

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: October 5, 2015

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to the County Executive
Chuck Farrey, Supervisor
Mike Exferd, Mead & Hunt

Chairman Robl called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Olson, seconded by Supervisor Albrecht to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2015 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was any public input on the agenda. Mr. Farrey stated he was in attendance regarding Butler Avenue. Mike Exferd, Mead & Hunt, stated he stopped in the meeting today to make the committee aware that Mead & Hunt is willing to help with any future work they may need. Being no further public input Chairman Robl moved on to agenda item #3.

Commissioner Winters stated that Butler Avenue is a county driveway servicing Park View Health Center. He stated it was originally a town road and vacated back in the 1960's. He stated that a mill and pave job may extend the life by 10 years at best, but would not recommend that since there may be water and sewer lines underneath the road. Commissioner Winters stated that the Facilities Department is planning on doing a site plan of the area. The Committee suggested since the road is the driveway to Park View that it should be repaired and possibly additional parking added at the hospital. The City of Oshkosh should be included in the planning and the project added to the Capital Improvement Plan. After discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht to have Commissioner Winters continue researching the issue and get a cost to repair Butler Avenue from CTH A to CTH Y and report back at a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Olson and carried 4-0. Mr. Farrey and Mr. Exferd exited the meeting.

Commissioner Winters distributed a draft of a letter he wrote to Congressman Ribble opposing legislation that would allow heavier trucks on roadways. The legislation being considered would raise the legal weight limit from 80,000 to 91,000 lbs. Studies have concluded that the increased weight would put many more bridges at risk of failing and could cost taxpayers billions of dollars. A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Warnke to send the letter to Congressman Ribble opposing the increased truck weights. Motion was carried 4-0. Supervisor Egan joined the meeting.

A remnant parcel of right of way along CTH D was discussed. The parcel in question is sandwiched between two other parcels owned by the same party. Commissioner Winters stated that he talked to Corporation Counsel Bodnar who informed him the County Board has the ability to either sell property at auction or deed to abutting property owner. After discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Olson to vacate the remnant parcel to the adjoining property owner. Motion carried 5-0.

The reconstruction of CTH I from 35th Avenue in Oshkosh to Ripple Avenue was discussed. Commissioner Winters stated that the County received federal money to rebuild CTH I as a four-lane concrete section. Mr. Winters has since found out that the City of Oshkosh has plans to do a sewer project in the next 5-6 years on that same stretch of roadway that would require digging up the new pavement. The reconstruction project will be delayed until after the sewer project is complete. Mr. Winters plans to contact the WisDOT to see if he can move the funds to a different project. This item will be addressed at a future meeting.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters stated he has been informed that the WisDOT will be delaying several road projects due to funding issues. Mr. Winters asked the committee if they want him to draft a letter to the State stressing the importance of finding funding to keep the road projects on track. Supervisor Olson stated that he has plans to see some of the legislators this week and will discuss with them as well.
- Commissioner Winters stated that Carl Traeger School officials are unhappy with their driveway entrances onto CTH K (20th Street) and hired a consultant to look at their options. The consultant suggested three: construct a roundabout; install traffic signals activated during school time only; or reroute the traffic internally. Commissioner Winters stated that by statute the County does not have to participate. Supervisor Warnke suggested the school utilize a driveway onto Oakwood Road rather than CTH K.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Highway Secretary