

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: December 2, 2019

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

EXCUSED: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Member

ALSO  
PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive

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 November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, and the revised minutes from the October 21, 2019 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Palonen distributed an ATV/UTV route designation request that was received from the Town of Wolf River, along with maps and crash data for each highway requested. The request has been reviewed by Highway Department staff members and found to meet all requirements of the County Ordinance. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan to approve the following locations as ATV/UTV routes in the Town of Wolf River:

- CTH MM – from Richter Lane to Kiesow Road
- CTH II – from North/South Road west to East Arrowhead Road
- CTH AH – from Tri-County Road to River Trail Drive
- CTH HH – from River Trail Drive to 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- CTH H – from South Wolf River Road to Arrowhead Lane
- CTH H – from Arrowhead Lane to Arrowhead Road
- CTH H – from Conlon Court to the county line

Motion seconded by Supervisor Farrey and carried 4-0.

Commissioner Palonen distributed copies of a 2020-2021 funding application that will be submitted to the WisDOT for consideration. The application is requesting a portion of the 75 million dollars the Governor included in the budget for one-time funding for roads, railroads, bicycle/pedestrian paths and harbors. The funds would be used to construct a roundabout at the intersection of CTH CB and CTH JJ in hopes of improving safety at this location. There have been two fatalities, and several injuries from 2005-2018 at this location. The project is sponsored jointly by Winnebago County and the City of Neenah and is estimated to cost 2.4 million dollars. Any funds awarded through the MLS (Multimodal Local Supplement) program would go towards the total project, then the balance split equally between Winnebago County and the City of Neenah. If funded, design will go forward in 2020, with construction several years later.

Commissioner Palonen distributed copies of the 2020 Winter Road School agenda to be held January 13-15 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. He stated that he will share the registration forms when they become available.

A pedestrian safety issue along CTH AP and possible solutions were discussed. The portion from Midway Road to Oneida Street is a four-lane roadway with crosswalks for the schools, but several complaints about near misses have been raised stating it is unsafe for pedestrians to cross all four lanes. This has been an ongoing issue for quite a few years. Commissioner Palonen stated that one option would be a "road diet" which would reduce the road to one lane in each direction with a turn lane. This could be accomplished by removing the existing markings and repainting. Supervisor Warnke asked if stop lights would be an option. John Fink asked about installing a walking overpass. Commissioner Palonen stated that he will look at all the options and bring this item back to a future meeting.

The following were reported as general operations:

- Crews have been out plowing snow. The winter maintenance fund is already over budget, so Commissioner Palonen is hopeful there will be enough funds remaining in the non-winter fund to cover the overage through the end of this month. He stated that all the trucks have been calibrated and are ready for winter maintenance.
- Brown County sent an employee to train about 7-8 of our staff on operation of the new tow plow.
- Commissioner Palonen informed the Committee that two employees recently gave their notice and will be moving on.

The next meeting of the Highway Committee will be held on December 16, 2019.

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

Laura Spanbauer  
Administrative Associate