

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: December 20, 2010

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member
John Haese, Highway Commissioner

EXCUSED: Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to County Executive

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2010 meeting as written. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address any agenda items at this time. There were none.

Commissioner Haese stated that he submitted a resolution to the WCHA (Wisconsin County Highway Association) honoring Supervisor Joanne Sievert for her years of service to the Highway Committee from 1998-2010. The resolution will be presented at the Winter Highway Conference in January and after approved a copy will be mailed to Ms. Sievert's home. A motion was made by Chairman Robl, seconded by Supervisor Warnke recognizing Supervisor Sievert for her years of dedication and service to the Highway Committee from 1998-2010. Motion carried 3-0. Supervisor Albrecht joined the meeting.

The Eureka Bridge project was discussed. Commissioner Haese stated that he met last week with Rob Way, Parks Director; staff members from the Wisconsin DNR; representatives from Short Elliott Hendrickson and Ayres Associates; and Terry Schroeder, Winnebago County Snowmobile Alliance to discuss including snowmobile accommodations on the proposed bridge over the Fox River in Eureka. The staff from Ayres stated that this issue must be resolved before the end of the year in order to stay on schedule for the August engineering study due date and subsequent bid letting. Staff from the DNR reported that funding for a 12-foot wide barrier separated trail on the bridge would cost approximately \$450,000. The DNR stated that if an application is submitted by April 15, 2011 the request for funds needed for the project may not be reviewed and approved until August 2011. This could delay the bridge project one full year. The current bridge design includes an additional five feet of roadway on either side of the proposed bridge than what exists on the current structure. Mr. Schroeder stated that a 36-foot wide roadway on the bridge would be more desirable from his standpoint for snowmobile safety. Mr. Schroeder also requested an epoxy overlay be considered for installation on the bridge shoulders. Commissioner Haese stated he would not approve the epoxy coating due to the safety concerns for bike/pedestrian traffic since this type of coating is not slip resistant. Construction of a separate snowmobile trail bridge in another location was also discussed.

Supervisor Egan inquired about the property adjacent to the bridge where the old feed mill recently burned down, and asked if this property would be needed for the project. Commissioner Haese stated that the property is not necessary for the project.

Commissioner Haese stated he met last week with County Executive Harris to discuss the Highway Department's responsibility of maintaining asphalt parking lots. He stated this item will be discussed further at the department head meeting tomorrow and in a separate meeting with the executive at a later date. Chairman Robl asked if there is any planned parking lot work for 2011. Commissioner Haese stated the Dawes Street lot by the courthouse is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2011.

General Operations:

- Totals for snow removal from the winter storm dating December 10-13 on the county trunk system were \$70,000 for labor, equipment and materials. The state system totaled \$128,000 and the towns total was \$37,000.
- To date the 2010 budget expended through December 16th is at 87% overall, and 82% for winter. The remaining balances are \$380,000 overall and \$97,000 of winter funds. There is more snow forecast for tonight and tomorrow but Commissioner Haese felt comfortable that the remaining funds will be adequate to complete the year.
- Supervisor Egan inquired if the zoning permit for the proposed satellite facility in Winchester will expire before the project can take place. Commissioner Haese stated that one of his staff sent an email to the Zoning Department and is waiting for a reply. Mr. Haese stated he believes that if construction begins prior to the expiration date that the permit would not have to be reapplied for.

Due to the holiday on January 3rd and the Highway Conference on January 10th, the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Highway Committee will be held on January 17, 2011.

A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary