

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: August 30, 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
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
John Haese, Highway Commissioner

ALSO
PRESENT:

John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
Kathi Sawall, Town of Nekimi resident
Guy Hegg, County Board Supervisor

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2010 meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was anyone from the public who wanted to address any agenda items at this time.

Kathi Sawall, a resident of the Town of Nekimi asked the committee about a new map that has been proposed regarding a change in the previous alignment of the West Side Arterial corridor. She also wanted to know if there was a time table related to when the mapping of the new highway may take place and reiterated that the residents of the town are in favor of the project limits beginning at STH 21 and terminating at STH 91. She indicated that residents of the town who are in the process of selling property are being told by local realtors that they must disclose to prospective buyers that their property may be impacted by the future WSA project. Chairman Robl asked Commissioner Haese to address her concerns in his comments to the committee when discussing the agenda item related to the West Side Arterial. There were no other public comments regarding any other item on the agenda at this time.

Commissioner Haese informed the committee that a meeting was held recently between the City of Oshkosh and the Town of Algoma in regards to the proposed WSA (West Side Arterial). The town requested that the city consider supporting an option to have an interchange for the WSA constructed at Leonard Point Road instead of in its current location just east of Sand Pit Road. There is no timetable that has been set regarding official mapping of a future WSA location at this time. Commissioner Haese informed the committee that a staff meeting regarding the proposed change in the WSA alignment and the request by the Town of Algoma to move the interchange to Leonard Point Road will be held in the future in order to discuss the two issues and how they would impact the project.

Commissioner Haese presented information to the committee related to the CTH K Bridge over the Fox River in Eureka regarding the construction schedule. He stated that because project documentation that was forwarded to the WisDoT management consultants (MC) has not been approved the project cannot move forward and be constructed in 2011. Documents that were sent to the MC in December 2009 and May 2010 have not been approved at this time. A design study report and the final design of the bridge would have to be completed after the documents are approved. It is not feasible to expect approval of the documents to be completed in time for a 2011 bid letting for the project; therefore the project will not be constructed until 2012.

Commissioner Haese provided the committee with documentation and cost estimates regarding the construction of a new box culvert on Lake Street in the Town of Menasha, which is going to be funded under state statute 82.08. The box culvert is estimated to cost approximately \$245,000. The cost will be funded 50% Town of Menasha and 50% by a tax levied against all other townships in Winnebago County.

Supervisor Warnke discussed his reasons for requesting that two additional solar powered stop signs be erected at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N in the Town of Black Wolf. He is concerned that motorists who travel on CTH N and Fisk Avenue, eastbound and westbound cannot see a standard stop sign when the glare from the sun is blocking a driver's view of the intersection. He also stated that the 4-way stop condition at this intersection should preclude the need for the construction of a proposed roundabout at this location in the future. Commissioner Haese stated that he does not see the need for installing solar powered stop signs at this time. The solar powered signs cost \$1320.00 a piece versus a standard stop sign that costs approximately \$37.50 each. There have been no accidents and no complaints from the public regarding this intersection since the four-way stop condition was installed in July of 2010. He did agree with supervisor Warnke's assessment of the need for a future roundabout if the four way stop condition continues to function as it has the past several months. The committee requested that Commissioner Haese gather the latest accident history regarding this intersection and present it to the committee at the next Highway Committee meeting.

Commissioner Haese informed the committee that the CTH D ARRA project is complete and partial acceptance of the project has been granted to the contractor at this time. He stated that the committee members may receive complaints regarding the amount of gravel that was placed on the shoulder and in slopes of the roadway. In many areas the gravel was placed on shoulders and ditches that are being mowed by the local residents. He told the committee that the department will monitor the project in regards to complaints related to the aggregate.

General Operations:

The department is continuing to work on the UW Fox Valley parking lots. The project will be very close to meeting the estimated construction costs, but there is a possibility that the project may go over budget due to several unexpected additions to the project. Superintendents Demler and Groth have been managing the project and indicated to the commissioner that they are under initial estimated costs for the project as this time.

The department has received several complaints from elected officials and staff from the City of Menasha regarding mowing on STH 47. Commissioner Haese stated that he notified the WisDoT about the complaints and informed the city that the county will continue to follow the WisDoT mowing policy.

Commissioner Haese informed the committee that he attended a Town of Algoma meeting in order to discuss the continuing problem of the constant flow of water in the ditches on CTH E between Clairville Road and Miller Drive. He intends to monitor the situation and will report back to the committee at a later date regarding any new information the department uncovers related to the ongoing problem.

Supervisor Guy Hegg inquired about previous projects involving CTH P in the Town and City of Menasha. Chairman Robl and Commissioner Haese provided some historical information to Supervisor Hegg related to projects that have been proposed or completed on CTH P.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hamblin, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. The next regular scheduled meeting of the committee will be held on September 20, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.

John M. Haese
Recording Secretary