

## WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: January 5, 2015

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman  
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member  
David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member  
Ernie Winters, Highway Commissioner

EXCUSED: Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2014 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.

Supervisor Albrecht informed the Committee that effective the end of December Supervisor Hamblin resigned from the Winnebago County Board. The Committee asked Commissioner Winters to draft a letter to Mr. Hamblin in appreciation of this dedication and fine service to the Highway Committee. Supervisor Albrecht stated Mr. Hamblin will be getting a commendation from the County Board as well.

Commissioner Winters updated the Committee on the IoH (Implement of Husbandry) issue. The Winnebago County Board recently approved a resolution stating the County will abide by Wisconsin Act 377 accepting and instituting the new weight limits on agricultural commercial motor vehicles set forth by the State Legislature. The resolution gives the Highway Commission authorization to operate by the guidelines suggested and coordinate the services with the local municipalities administering the new laws. Commissioner Winters stated he plans to post a summary on the County website and print an article in the local newspaper to reach as many of the agricultural community as possible informing them of how the law works. He also intends to meet with staff from the UW Extension so they are aware of the law and permitting process. Supervisor Warnke suggested Mr. Winters give the information to the Land and Water Conservation Department so they can distribute if members of the farming community go into their office. Commissioner Winters asked the Committee to read the information he distributed and let him know if they have questions or comments. He also stated he plans to meet with representatives from the towns this spring to see what activity they've had on the program.

The Winter Highway Conference to be held January 12-14, 2015 was discussed. Commissioner Winters stated after reviewing the agenda that he does not agree with how the conference is structured. He stated the same topics are revisited too often, and not enough time is dedicated to the daily operation of the Highway Departments that might benefit more attendees. After discussion the Committee decided to wait until after the upcoming meeting to see if anything changes. If not, the Committee and Commissioner Winters may write a letter to the WCHA requesting updating for the future.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters distributed copies of the letters he wrote to local legislators Gordon Hintz, Penny Bernard Schaber, and Amanda Stuck. The letter thanked the legislators for taking time out of their schedules to attend and participate in the December 15<sup>th</sup> Highway Committee meeting where discussion was held regarding local and state transportation issues. Supervisor Warnke stated he will be attending a CAP (County Ambassador Program) meeting soon. He asked Commissioner Winters to provide him with a summary of transportation issues concerning him and he will bring them up at the CAP meeting.
- Commissioner Winters distributed copies of a press release from Senator Tammy Baldwin that approves grandfathering in existing weight limits when USH 41 converts to interstate status.
- Commissioner Winters stated that the Public Service Commission is completing a study granting the American Transmission Company permission to construct substations in North Appleton.
- Recently County Executive Harris signed a TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) Grant to fund and create a bicycle and pedestrian plan in Winnebago County. Commissioner Winters stated that he's drafted up a scope of services plan to get the program started.
- Commissioner Winters updated the Committee on the Performance Based Maintenance projects performed for the WisDOT. Mr. Winters stated that Winnebago County was awarded five projects in 2014. He stated that the department completed four of the five projects. A project on Hwy 47 was unable to be completed due to weather constraints.

A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer  
Highway Secretary