

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: November 5, 2012

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Dave Albrecht, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 8:30 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2012 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. There was no public input.

Commissioner Winters distributed a draft of a Memo of Understanding between the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Transportation Builders. The memo defines what criteria are used to determine if a project falls under the category of maintenance, minor improvement, or major improvement project. The goal would be to provide more routine maintenance funding for the counties that sign the agreement. Currently the State anticipates providing 120 million dollars statewide for routine maintenance on state highways in 2013, which is approximately 56 million dollars short. If the agreement is signed by the counties, the DOT and road builders state they will help to lobby the legislators to provide additional funding. There is no guarantee that additional funds will be secured. Commissioner Winters informed the committee that this item may come up for vote at the Winter Highway Conference.

The routine State maintenance funding levels were discussed. Commissioner Winters stated that the amount of funding provided by the WisDOT is not sufficient to cover the cost of the employees assigned to perform state maintenance year round, leaving the balance to be subsidized by the county. He stated that the amount of funding provided by the state did not increase to match the additional lane miles acquired in Winnebago County with the expansion of USH 41, etc. Supervisor Warnke stated that rather than have the county subsidize the state, the county may have to entertain the idea of lay-offs or furlough days when work load demands it. Commissioner Winters stated that he did not see funding issues with the proposed 2013 budget that would necessitate those measures but that it may have to be considered in the future. He also noted that with the additional lane miles added by the state, that more personnel may be necessary in the future for winter maintenance duties.

Commissioner Winters stated that he was contacted by a developer interested in purchasing a remnant parcel of property owned by Winnebago County on north Koeller Street near STH 21. Mr. Winters stated that he will investigate this issue and bring it back to a future meeting.

General Operations:

- The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission has several public meetings scheduled regarding the bicycle/pedestrian plan. The meetings will be held on November 27th at UW Fox Valley, Menasha, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; on December 5th at Oshkosh City Hall, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; and December 11th at Little Chute Village Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Commissioner Winters distributed a recent copy of *The Connector* newsletter to the committee members. The newsletter is provided by the WisDOT and contains articles regarding traffic and travel issues.
- Supervisor Warnke complimented Commissioner Winters on the good job he did recently at the budget hearings.

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A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.
The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary