

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 15, 2013

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member
Dave Albrecht, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: Jamey Gosz, Highway Dept. Shop Superintendent
John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
William Anthes, Winnebago County Sheriff's Dept.
Rick Satterlee, Ayres Associates

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2013 meeting as written. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address any agenda items at this time. Rick Satterlee, Ayres Associates, stated he stopped in to see the Committee since his firm did work on several projects in Winnebago County including the CTH K – Eureka Bridge project, and the first phase of the CTH T project. Mr. Satterlee stated their firm appreciates the business and is interested in working for Winnebago County in the future. Mr. Satterlee left the meeting.

Agenda item #5, discussing the 2014 Highway Equipment List was addressed next. A list of proposed equipment purchases was distributed and discussed. Jamey Gosz, Shop Superintendent, gave a brief explanation of each item and fielded questions from the Committee. Every item on the list is a replacement to a piece of equipment currently in the department's fleet. The list includes two tri-axle trucks with winter equipment to be used primarily on the State system; one grader with wing; two pick up trucks; a one-ton dump truck; and one shop service vehicle heavy enough to accommodate a crane. The total estimated cost for all the equipment is \$1,153,500. After discussion Mr. Gosz left the meeting.

A budget transfer to approve using \$190,000 of unexpended bond funds to cover the CTH T project was discussed. Commissioner Winters explained that the CTH T project was originally approved for the total amount of \$450,000 in State funding. A decision was made to split the project in half and do in phases, which split the available State funding in half. No additional work or new money is involved, just a paper entry to balance the books for the first section of CTH T from CTH Y to CTH GG. After discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to approve a budget transfer using \$190,000 in unexpended bond funds to cover WisDOT CHIP funding deferred to the second section of the CTH T project. Motion carried 3-0.

A bridge project on CTH N in the Town of Nekimi was discussed. This project is in the capital improvement program replacing four failing culverts with one bridge. The Committee requested that the design firms be interviewed with the Committee. After discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve a budget transfer of \$70,000 in unused bond funds for design of a bridge on CTH N in the Town of Nekimi. Motion carried 3-0. This item will go before the Personnel and Finance Committee and then the full County Board for approval.

Sharing equipment and labor forces across County borders was discussed. Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that a number of counties in the state are unhappy with the result of Wisconsin Act 32 preventing them from doing improvement work for other counties as has been done in the past. The legislation states that only maintenance work is eligible, not improvement projects. Several counties are trying to get that legislation overturned or exempted to enable 2-3 counties to do projects jointly. Supervisor Warnke suggested this item be brought before the Legislative Committee so they are aware of it. Each of the Commissioners was requested to discuss this topic with their respective legal counsel and will meet at a future time to discuss. Commissioner Winters stated he contacted Corporation Counsel Bodnar for his opinion and input.

General Operations:

- Chairman Robl inquired how the CTH K – Eureka Bridge Project is going. Commissioner Winters stated that there has been some design related issues but overall the project is going alright.
- Commissioner Winters stated that the Parks Department is putting forward a project request to pave all the roads and trails within the parks next year. If this \$1.8 million dollar project is approved Commissioner Winters stated he would like the Highway Department to have the opportunity to do the paving.
- Commissioner Winters stated that the project at the intersection of CTH CB and Rockwood Lane should be starting today. He stated the new access is designed to match the one on the opposite side of CTH CB. The property owner will be dedicating Rockwood Lane upon its completion.
- According to the WisDOT the US 41 reconstruction project in Winnebago County is now complete. The project was completed ahead of schedule and on budget.
- The CTH G overpass project is starting this week to replace the bridge deck and paint the girders.
- Commissioner Winters provided traffic counts as requested by the Committee at their last meeting. He reported the ADT for CTH Y is 2,500 cars per day; CTH GG is 600-700 cars per day; and CTH G is 1,500 cars per day.
- The current issue of WisDOT's newsletter The Connector was distributed.
- Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that discussions are being held regarding the State's mowing policy. The current policy allows mowing only one pass and only one time per year. Since the state will be receiving an additional \$52 million in the next biennium it is hoped that some of these funds can be used to increase mowing to a couple times per year in urban areas for improved vision and safety.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary