

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 6, 2010

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member

EXCUSED: Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member
David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member
John Haese, Highway Commissioner

ALSO

PRESENT: Jen Folske, Town of Nekimi resident
Thomas Boguszewski, AECOM
Loanne Owens-Flaig, Highway Dept. Office Manager
Bill Demler, Highway Maintenance Superintendent
Jon Groth, Highway Maintenance Superintendent
Bob Doemel, Highway Dept. Engineering Technician/Bridge Operations Supervisor
Brian Trebiatowski, Highway Dept. Traffic Operations Supervisor

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 a.m. Supervisor Warnke noted today's agenda did not include an item regarding installing the four-way stop signs at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N as was noted in the minutes from the June 21st meeting. Supervisor Warnke requested that Chairman Robl have this item added to the July 19th committee meeting for discussion then made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21st meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Egan and carried 3-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was input on any agenda items by the public. There was no input on agenda items. Mr. Tom Boguszewski, P.E., AECOM, introduced himself and gave a brief presentation on his company. Mr. Boguszewski stated his firm has a very experienced bridge and road staff who are interested in doing future design work for Winnebago County. He thanked the committee members for their time and left the meeting. Jen Folske stated she has been advised that there is an updated map of the proposed West Side Arterial location, and asked if any of the committee members had received a copy. The Committee members all stated they had not and referred her to Commissioner Haese with any additional questions.

Loanne Owens-Flaig, Office Manager, gave a brief overview on the proposed 2011 budget. Ms. Owens-Flaig stated the department was given a target number to reduce maintenance funds budgeted from the current year by \$231,726. She stated that state General Transportation Aids have decreased by 2% from last year also. She noted the department has three major resurfacing projects for 2011 including CTH F (from Ginnow Rd. to CTH D); CTH FF (from STH 21 to CTH K); and CTH MM (from CTH M to Richter Lane). She stated that as of the end of April, the department had \$1,365,000 remaining in the highway fund but will have to transfer \$568,000 out to maintain the tax levy. This will bring the department down below the one million dollar balance that is normally maintained.

Superintendents Bill Demler and Jon Groth updated the committee on current and previous projects performed by the Highway Department. CTH E was milled from STH 116 to the county line and was scheduled to have paving begin today but was postponed due to the rain. Chip sealing has been completed on CTH MM and CTH O as well as for several towns. Mr. Groth noted that the cost for chip seal has increased by 18% so the local municipalities were forced to complete fewer roads this year. The department's chip seal operation will be traveling to Outagamie County for two weeks, then on to Manitowoc, Kewaunee and Waupaca Counties throughout the remaining summer months. Highway crews also completed crack sealing on state and county roads. Mowing was finished along the county roads and will be completed for the townships this week. Next the mowers will begin on the state system, although the WisDOT mandates only one cut per season. Mr. Demler stated the department will do any necessary mowing along the state roads to alleviate vision problems.

Superintendent Demler also stated the Highway Department performed work at the Eureka Boat Landing for the Parks Department including excavation, adding drain tile, and paving. The Highway Department also completed a paving job for the Airport around their maintenance shop. Chairman Robl stated he believes the Highway Department should automatically be doing the work for other county departments that is within their capabilities rather than contracted out to private firms. Supervisor Egan asked if the Committee should submit a resolution to the county board with that language. Chairman Robl stated that he spoke to County Executive Harris who will be instituting a joint meeting between the Highway and Facilities Departments to discuss this matter further.

Bob Doemel, Engineering Technician/Bridge Operations Superintendent gave a report on the bridge operations. Mr. Doemel stated there are 15 full time and two part time bridgetenders in Winnebago County that he supervises. He reported that overhead stop signals similar to what is currently on the Wisconsin Street bridge are being installed on the Main Street bridge, as well as upgrading the computers and cameras to make them function more cohesively. Mr. Doemel stated the WisDOT is also planning to reconstruct the Winneconne Bridge in the future as its sufficiency rating is low and electrical components obsolete. He stated they are still in the initial design stage at this time. Mr. Doemel also stated the Highway Department is responsible for sealing bridge structures to prevent salt and other contaminants from shortening their life span. This work is performed on the county owned structures as well as for other municipalities that request it. He stated there are currently a total of 66 structures on a three year rotation that are sealed. Supervisor Warnke asked if Mr. Doemel is certified to do the bridge inspections. Mr. Doemel stated that he is certified to perform the inspections and that there are 112 bridges in total (20' minimum) in Winnebago County, including four lift bridges in Oshkosh, one in Winneconne, two in Menasha and one in Eureka. Mr. Warnke stated he was informed by the Human Resources Director that an agreement has been reached regarding having the bridgetenders perform winter maintenance duties during storm emergencies for the highway department. Mr. Warnke stated Ms. Kraft informed him that she will be attending the July 19th meeting to advise the committee on this issue.

Mr. Doemel also reported that after the County Board of Supervisor's approval the department has updated some of their permit language and fees and are in process of rewriting a combined permit application to make the process simpler.

Brian Trebiatowski, Traffic Operations Supervisor, reported that a four-way stop was installed today at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N south of Oshkosh. He stated he has received several complaints about the placement, with people indicating they think the intersection of CTH I and CTH Z would be a better location for the four way stop. Supervisor Warnke stated he would like to see four solar powered stop signs installed at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N that could be removed and used elsewhere if a roundabout is built in that location in the future. Mr. Trebiatowski stated he was given a price of \$1,100.00 each with a minimum order of ten solar signs. He also reported that all the street signs in the county need to have their reflectivity upgraded by the year 2015. He stated that he was quoted \$100,000 to replace all the signs currently installed on county roads, or \$20,000 less to have them refaced with upgraded reflective sheeting. Another \$11,000 would be necessary to upgrade the signs in stock or \$9,200 to reface. He stated additionally the department would need to purchase a roller for \$2,400 to reface the signs.

The Highway Committee members thanked the staff for attending today's meeting and updating them on Highway Department operations.

Being no further business a motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary