

MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
301 WASHINGTON STREET, COURTHOUSE BUILDING “A” – FIRST FLOOR – ROOMS #1003 & #1004
OCONTO WI 54153
www.co.oconto.wi.us
(Draft minutes not approved by committee)

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Elmer Ragen, David Behrend, David Christianson, Robert Wolf, Joel Lavarda
ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Hytinen, Vanessa Hasenberg, Al Sleeter, Erik Pritzl, Beth Ellingson, Todd Skarban, one member of the public

1. Call to Order

Chair Christianson called the meeting to order at 9 am.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 Change of Sequence – None.

2.2 Removal of Items – None.

Motion by Lavarda/Wolf to approve the agenda. The motion was voted and carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Motion by Behrend/Wolf to approve the January 5, 2023 minutes. The motion was voted and carried.

4. Review Prior Months Vendor Payments

Vendor payments were discussed.

5. Communications

-Notice of Public Hearing – No impact to Highway Dept.

-Email received requesting overhead street light at the intersection of CTH E/EE. Hytinen replied that the town would be responsible for request.

-Open records request received due to an accident on a road in the Town of Gillett. Pritzl/Ellingson are responding to request. Highway department is not responsible for maintaining the road or trail involved.

6. ATV Route Request

-Request received from Gillett Sno/ATV Club to open three segments of county roads for ATV/UTV traffic:

1) CTH-K: South of STH-22 to CTH-CC

2) CTH-CC: Oconto Falls City limits to STH-32 connecting to Shawano Line Road

3) CTH-C: CTH-CC to CTH-D

Pritzl reviewed factors in ordinance to consider. Ellingson recommends referring to ordinance for any future requests received. Skarban has no concerns with the segments in this request.

Motion by Wolf/Behrend to recommend to county board for approval the opening of the 3 segments in the request. The motion was voted and carried 4 ayes, 1 nay (Ragen).

7. Roadwork Update

- USH 41 bridge over Little Suamico River, just south of CTH-S will have a traffic pattern change on February 14.

-Hytinen gave handout with information on 10-year paving history on county roads. Discussion followed on average cost to pave one mile and funding sources.

7.1 Rumble Strip Installation

-Concern received regarding intersection at CTH-S/STH-32. Hytinen contacted WisDOT Traffic Engineer. Report received shows location has significant crash history and recommendation is to install rumble strips. Motion by Behrend/Wolf to accept recommendation from WisDOT Traffic Engineer to install rumble strips on CTH-S approaching STH-32. The motion was voted and carried.

8. Equipment Update
 - Quad on order is at Monroe.
 - Sign truck cab is currently in Ohio for cab work.
 - Meeting next week with manufacturer for lowboy trailer.
 - Received information from Ewald on state contract price on the F550 cab with chassis - \$49935. This is currently on order.
9. Staffing Update

Mechanic from Suring shop gave notice and last day is today. Job is currently posted and on message board in front of Suring Shop. A patrol superintendent gave notice and will be leaving in April. Job will be posted internally and externally.
10. Review Temporary Policy Guidelines for Capital Projects (ARPA)

Pritzl discussed temporary policy guidelines for capital projects that were approved by Administration Committee in June of 2022. Funds must be obligated by end of 2024. Discussion followed on projects that may qualify within the Highway Department.
11. Announcements/General Information/Guests (No action to be taken)
 - May 4 is NE region spring commissioner meeting in Sheboygan. May committee meeting moved to May 9 to allow committee to attend.
 - David Blazek contacted Hytinen regarding current price paid per ton for material removed from Blazek pit. Hytinen provided comparisons from other companies.
 - Discussion on salt treatment methods.
12. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting scheduled for March 9, 2023, at 9 am in the County Board room.
13. Adjournment

Chair Christianson declared meeting adjourned at 10:53 am.

Vanessa Hasenberg
Recorder
Date Posted: February 14, 2023