

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: August 5, 2013

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Dave Albrecht, Highway Committee Member
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: Loanne Owens-Flaig, Highway Office Manager
Gene Kussart, Donohue & 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 Hamblin to approve the minutes of the July 15, 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. Gene Kussart, Donohue & Associates, stated he stopped in to say hello to the committee. He stated his firm has not done work for Winnebago County in the past but that they have for WisDOT and municipalities within the county. He stated they are currently in the process of working on a bridge for the town of Black Wolf and have done several others. He asked that the Committee keep Donohue & Associates in mind for any future projects. Mr. Kussart then left the meeting.

The 2014 County Highway Proposed Operating Budget was discussed. Commissioner Winters distributed a handout to the committee members which highlight how his budget numbers were arrived at. He also shared the 2014 proposed capital improvement project list, and the list of culvert/bridge aid projects that were requested by the towns. Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that according to WisDOT staff Winnebago County has acquired an additional 50 state highway lanes mile since 2009. An additional position will be budgeted for in 2014 to aid in the maintenance of the additional road miles. Discussion followed. As the Department works through the budget process, additional information may be brought to the Committee at future meetings. Ms. Owens-Flaig left the meeting.

Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that legislation has been introduced by State Representative Garey Bies that would allow local government entities the final say on whether the state can build roundabouts in their municipality. Chairman Robl stated he is in favor of roundabouts and thinks they work well. Commissioner Winters stated he believes the locals should be able to weigh in on the matter. He asked if the committee wished him to send a letter to WisDOT on the subject or see what becomes of the legislation. Supervisor Hamblin stated the committee should be cautious on this topic as the State is the expert on road construction. No action was taken.

General Operations:

- ❖ Commissioner Winters distributed a handout on the CTH "K" project. Mr. Winters stated that the project is going fairly well. He has received telephone calls from citizens unhappy with the long detour route. To date the project is on schedule.
- ❖ The "M" project was discussed. Commissioner Winters reported there have been a few minor issues with bad soil and rocks to deal with. This project is on schedule.
- ❖ The current issue of The Crossroads newsletter was distributed to the Committee.

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- ❖ Supervisor Egan questioned what decision was made on the grader to be replaced as part of the 2014 capital equipment purchases. Commissioner Winters stated the 2005 grader with the mechanical issues will be retained and repaired and an older model will be traded in.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hamblin, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary