

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: October 5, 2009

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
Jen Folske, Town of Nekimi resident
Kathi Sawall, Town of Nekimi resident

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Sievert to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2009 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Robl asked for input from anyone who wanted to address any item listed on the agenda. Ms. Sawall asked if the recent changes to the City of Oshkosh administration would impact the proposed west side arterial project. Commissioner Haese stated he has not been notified of any changes and feels there probably won't be any decisions made until the new city staff members are in place.

Commissioner Haese stated the estimated cost of the Federal funded portion of the CTH Y project is \$3,115,000.00. This amount does not include incidental items or work that was performed by the highway department. The estimated final cost may not be available until after the first of the year, but Commissioner Haese stated he feels the project should come in well under the original 3.8 million dollars that was budgeted. Mr. Haese stated that he has received many compliments about the project.

The Five Year Capital Improvement Projects from 2010 – 2014 may have to be revised. Commissioner Haese stated he met recently with the design consultant, utility companies, DNR and other entities to discuss the proposed project on CTH I. This project was initially scheduled for construction in 2011, but because the City and Town of Oshkosh have agreed to co-sponsor a project on Fernau Avenue, Federal funds will no longer be available for CTH I. Commissioner Haese stated because of the safety concerns at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N he feels it is still in the best interest of Winnebago County to proceed with the completion of the design process on CTH I for 2011. The roundabout at CTH I/CTH N and drainage issues could be constructed in 2011, including resurfacing the rural section from CTH N to Ripple Avenue. The remaining urban project could be completed when more Federal funding becomes available in 2012 or 2013.

According to the WisDOT resurfacing of STH 76 will begin in the spring of 2010. They provided the following information regarding this project:

STH 76 will be resurfaced from CTH JJ to Murdock Street in downtown Oshkosh.

The USH 41/STH 76 exit and on ramps will be closed beginning on approximately April 15, 2010.

The ramp project is expected to take 3 months to complete and is anticipated to be open to traffic prior to July 4, 2010.

The roundabout at STH 76 and Murdock Street will be constructed at approximately the same time.

The official detour route will direct traffic from USH 41 to STH 45 then north to the CTH T interchange. Traffic would then utilize CTH T to CTH Y and CTH Y to local destinations (Landfill, Coughlin Center, Expo, Parks, Winnebago Mental Health etc.).

Commissioner Haese also noted that since CTH Y will be used as a detour route during the STH 76 project the road is now being video logged so any damage that occurs due to increased traffic will be the responsibility of the WisDoT to repair.

The WisDoT also noted that in conjunction with the USH 41 project in 2013 or 2014 CTH GG and CTH Y structures over USH 41 will be reconstructed. Reconstruction will include raising the height of the structures; provide 12' lanes of travel for vehicles and addition of a 12 foot bike/pedestrian trail on the structures. During this same time period, the CTH G structure over USH 41 will have the existing deck removed and replaced. Traffic may be detoured in phases onto CTH G to STH 45 or Dixie and Green Valley Road to accommodate traffic from CTH G to STH 76.

Commissioner Haese stated he was informed by the WisDoT that the 2010 Routine Maintenance Agreement (RMA) reflects a 6% reduction in state funding for Winnebago County to perform routine maintenance duties. This reduction is due to the fact that transportation funds are being used for purposes other than transportation and less revenue is being received by the state for operations and programs.

Most of the counties in the state are experiencing a reduction with the exception of Marinette County who received an increase due to additional lane miles. For Winnebago County the 6% reduction of funds equals \$300,000-\$450,000 less funding than previous years. Supervisor Sievert questioned if Mr. Haese is looking at where to make up the shortage without causing a danger to the traveling public. Commissioner Haese stated he is in the process of examining the Highway Department labor requirements for 2010 in order to determine if a reduction in labor is needed at this time.

The 2010 Maintenance Agreements with the towns were discussed. Commissioner Haese reported that the Town of Utica has decided to contract out for their snow removal, but will continue to have the Highway Department perform other maintenance activities. The Town of Nepeuskun is also considering the same option, but the town will not vote on the contract or snow removal in the town until the next official town meeting. Commissioner Haese will keep the Committee informed regarding decisions affecting staffing within the department.

General Operations:

- To date the Highway Department has expended 72% of their total 2009 budget.
- Commissioner Haese stated the WisDoT provided a timeline regarding the USH 41 project and can provide copies if anyone wanted them.
- Supervisor Albrecht inquired as to what role Winnebago County now has in the proposed West Side Arterial project. Commissioner Haese stated that the City of Oshkosh is reviewing options related to the official mapping of a corridor regarding the West Side Arterial, but there has been no indication that the city is moving forward with plans to officially map a corridor at this time.
- Chairman Robl questioned the status of Waukau Road. Commissioner Haese stated the road remains in undesignated county highway status and the department recently patched the road surface in several areas.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Sievert to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary