

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: September 22, 2014

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive

EXCUSED: Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robl at 9:00 A.M. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Chairman Robl to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

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.

A remnant parcel of property on CTH D was discussed. Originally when this item was first presented to Commissioner Winters it consisted of a small triangular piece of property that had no value to the department. During discussions with a surveyor and the adjacent landowner, it was discovered that the parcel also includes old CTH D right of way that was previously vacated but never conveyed. After discussion the committee members all agreed that if the County Board approves it, the old CTH D right of way and the triangular parcel should be conveyed to the adjacent property owner, Tony Herbst, for \$1.00.

Commissioner Winters informed the committee about a topic that may be discussed at the Winter Highway Conference in January. He distributed a draft copy of correspondence stating the Wisconsin County Highway Association (WCHA) may wish to add a contract employee. Commissioner Winters stated that he is opposing the additional position, and thinks the list of duties performed by current staff should be reviewed to determine which are necessary and which are discretionary. Supervisor Albrecht stated he has no problem with the job WCHA is doing, but does not agree to creating positions for particular individuals.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters informed the committee that he will be attending the Town's Association meeting on October 2nd. At the meeting he will give a presentation regarding the newly created Implement of Husbandry (IoH) Laws-Act 377 regarding overweight agricultural equipment. Mr. Winters stated he will offer to help any of the towns understand the new law and prepare their ordinances. He is presenting the information in the interest of keeping everything consistent between the towns and Winnebago County. A soft deadline of January 15th is in place to have ordinances completed.
- The intersection of CTH CB and Oakridge Road was discussed. A summary of accident data was distributed to the committee members showing the incidents from the previous four years. According to the data this intersection does not meet the warrants for either a four-way stop or traffic signals at this time. Commissioner Winters stated he spoke with representatives from the Sheriff's Dept. who stated they would not recommend placing stop signs at this intersection. Mr. Winters also informed the local municipality that if they wish to pursue the matter they should write a letter formally asking the County to take action. Otherwise, he would recommend leaving the intersection as it currently exists and continue to watch it, possibly considering a roundabout in the future. Mr. Winters stated there may be funding available through a WisDOT safety grant. Discussion followed. Supervisor Albrecht informed Commissioner Winters that he'd like him to investigate the DOT safety grant. No other decisions were made as of yet.

- Commissioner Winters informed the committee that one of the Highway Department employees was involved in a significant accident on USH 41. The department had a crew performing shoulder work when a semi truck went around all the warning signs and crash cushion striking one of the sign trucks pushing him from the right fog line across all lanes of traffic into the median wall. The semi driver was ticketed. The Highway Dept. employee that was in the truck suffered head and neck injuries and is off on workers compensation. The department is very thankful that this accident didn't end worse.
- Street lights at the intersection of CTH II and CTH CB were discussed. Commissioner Winters stated that for some time the Town of Menasha has been under the misconception that Winnebago County is responsible for repairs to street lights. Statutorily Winnebago County does not have to build or maintain street lights, except in the case of a roundabout, and therefore are not responsible for any street lights except at the intersection of CTH Y and CTH T. Mr. Winters sent a letter to the Town of Menasha explaining this information to them.
- Commissioner Winters informed the committee that he received an email from the WisDOT stating they plan to move forward with officially mapping the STH 21 corridor. In order to do that they need to know what the plan is for the proposed west side arterial. Commissioner Winters noted he spoke with representatives from the City of Oshkosh and Town of Algoma who stated they are open to having a meeting to discuss this topic. A determination will have to be made where the interchange with STH 21 will be placed and what type of facility it will be.
- Supervisor Egan stated that there is a significant amount of speeding on CTH K from Waukau to the east. He also stated that more speed limit signs are necessary in this corridor.

Chairman Robl stated the next regularly scheduled Highway Committee meeting will be held on October 6, 2014.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Hamblin to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary