

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: May 24, 2011

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, 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
Loanne Owens-Flaig, Highway Office Manager

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2011 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. There was no public input.

A discussion was held regarding the proposed 2012 Highway Department budget. Supervisor Albrecht inquired as to why Winnebago County got a decrease in transportation aids of 15% (\$345,598) when other counties, such as Outagamie County, were required to take only a 10% reduction. Commissioner Haese stated that he does not know what criteria or formulation was used to arrive at the totals but Winnebago County's decrease in state aid equals \$345,598 for 2012. After discussion the committee members recommended Commissioner Haese contact either the WisDOT or local legislators as to how the decrease in transportation aids were calculated. Commissioner Haese stated that the GTA (General Transportation Aids) have been decreasing every year since 2005. Including the \$499,363 reduction from the Highway Fund last year, plus the \$220,000 additional reduction for 2012, the total amount of funds needed to meet the 2012 budget from the Highway Fund will be \$719,964. Mr. Haese stated that continually reducing the Highway Fund will negatively affect the department long term and leave the department with very little cash reserves. Commissioner Haese stated he will bring the entire county road maintenance budget to a future meeting where the committee can review it by line item as has been done in the past. Ms. Owens-Flaig exited the meeting.

The Committee then discussed each of the items present on the proposed 2012 Capital Equipment Outlay. Commissioner Haese stated that all the equipment is purchased from Highway Fund revenues and if sufficient funding is not available the equipment will not be purchased. The committee members suggested that Commissioner Haese include a small synopsis of each piece of equipment and the reasoning for its purchase in the county board member's packets. After discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Warnke to approve the 2012 Proposed Capital Equipment Outlay as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Albrecht with the stipulation that there may be changes based on funding. The motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Haese stated he received a request from the Town of Nepeuskun for emergency funds under State Statute 82.08 for the repair of a culvert on Lake Road. Mr. Haese stated the repairs are complete with the exception of some paver patching over the culvert pipe. To date the project total is \$17,700.00. The 50% total reimbursement the town of Nepeuskun is eligible for under the County Aid program is \$8,850.00. This amount is levied against all the other towns who participate in the program. A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve funding under State Statute 82.08 for the emergency repair of a culvert on Lake Road in the Town of Nepeuskun. Motion carried 4-0.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Haese stated that after deducting the necessary funding for salt shed storage costs, the balance of winter maintenance funds remaining for 2011 totals approximately \$12,000. In October the department will have to make a request to the Personnel and Finance Committee and the full County Board for additional funds to complete the year.
- Supervisor Egan questioned why there are flags placed along STH 116. Commissioner Haese stated the WisDOT may be marking for an upcoming project.
- Chairman Robl inquired if the department has acquired much work from the townships. Mr. Haese explained the Superintendents recently completed the road surveys and are now writing up estimates for the towns to determine if they will hire the Highway Department to perform the work.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary