

## **HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, June 11, 2014

COMMITTEE: Highway

CHAIRMAN: William Bostwick

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Bostwick, Arlene Bonacci, Jim Jansen and Pete Pennington.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Hurlbert

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Rusch, Patrol Superintendent Washatko, Office Manager Wells, Robin Stowe and Bill Cornelius.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bostwick at 7:30 a.m.

Motion by Bonacci, second by Jansen, to excuse Supervisor Hurlbert. Motion carried.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **APPROVE AGENDA/MINUTES:**

Chairman Bostwick asked for additions to the agenda. There were none. Motion by Jansen, second by Pennington, to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Pennington, second by Bonacci, to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2014 and May 22, 2014 meetings. Motion carried.

### **DISCUSS CITIZEN REQUEST FOR REDUCED SPEED LIMIT, DEAF PERSON SIGNS, AND DEER CROSSING SIGNS ON CTH "T", EAST OF USH "45":**

At the May 14, 2014 meeting, the Committee instructed Commissioner Rusch to meet with Mr. Cornelius and to study the area on CTH "T" east from USH "45", for approximately 2 miles, regarding reducing the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph and installing deaf person and deer crossing signs. Commissioner Rusch reported that he had met with Mr. Cornelius, and had studied the area, as well as State and County statutes/ordinances. The road use and spacing of driveways does not meet the statutory standards for a lower speed limit. Commissioner Rusch reported there is a hill near the east end of the section which has driveways with limited sight distances, and that the Potter Road intersection has vegetation which reduces visibility. Commissioner Rusch reiterated that deer crossing signs have been found to be ineffective, and are no longer used by the State or County. Commissioner Rusch recommends not changing the speed limit, installing "hidden driveway" signs at one hill, installing "deaf person" signs near one residence and brushing near the intersection with Potter Road to improve visibility.

Motion by Pennington, second by Jansen, to install hidden driveway signs with 45 mph advisory signs at the hill, deaf person signs near one residence, and to trim brush at the Potter Road intersection. Motion carried.

### **DISCUSS MACHINERY, SHOP AND REPAIRS:**

Mostly routine repairs in the shop. Seasonal and preventative maintenance on trucks continues.

Converting patrol trucks for summer work has been completed. Preventative maintenance on the loaders, heavy dump trucks and paving equipment has been completed and preventative maintenance is being done on tractors and mowers.

### **DISCUSS HIGHWAY OPERATIONS:**

We are patching pavement, replacing some culverts before the paving season begins, and crack sealing roads. Pavement marking continues. Crushing at the Doucette pit continues. Hot mix plant start up is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 16. We have received approved projects from the Forestry Department on the Wolf River State Trail and other misc. work, from the School District for paving and patching at several schools, and from the Town of Polar for gravel hauling and paving projects. Estimates have been submitted for numerous town projects.

The May budget report was distributed.

**APPROVE STATE/MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR STP BRIDGE PROJECT, P-34-0004, CTH “B”:**

Motion by Pennington, second by Jansen, to approve and sign the Agreement for STP Bridge project, P-34-004, CTH “B” with the State for \$273,060.00 with the County’s portion being \$54,612.00. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO TRANS 75.06, REGARDING ABSENCE OF NEED FOR SIDEWALKS ON CTH “Y” BRIDGE PROJECT:**

Lanlade County will be replacing the Eau Claire River Bridge on CTH “Y”. With Federal matching funds being used, the project design must comply with Wisconsin Administrative Code Trans 75.06, requiring accommodation of bicycles and pedestrians, unless it is determined that there is an absence of need. Our design firm has recommended that based on location, traffic, usage, long term plans, etc. that the Committee should consider an absence of need exemption. Commissioner Rusch prepared a resolution for the Committee’s consideration that outlines determining, pursuant to Trans 75.06, an absence of need for sidewalks throughout the proposed project limits. Motion by Pennington, second by Jansen, to sign the resolution prepared by Commissioner Rusch that states that pursuant to Trans 75.06, determining an absence of need for sidewalks on CTH “Y” bridge project. Motion carried.

**AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00 A.M., MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WI STATUTE 19.85(1)(E) TO DISCUSS AGREEMENT FOR REPLACEMENT OF TRUCKS #8 AND #9 AND 19.85(1)(G) TO DISCUSS THE RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION ON CTH “B”, FROM USH “45” TO STH “52”:**

Motion by Pennington, second by Jansen, to move into closed session at 8:23 a.m. By individual vote of the Committee; all ayes.

**AT APPROXIMATELY 9:00 A.M., RETURN TO OPEN SESSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY MATTER DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion by Bonacci, second by Jansen, to move out of closed session at 9:21 a.m. Motion carried.

Motion by Pennington, second by Bonacci, to approve the replacement plan for trucks #8 and #9, as discussed in closed session. Motion carried.

Motion by Bonacci, second by Pennington, to approve the recommended settlement for right of way on the CTH B project, as discussed in closed session. Motion carried.

**DISCUSS ATV ROUTE REQUEST FROM ANTIGO ATV/UTV CLUB, ON CTH “N”, WEST OF USH “45” TO OLD RAILROAD GRADE:**

This item was pulled from the agenda at the request of the Antigo ATV/UTV Club.

**DISCUSS LONG TERM PLANNING/ECONOMIC CONDITIONS:**

The Commissioner and Highway Committee discussed long term planning for the Highway Department, should there be a downturn in economic conditions. The discussion included the possibility of less State and Federal funding. The Commissioner was requested to prepare suggestions of what changes could be made, and the effect on services. This item will be included on the agenda from time to time for discussion.

**ADJOURN MEETING:**

Motion by Bonacci, second by Pennington, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. Motion carried.

Arleen Bonacci, Secretary