## WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: October 6, 2014

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman

Tim Hamblin, Highway Committee Member Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

Ernie Winters, Highway Commissioner

**ALSO** 

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive

Tom Snider, Town of Winneconne

EXCUSED: David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Hamblin, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2014 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.

Commissioner Winters stated that he attended the Town's meeting last week Thursday to present information on the IoH (Implementation of Husbandry) Law that recently passed. The IoH law was written to control the size and specifications of agricultural equipment traveling on the roadways. The law states that the governing bodies need to consider passing ordinances on how the vehicles move. Supervisor Egan stated that Commissioner Winters did a good job explaining the information and he felt it was fairly well received, although not all of the towns were in attendance at the meeting. Commissioner Winters stated that he will contact each of the towns and organize a meeting to discuss this topic. It will be critical for the County and Towns to be consistent with how this is implemented and enforced. Commissioner Winters stated that law enforcement will be a key factor in this program. Supervisor Egan stated he heard a portable scale would cost \$50,000 and questioned what benefit the law serves if no permit fees are charged. Commissioner Winters stated he would prefer to have an impact fee schedule. He stated this law is not a fix, but more a level of control that did not exist before. Commissioner Winters stated he is open for input by the Committee members on this issue and will return this item to a future meeting.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation STH 76 design updates were distributed. The latest design includes the construction of roundabouts at the intersections with CTH G, GG and JJ. Commissioner Winters stated the state will hold another public informational meeting on this project in the future. Construction for the STH 76 corridor is scheduled for 2020. Chairman Robl suggested having staff from WisDOT come and explain the project to the Committee members.

## **General Operations:**

Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that he communicated with a citizen regarding the
intersection of CTH CB and Oakridge Road recently. He explained to them that the intersection
still does not meet the warrants for traffic signals or stop signs based on existing traffic data. This
citizen sent an uncomplimentary email about Commissioner Winters to members of the County
Board. Mr. Winters distributed a copy of the email and stated he wanted the Committee to be
aware of it.

- Chairman Robl inquired how the department's projects are coming. Commissioner Winters stated that the reconstruction project at CTH I/N is done; the CTH T project will be finished this week; and all this year's mill and pave projects have been completed. Mr. Winters stated the Parks Dept. job got a later start than anticipated so may not be paved this year since it's getting too late in the season.
- Supervisor Hamblin inquired if salt is going to be an issue this year. Commissioner Winters stated that the department ordered a little higher quantity than previous years after the harsh winter and shortages last year. He stated the biggest issue is the cost has increased by \$9 per ton. He stated in other parts of the country their salt has increased by \$25 per ton. The new salt shed located on STH 26 is nearing completion, along with a magnesium chloride tank.
- Supervisor Egan questioned if vehicles fueled by propane is still an option. Commissioner Winters stated that idea has been put on hold with the up and down price of the propane. He stated the department is trying out a few vehicles equipped with CNG (compressed natural gas). He stated they seem to be working out but want to wait for the program to mature more.
- Commissioner Winters stated that he is supposed to speak in Eau Claire the end of the month on the IoH Law and the State's PBM projects. These meetings are scheduled the same time as the County's budget hearings so he is not sure which he'll be able to attend.
- The intersection of CTH G and Dixie Road will be changed. The City of Neenah is doing a realignment of Dixie Road.
- Commissioner Winters informed the Committee members that the department has completed the first of the PBM projects, shouldering for the State. The department came in under their quoted amount. There is still two or three crack filling projects to be completed this fall. The department may also take on additional jobs for the WisDOT. Details are still being worked out.
- The 2015 General Transportation Aids (GTA) estimate came in. Commissioner Winters was pleased that the amount is \$70,000 over what was budgeted. This is the amount of money provided by the State to assist with road construction, maintenance, and traffic operations. The money is generated by gas tax.
- Commissioner Winters distributed a STH 441 project schedule as provided by the WisDOT.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 20, 2014.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9.52 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer Highway Secretary