

MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020– 9:00 A.M.
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CONFERENCE ROOM #1003/#1004– 1st FLOOR COURTHOUSE BLDG “A”
301 WASHINGTON STREET, OCONTO, WI 54153-1699
www.co.oconto.wi.us

(Draft minutes –until approved by committee)

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Ragen, Sleeter, Bartels Jr., and Stranz

ABSENT: Christianson

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Hytinen, Vanessa Hasenberg, Kurt Niemann, Paul Bednarik, Kevin Hamann

TIME MEETING BEGAN: 9:00 A.M.

1. Approval of Agenda
 - A. Change of Sequence
 - B. Remove Items – NoneMotion by Ragen, second by Stranz to approve the agenda. The motion was voted and carried.
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
Motion by Stranz, second by Bartels Jr, to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2020 meeting. The motion was voted and carried.
3. Review Prior Months Vendor Payments
Committee reviewed monthly vendor payments.
4. Communications
 - a. Notice of Public Hearing – No Impact on county highway system.
 - b. Notice from Town of Riverview that they opened a portion of CTH W with speed limit of 30 mph for ATV/UTV use from .01 mile southwest of W. Crooked Lake Road to 280’ northeast of LaFave Lane.
 - c. Discussion on allowing employees to carry over more than 40 hours of vacation this year. Hamann said this is being left up to home committees to decide. Need to make agenda item for November for committee to take action. Hamann stated any remaining hours employees have due to Families First Coronavirus Response Act do not carry over to 2021.
5. Equipment Dual Rates
Hytinen discussed hourly rates set by the state that are charged for equipment use. He also discussed revenue brought in through work completed for towns, villages and cities in 2019. Sleeter recommends trying to offset new equipment purchases by increasing rates charged to towns and villages to generate an additional \$150,000 of revenue yearly. Suggestions to be discussed at November meeting with goal to implement by January 1, 2021.
6. Equipment Manufacturers
Discussion on the different truck manufacturers we order from now, which also results in high parts inventory. Committee suggests going through state contract for bidding process to reach our goal of purchasing from fewer brands.
7. Salt Prices
Salt price for 2020 winter is \$72.70/ ton. Motion by Stranz, second by Ragen to charge a \$10/ton surcharge on salt and sand/salt sold to towns and villages without an intergovernmental maintenance agreement. The motion was voted and carried.
8. Proposed 2021 Budget
Hamann discussed the 2021 proposed highway budget. Finance committee is recommending to county board on October 29 that 2.1 million dollars be allocated from general fund, retained earnings, and sales tax for equipment upgrades and salt shed repairs in 2021.
9. Update Road Projects

Two miles of CTH T have been paved, need to shoulder next. Paving STH 22 from US 41 to US 141 and STH 32 from Trinity Church Road to Gillett are scheduled for 2021.

10. Update Bridge Projects

WisDOT finished reviewing contract modifications on CTH H bridge. They approved change management request which will result in \$53,000 in additional funds to the Highway Department toward this project. Omni is currently doing bridge inspections.

11. Crusher Test Update

New crusher was tested on September 16 for visible emissions. This is a one-time test and no issues were found. Hytinen will submit results to DNR.

12. WisDot Brine Maker

Memorandum of Understanding for \$150,000 received from WisDOT to replace brine maker and pumps. \$50,000 received for storage tanks. MOU is under review by Corp Counsel.

13. Safety Day

Hamann recommends postponing safety day due to increased number of CoVid cases and the inability to social distance.

Motion by Ragen, second by Stranz to postpone safety day and hearing tests scheduled for October 28 until next year. The motion was voted and carried.

14. Announcements/General Information (No Action to be taken)

Fall Commissioner Training is October 27-28 in Eau Claire. Hytinen will not attend due to CoVid concerns.

Highway Department currently has 5 employees off related to CoVid. Hytinen has been in contact with adjacent counties. They have agreed to help each other out if staffing becomes an issue during an emergency.

Applications for open Operator 1 position are being accepted until October 29.

CTH Y detour was removed September 24. Hytinen is working with Emergency Management to see if CTH Y is eligible for a grant to raise the road. Waiting for WEM to do a cost benefit analysis.

15. Set Next Meeting Date

Next meeting set for November 5, 2020– 9:00 am in room 1003/1004.

16. Adjournment

Chair Sleeter declared meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.

Vanessa Hasenberg

Recorder

Date Posted: October 8, 2020