

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: December 6, 2010

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to County Executive  
Kathi Sawall, Town of Nekimi resident  
Ann Marshall, Winnebago County League of Women's Voters

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2010 meeting as written. Motion carried 3-0. Supervisor Albrecht joined the meeting.

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 reported that an agreement has been made between the Highway and Parks Departments in which the Highway Department will be responsible for the maintenance of the Parks Department equipment. The Parks Department mechanic recently retired, and therefore the position was eliminated effective with the 2011 budget. Commissioner Haese is working out the details with the Parks Director regarding the type of equipment they own, the number of hours on the equipment, their inventory of parts, etc. Commissioner Haese stated he has been working closely with the Parks Director to assure him that all essential parks equipment repairs will receive priority. The committee supported this effort of the two department heads because of the consolidation of services and reduction in cost to Winnebago County.

The proposed Highway Department Satellite Facility to be built at USH 45 and CTH II was discussed. Commissioner Haese stated the Request for Proposal for design services is currently posted and due back in approximately two weeks. Upon receiving the proposals the Commissioner will review them and choose which design firm best meets the requirements for designing the facility. He will then present the information to the full County Board with the price, timeline and details for their approval. Mr. Haese stated that the current zoning permit may expire due to the delay in approving the building initially, so the department may have to reapply and pay another permit fee before work can commence. The committee was against paying the fee twice just because the project has been delayed.

The dedication of the proposed satellite facility in Winchester to the memory of fatally injured Highway Department employees was discussed. Chairman Robl stated he asked to include this item on the agenda after it was brought to his attention by a County Board Supervisor. Commissioner Haese stated if they decide to dedicate the new building it should be dedicated to the memory of all former highway employees who were lost in fatal accidents. Supervisor Hamblin suggested Commissioner Haese talk to County Executive Harris as the practice of naming county buildings after individuals may be discontinued. Mr. Haese stated they are continuing work on a memorial on the highway department grounds in honor of Marc Neumeyer, Daniel Melhorn and all other fatally injured employees of the department. Commissioner Haese stated that he does not have money in his budget to complete the project. The general public and several vendors have contacted the department in the past about donating materials or funds for the completion of the monument.

The Eureka Bridge project was discussed. Commissioner Haese stated he will be meeting with the head of the local snowmobile club, DNR, Parks Department and the design firm representatives to discuss snowmobile crossing over the new Eureka Bridge. The bridge construction is tentatively planned for 2012

The responsibility of the Highway Department maintaining all asphalt driveways and parking lots at county owned facilities was discussed. Commissioner Haese stated in order to achieve consistent maintenance of all county owned parking lots; he suggested that the committee investigate and support an effort to have the Highway Department provide oversight of all existing parking lots and interior roadways. He also stated they should be involved with the design, budget process, and work projects for any new parking lots as well. Supervisor Hamblin stated he believes that the Facilities Department should be in charge of buildings, and Highway Department should be in charge of parking lots.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Haese stated that Butler Avenue is the responsibility of Winnebago County due to a transfer and resolution passed in 1965. He stated that he has included an item in his five year capital improvement program to repave Butler Avenue. Supervisor Hamblin stated that it will be necessary to add a 50-stall parking lot at the new Park View building.
- Commissioner Haese stated he received a response from the WisDOT regarding his inquiry on the speed limit posted on STH 76 from CTH Y to the USH 41 overhead. According to the WisDOT since the speed limit is 45 mph on either side of this location they stated that 45 mph is the correct limit as posted. Commissioner Haese stated he is going to investigate further as he believes it should be posted at 55 mph in this area.
- With the exception of some minor adjustments, as of the end of November the Highway Department winter budget expended 56.58%, leaving \$238,831 dollars remaining. The total overall 2010 budget expended to date is 78%. Supervisor Warnke asked what happens to the money at the end of the year if it is not all utilized. Commissioner Haese stated any positive balance gets transferred back to the general fund, but reminded them that a typical winter storm costs the county approximately \$25,000 each and there are several weeks remaining in December.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer  
Highway Secretary