

## WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: March 17, 2014

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

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

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 Egan to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried 5-0.

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.

Commissioner Winters distributed copies of a draft resolution in support of funding a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant. Joining the conversation via conference call was Emily Dieringer from the Public Health Department. The \$100,000 WisDOT grant money would be used to fund a study to identify where bike/pedestrian paths should be placed in the future. If approved, Winnebago County would be responsible for \$20,000 of funding towards the study. Ms. Dieringer stated a decision has not been made on who will conduct the study. That decision will be made after the money is awarded. She stated the study could be performed by a combination of Winnebago County staff, a consultant, or East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Currently ECWRPC is performing a study on other trails along major corridors that could tie into this project. Supervisor Albrecht stated he will not support using ECWRPC for this project since Winnebago County has paid them over one million dollars over the last six years and he does not feel that the County gets value out of their services. After further discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht to amend the last line of the resolution to read "done in-house and overseen by the Health Department". Motion was seconded by Supervisor Egan and carried 5-0. A motion was then made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Egan to approve the resolution as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Winters distributed copies of a pending bill regarding IOH (Implements of Husbandry). The Wisconsin State Senate has already approved the legislation and it will now go before the Assembly. The bill gives exemptions for oversized agricultural equipment to travel on the roadways, increasing the total maximum gross weight allowable from 80,000 pounds to 92,000 pounds. If those limits are exceeded a permit would be required from the local jurisdiction. If the legislation is passed each County will be required to write new rules for the oversize permitting process. Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that he will keep them updated on this subject.

### General Operations:

- Recently the WisDOT held a meeting regarding the reconstruction of STH 76 and the possibility of building roundabouts at the intersections of CTH G, GG and JJ. Mr. Winters stated the WisDOT is trying to add more roundabouts on roads with 55 mph speed limits. He advised the committee that roads at that speed limit are designed so traffic must slow down before entering the roundabout. The STH 76 project is not scheduled for reconstruction until the year 2020.
- Commissioner Winters informed the Committee that bids for the CTH T project were opened recently. He stated the numbers came in favorably, but he does not intend to award to the low bidder based on a less than favorable experience with them on a recent project. Mr. Winters stated he has all the documentation to prove the contractor's shortcomings. Mr. Winters has discussed this issue with County Executive Harris and Corporation Counsel Bodnar.

- The 2014 navigation season will begin on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The Highway Department has a Safety Training Day scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup> at the department. He invited the Committee members to attend if they wish.
- Commissioner Winters stated the department has plenty of salt available now. Previously the quantity was getting dangerously low due to the State falling behind on deliveries because of the greater than anticipated need and shortage of trucks to haul the salt.
- Chairman Robl asked if the department will be starting town work soon. Commissioner Winters stated that the Superintendents will begin their road checks with the towns in the next week or two to determine what work is needed.
- Supervisor Egan inquired about some unsolved issues with the Eureka Bridge project from last year. Commissioner Winters stated that he is working with the property owner in question.
- Supervisor Albrecht asked why the Eureka Boat Landing is scheduled to be repaved when it was recently done. Mr. Winters advised him that project would fall under the Parks Department jurisdiction.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Egan to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.  
The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer  
Highway Secretary