

Highway/Solid Waste Committee Minutes

October 5, 2023

The Highway Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 AM by Chairman Gary Paape. Members present included Gary Paape, Tom Romdenne, John Mastalir, and Joe Lukes. Aaron Augustian was excused.

Staff present: Highway Commissioner Todd Every and Patrol Superintendent Jesse Schley

Others present included Randy Ebert and Lester Schlies.

Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes from September 7, 2023:

Joe Lukes made a motion to adopt today's agenda and approve the minutes from the September 7, 2023. Second by Tom Romdenne. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

Lester Schlies inquired about the possible maintenance needed on a culvert crossing under CTH J near his residence.

Lester Schlies also commented on the replacement of the box culvert at the intersection of CTH AB and Old Settlers Road during the pavement replacement project on the highway.

Reports:

Patrol Superintendent Jesse Schley had the following to report for work being completed:

- Completed culvert replacements on CTH AB, Mile Road
- Completed the overlay and shouldering on CTH X (Rocky Road – CTH C)
- Surface layer will be installed on CTH AB during the week of October 9th
- Adding gravel and grading on Bills Road and McKinley Road in the Town of Red River
- Center Line Painting in Suamico
- Ditch mowing (fence to fence) has started on town roads in West Kewaunee and Carlton
- Completed mastic repairs on county highways and in the Village of Luxemburg
- Mechanics are checking over v-box spreaders in preparation of winter

Commissioner Every presented the following financial information:

- ✓ County Roads and Bridge Budget Report January 1 – September 16th
- ✓ Finance Department reports thru August 31

Commissioner Every presented the following to report:

Highway Worker applications are due on October 13th.

The preliminary estimate for 2024 General Transportation Aids (GTA) has been received. The Preliminary estimate is \$843,507.67, an increase of \$38,614.40 over 2023.

The Scoping Meeting for the CTH KB bridge replacement project was held on 9-17-23. Ayres will be completing their estimate for design costs and will submit the proposal to WISDOT for approval.

The County's request for more funds from WISDOT for the CTH C (STH 29 – CTH L) Reconstruction project was reviewed and approved. \$485,000 was added to the project.

Funding levels for the 2024 – 2025 Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) we recently released. Kewaunee County will receive \$109,707.85 in entitlement funding and \$577,082.05 in CHIS funding. Staff is evaluating which projects to apply the funding.

Asphalt Plant Stack Test was completed the last week of September. We are still waiting for the official report. There was concern by the testing firm that the Preliminary results may not meet the permit requirements. Once the official report is available, Staff will evaluate repairs which may be needed.

The DNR finally approved the 2022 Landfill Long Term Care (LTC) reimbursement request in the amount of \$75,583.

Staff has received the grading plan for improvements to the storm water system at the landfill. Once completed, the improvements should address the issues from the Notice of Noncompliance from earlier this year.

Rankin Pit Discussion:

Randy Ebert attended the meeting to inquire about the possibility of the County selling the Rankin Pit (Parcel No. 31 002 32.10) south of intersection of STH 54 and CTH D in the Town of Ahnapee. Mr. Ebert and Commissioner Every have met several times in the past years to discuss this topic. Mr. Ebert indicated his business operations need fill material for projects and potentially to use the site for residential property.

Chairman Paape reminded the committee earlier this year, the Finance and Public Property Committee passed a motion to not sell the parcel. Mr. Ebert would like to County to reconsider the consideration.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Ebert offered to bring a proposal back to the County for consideration for the sale of the parcel, or some type of arrangement to coexist on the site.

Motion by Joe Lukes to have Randy Ebert to make a formal proposal to the County to consider for the purchase of Rankin Pit (Parcel No. 31 002 32.10). Seconded by John Mastalir. Motion passed 3 – 1 (Paape).

Foreman Classification Request:

Commissioner Every discussed the concept of requesting the addition of a new employee classification to our department. The concept would be to add a "Foreman" classification.

Also, Commissioner Every and Patrol Superintendent Schley discussed the idea of increasing Highway Worker hourly wages. Staff feels there is a need to bring our hourly wages more in line with the current market in order to retain existing employees and recruit new employees.

Generally, the Committee agreed there is a need to discuss this topic in more detail. The Committee asked staff to place this item on the next agenda for discussion and to prepare a proposal to consider for changing the employee classifications and hourly wages.

Citizen Request for Signage in the R-O-W:

A request for honoring an WWII veteran born in Stangelville was presented to the committee. The committee referred the request to the Veterans Services office.

Spraying Plant Growth Inhibitors on ROW:

Tabled

Main Shop Upgrade Project:

The Highway Shop Upgrade Subcommittee will be meeting on October 6th. An update will be provided after that meeting.

Any other business as allowed by law: None

Next Meeting Dates:

- a. November 9th @ 7:00 AM
- b. December 7th @ 7:00 AM

Adjournment:

Motion by Joe Lukes to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 AM. Seconded by John Mastalir. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Todd Every, Highway Commissioner