

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 13, 2020

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: David Albrecht, Highway Committee Chairman
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Joel Rasmussen, Highway Committee Member
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

VIA ZOOM: Chuck Farrey, Highway Committee Member

ALSO Ray Palonen, Highway Commissioner
PRESENT: Matt Olson, Town of Winchester
Robert and Gail Haag, Town of Winchester

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting as written. Seconded by Supervisor Warnke and carried 5-0.

Chairman Albrecht asked for public input on agenda items. Mr. Haag stated that he was in attendance to request that CTH II be reconsidered as an ATV/UTV route from Town Line Road to Brecklin Loop Road in the Town of Winchester. He stated this request was denied previously but they take issue to the fact the traffic study was taken too far east and may have skewed the traffic count.

A request to add CTH II from Town Line Road to Brecklin Loop Road in the Town of Winchester as an ATV/UTV route was discussed for the third time. Commissioner Palonen stated that several traffic counts have been taken over the years and each came back over the allowed 1,000 ADT. He stated that using WISLR data keeps it fair for all involved, but agreed that traffic is probably higher the farther east you go towards the urban area. He stated based on the traffic counts it does not meet the ordinance as written, but it is up to the Committee to make the decision. Supervisor Rasmussen stated that he drove this area lately and there was very little traffic, so he does not think it would be a problem to accept this request. Supervisor Warnke stated that he doesn't see why it can't be approved since it's less than one mile in total, and will help to hold up a business. After further discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Rasmussen to approve adding CTH "II" as an ATV/UTV route from Town Line Road to Brecklin Loop Road in the Town of Winchester. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Egan and carried 5-0.

Commissioner Palonen updated the committee on the status of a local cost share agreement with the Village of Fox Crossing and City of Menasha regarding CTH "P". Based on who owns the frontage along the project, it was determined the local share will be split: The City of Menasha – 12%; the Village of Fox Crossing – 25%; and Winnebago County – 63%. The agreement will be signed today, as well as the State Municipal Agreement accepting the 5.1 million dollars in funding for this project. Supervisor Rasmussen asked why CTH "P" is still a county road. Commissioner Palonen stated that he agrees it should not be, but he cannot force a jurisdictional transfer on other municipalities, and neither are interested in taking it over at this time. Design for the CTH "P" project is scheduled for 2021.

The preliminary 2021 Highway Department budget was discussed. Commissioner Palonen stated that the totals will change because the payroll and benefit information has not been received from Human Resources yet. He stated that he will provide the updated detail as it becomes available.

The following were reported as general operations:

- Commissioner Palonen stated he was informed that very few commissioners from the northeast region will be attending the Summer Highway Conference due to COVID-19. He said many of the vendors have pulled out and overall attendance is expected to be light. He stated that he will be cancelling his reservation.
- To date approximately 90% of the town work has been completed for this summer. There may be work coming from the Town of Nekimi but no authorization has been provided yet.
- The CTH “FF” project will begin today with pulverizing. It is estimated to take one month to complete.
- CTH “A” is closed from Indian Point Road to CTH “GG” for reconstruction. It was determined that the 911 fiber line was never relocated. Because it was missed by the consultant, there may be additional costs associated to temporarily relocate, then move the fiber optic line. Commissioner Palonen will be speaking with IS and the County Executive as to who is responsible for the additional costs.
- Supervisor Rasmussen warned the committee about wild parsnip growing in the area that is a skin irritant if touched.

The next meeting of the Highway Committee is scheduled for August 3, 2020.

A motion was made by Supervisor Rasmussen, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Administrative Associate