

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: February 6, 2012

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Ernie Winters, Highway Commissioner

EXCUSED: Dave Albrecht, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
Guy Hegg, County Board Supervisor District #27

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 January 19, 2012 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address any agenda items at this time. Supervisor Hegg asked if he could get a copy of a map regarding the Fox Cities/Oshkosh Bicycle & Pedestrian item on today's agenda. Commissioner Winters stated there is no map yet, that this agenda item is only to inform the committee about a four county study that will be undertaken regarding bike/pedestrian trails.

Commissioner Winters updated the committee on the proposed CTH K Bridge project. He stated he is still in talks with City of Berlin representatives and WisDOT staff. Options include tweaking the current design by either altering the vertical curve in the road that would increase the clearance of the bridge by 3-5"; or change the design materials to include "skinny girders", which is a different style girder with a slightly shorter profile. Any tweaking of the plans will increase the funds needed for design and construction costs, estimated at approximately \$50,000. This will also delay the project for one more year. The other option is to move ahead with the plan as currently designed. Commissioner Winters stated if the project is to be built in 2012 the bid must be let by the end of February. After discussion, the committee members agreed that Commissioner Winters should continue his talks with the involved parties and report back at the next Highway Committee Meeting so the public can be informed if the project will move ahead in 2012 or be delayed.

The Fox Cities/Oshkosh Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was discussed. Commissioner Winters stated that this plan was started in 2007 by East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and the WisDOT to study improving the facilities within Calumet, Fond du Lac, Winnebago and Outagamie Counties. At that time Winnebago County was chosen as the sponsor county with all costs to be borne by ECWRPC capped at \$120,000. Now the plans have changed and stipulate the sponsor must bear the expense for the study which means Winnebago County, as the sponsor, would be responsible for approximately \$30,000 to \$36,000. Commissioner Winters stated he will be meeting with ECWRPC and the WisDOT to discuss this item and will report back at a future meeting. Supervisor Warnke stated he would only consider approving this item if the costs were shared by all parties involved.

The 2012 Capital Improvement Plan was discussed. Commissioner Winters stated after Winnebago County pays for the necessary radio upgrades that he will have to alter the 2012 CIP as approved to reduce spending. Commissioner Winters stated that he is still planning on the following projects for 2012:

- CTH M – mill and pave project
- CTH H – mill and pave project
- CTH T – reconstruction (this project will be offset by \$450,000 of CHIP-D funds)
- CTH G – bridge design
- CTH K – bridge reconstruction project

Commissioner Winters stated that he moved the CTH A right of way acquisition project to 2013 since the actual reconstruction project is not in the immediate future.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters reported that during a patching operation along USH 41 last Thursday evening, one of the Highway Department trucks was hit by a vehicle that went around the message board and traveled into the work zone. The vehicle missed the crash bumper and struck the back of a truck. There were no injuries and little damage to the truck. The vehicle's operator was cited in the incident.
- Commissioner Winters informed Supervisor Warnke that he is looking into the installation of blinking stop signs at the intersection of CTH I and CTH N per his request. Mr. Winters stated Winnebago County's policy mirrors the state's which cites accident history and visual problems as criteria for installation of LED signs. Mr. Winters stated that the accident history has been requested and he will continue to investigate the issue.
- Supervisor Egan questioned if Commissioner Winters was aware of what the WisDOT is planning for STH 116. Mr. Winters stated that he is not aware of their plans, but that representatives from the DOT will be attending a future meeting and committee members can inquire at that time.
- Guy Hegg, County Board Supervisor, asked if a decision has been made regarding the repaving of the Tri-County Ice Arena parking lot. John Fink stated that Mr. Harris has held discussions with the Outagamie County Executive on the issue but that no decisions have been made.
- Commissioner Winters reported that the WisDOT has decided not to build a salt storage building on Planeview Drive as planned but is still researching other locations in Winnebago County.
- The new satellite highway facility in the town of Winchester is nearly complete. Mr. Winters stated that the engineering firm is looking into the report of possible floor cracking in the building but it appears to be normal shrinkage.
- Chairman Robl inquired about the poor visibility of road markings along USH 41. Mr. Winters stated that the WisDOT informed him they will be repainting the lines as soon as the weather permits.
- Commissioner Winters reported that there are presently 15 or 18 vehicles in the highway department fleet with GPS installed, with more to follow. Mr. Winters stated that Winnebago County will continue to maintain the GPS units. He stated that the WisDOT analyzes the data retrieved to improve the efficiency of winter maintenance operations.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 20, 2012.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.
The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary