

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: January 6, 2020

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: David Albrecht, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Chuck Farrey, Highway Committee Member
Raymond Palonen, Highway Commissioner

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
Roy & Kathy Schmitt, Town of Poygan
Vicky Fitzgerald, Finance Dept.
Lara Vendola, Winnebago County Sheriff's Dept.

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2019 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Albrecht asked for public input. The Schmitt's stated they were attending today's meeting regarding the ATV/UTV route request for the Town of Poygan. They asked if a route is approved, who buys the signs and marks the location. Commissioner Palonen stated that when a route is approved, the Highway Department orders and installs the signs, then invoices the town.

Commissioner Palonen distributed a copy of the budget transfer for the 2020 Highway Capital Projects totaling \$9,348,800. He stated that if approved by the Highway Committee, it will then get presented to the Finance Committee and the full County Board for approval. Ms. Fitzgerald noted that the total that will be bonded for in 2020 is \$5,633,300. The balance of the funds will come from the State and other funding sources. Commissioner Palonen stated that he made one change to the original list adding the box culvert on CTH II in 2020. The Waukau Avenue project was moved up to 2021 totaling \$250,000. After discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Farrey to approve a budget transfer of \$5,633,300 for the 2020 Highway Capital Projects. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Egan and carried 4-0. Chairman Albrecht signed the budget transfer.

A request was received from the Town of Poygan to have several county highways designated as ATV/UTV routes within the town limits. The request was received for CTH D from 37th Avenue to CTH B; CTH B from CTH D to Quigley Road; and CTH D from Church Road west 0.4 miles to the Hill Tavern. Commissioner Palonen stated that after review of the application and accident history he noted that the ADT (average daily traffic) rate on CTH D from 37th Ave. to CTH B is close to the 1,000-vehicle limit at 930. He noted that Quigley Road is not a marked ATV/UTV route for the town, so that makes it ineligible. The town is currently considering adding it. If the town includes Quigley Road in the future, they will have to re-apply for that portion of CTH B. CTH D from Church Road to the west does not have a connecting route, so it is not eligible. After discussion, the following routes within the Town of Poygan were approved to be designated as ATV/UTV routes:

- CTH B – from CTH D to Jacquis Road
- CTH D – from 37th Avenue to CTH B

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve. Motion carried 3-1. Supervisor Farrey abstained. Supervisor Farrey reiterated his concerns from a previous meeting regarding the towns having different ordinance criteria from the county. Officer Vendola stated that regardless of the rules set by each town, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department can only enforce DNR rules and regulations on town roads. She stated that it is up to the participant to follow the rules for each entity. Commissioner Palonen stated that each town may have different rules that apply to them, but that the county cannot force towns to match the county ordinance. Supervisor Farrey stated that he would like discussion on this topic to be held Thursday night at

the Town's Association meeting where he'd like to encourage the towns to match the county ordinance. Supervisor Egan stated he does not think the county should ask the towns to change their existing ordinances.

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The following were reported as general operations:

- The department has been out on several occasions for winter maintenance. A number of the events were concentrated on the northern part of the county where freezing rain caused hazardous driving.
- The tow plow has been used and is reported to work well.
- The department is trying a salt/sand mixture on some of the highways and it seems to be performing well. This will potentially be more cost effective than straight salt.
- The snow fence has been hung.
- All the equipment from the 2019 capital budget is in place. There is approximately \$150,000 remaining in the equipment fund. Commissioner Palonen hopes to use those funds to install security cameras around the building. A budget transfer will be forthcoming.
- Commissioner Palonen will be attending the Town's Association meeting Thursday night. He intends to have a discussion with the town representatives regarding getting their work done sooner in the future. He stated having a good working relationship with the towns is very important.

A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Administrative Associate