

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: February 3, 2020

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

EXCUSED: Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2020 meeting as distributed today. Motion carried 3-0.

There was no public present. The committee members welcomed Supervisor Rasmussen to the Highway Committee.

The proposed CTH AP road diet was discussed. Commissioner Palonen stated that he had an engineering firm do a traffic operation feasibility study on the section of CTH AP from STH 441 ramps to Oneida Street. The intent is to make it safer for pedestrians to cross CTH AP by giving them a refuge to stop while crossing the road so they don't have to cross all four lanes of traffic at one time. The change would be completed by re-striping the corridor as a 3-lane roadway with a left turn lane. The City of Menasha is looking at installing signals at the school crossing also. The traffic study showed that a road diet will function acceptably with a similar level of service to the existing roadway. Commissioner Palonen stated that he will include this project in next year's budget, or it could be completed this year if there are funds available. Commissioner Palonen also noted that he was able to secure 5.1 million dollars of funding for the nearby CTH P project that will be split between Winnebago County, the Village of Fox Crossing and the City of Menasha.

The intersection of CTH I and CTH N was discussed. There are currently flashing stop signs at all four corners of this intersection. Because the intersection is so wide, Commissioner Palonen stated that he is looking into having overhead flashing red lights installed, as this may be worthwhile in the interest of safety. He stated this would replace the flashing stop signs if after a few years of testing it is determined to be beneficial. After discussion, several of the committee members stated that they'd like to see the traffic counts and accident data since the flashing stop signs were installed. Commissioner Palonen stated that he will provide that information as well as the estimated costs at a future meeting.

The outcome of the MLS funding for counties was discussed. Commissioner Palonen stated that of the 75 million dollars included in the Governor's budget, there were 106 applications for project funding received statewide. The committee settled on 33 projects that will share in the funding. An announcement will be forthcoming regarding who the recipients are along with their allocations.

Commissioner Palonen informed the Highway Committee that he spoke with representatives from the Town of Winchester regarding their maintenance agreement with the county. The town is only interested in having the county plow three miles of roadway and will not commit to any other work by the Highway Department for the remainder of the year. Commissioner Palonen stated that to be fair to the municipalities who entered into a maintenance agreement, he informed the Town of Winchester that if they need help they can call the Highway Department. If and when there is labor and equipment available, they will be assisted on a case by case basis.

The following were reported as general operations:

- Commissioner Palonen distributed an outline showing the final budget numbers for 2019. He stated the non-winter budget was under by nearly \$248,000. The winter budget was over by \$370,800, leaving a negative balance of approximately \$122,800. Commissioner Palonen stated that he has other funds available and will not have to request additional funding to cover the difference. He stated that the winter budget amount was increased for 2020.
- The department will be starting on floor repairs in the truck storage area of the shop. Commissioner Palonen stated that the concrete is failing in several areas and needs repairing.
- The salt shed truss repair is still not complete. The damage was caused by a private trucking firm delivering salt. The Facilities Department is working with an engineer to get it repaired. The responsible party will have to pay for the damages.
- Highway crews will begin crack filling soon, weather pending.
- There are 21 miles of chip sealing to be done this year including:
 - CTH M – STH 116 to CTH II
 - CTH MM – CTH M to Richter Lane
 - CTH H
- Equipment bids are out for this year including one tri-axle chassis, two mowers, one skid steer and one loader.
- Material quotes and two RFP's for projects on CTH Y and Pioneer Road are in the process.
- Commission Palonen will be meeting with the City of Neenah to generate a municipal agreement regarding the CTH CB/JJ roundabout.

The next meeting of the Highway Committee is scheduled for March 2, 2020.

A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Rasmussen to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Administrative Associate