting dates, times, and agenda items – Discussion/Action**

Future dates:

- Thursday, Sept 1st, 2016 – 6:15 a.m.
- Thursday, Sept 15th, 2016 – 6:15 a.m.

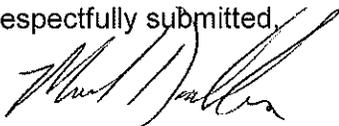
Future items:

- Discuss Fall Road tour

11. **Adjourn**

Motion by Vice Chairman Chilson to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 a.m. Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Donaldson
Highway Department
Approved 9/1/16