

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 6, 2015

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Kenn Olson, Highway Committee Member
David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member
Ernie Winters, Highway Commissioner

EXCUSED: Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: Chuck Farrey, County Board District #30
Harry Sturgis

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Olson, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2015 meeting as written. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was any public input on agenda items. Chuck Farrey stated he was attending today's meeting to learn about the State Budget and how the potential cuts may affect the County.

Commissioner Winters distributed a copy of the reply he sent to County Executive Harris who inquired about the State Transportation Budget potentially getting reduced and what impact it would have. Mr. Winters' reply summarizes a scenario showing what would happen if the DOT cut 10% out of the various State entitlements for highways. Commissioner Winters informed the Committee if that happens it will cause a significant impact to the County. The 10% reduction would include a \$200,000 reduction in General Transportation Aids as well as reductions in the LRIP (Local Road Improvement) Program, Surface Transportation and Local Bridge Programs, and general maintenance funding. To make up the shortfall the County would either have to increase the tax levy, reduce staff, or delay projects currently being performed. The Transportation Budget is currently being discussed by the State legislators.

The CTH CB and Oakridge Road intersection was discussed. Commissioner Winters stated he received a letter from the Town of Neenah stating that they would like to see the County move forward with a traffic study at this location. Commissioner Winters stated that he requested a cost estimate and scope of services from a consultant. He stated there are certain warrants that must be met before changes are made. The accident data from the last 14 years show over 100 accidents at this location but many are deer related or driver error. The consultant will take all the information into consideration before they make a recommendation. Then if the Highway Committee and County Board think it's a good idea a project will move forward. Supervisor Egan joined the meeting and was given a summary on this topic. After further discussion Supervisor Albrecht stated he thinks this committee must take the approach that something has to be done at this intersection.

A maintenance project on Waukau Avenue was discussed. Commissioner Winters distributed a copy of a letter he sent to EAA informing them that Waukau Avenue will be patched as a temporary fix prior to the annual EAA convention in a few weeks and inquiring if they wish to participate in a larger capital improvement project. Waukau Avenue may be pulverized and paved which would add approximately 20 years of life.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that the developers who own the land behind the Highway Department facility are considering going forward with the construction of a subdivision that would border our property. If that takes place it could pose drainage issues along CTH Y. The developer will need an easement from the County to proceed.
- Commissioner Winters stated that he was informed by the WisDOT that they will be shooting part of a work zone safety awareness video here at the Highway Facility memorial site. Mr. Winters has been asked to say a few words during the shoot. The video is used for Driver's Education classes and television commercials.
- Commissioner Winters stated that he will be unable to attend the July 20th Highway Committee Meeting but can have some of his staff fill in for him.
- Chairman Robl asked for updates on some of the projects being performed by the Highway Department including the Parks project, the CTH I and N paving projects, and routine maintenance projects including sealing, mowing, etc. Commissioner Winters provided the information.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Olson to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary