

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, May 20, 2015

COMMITTEE: Highway

ACTING CHAIRMAN: Richard Hurlbert

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Hurlbert, Arlene Bonacci, Jim Jansen and Pete Pennington.

MEMBERS ABSENT: The Highway Committee membership is four Supervisors, due to the resignation of Supervisor Bostwick.

ALSO PRESENT: Corporation Counsel Stowe, Pam Resch, Commissioner Rusch, Patrol Superintendent Thom, Shop Superintendent Moyle and Office Manager Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hurlbert at 8:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA/MINUTES:

Chairman Hurlbert asked for additions to the agenda. There were none. Motion by Pennington, second by Bonacci, to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Jansen, second by Bonacci, to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2015, April 16, 2015, April 23, 2015, April 29, 2015, April 29, 2015 amended minutes and May 12, 2015 meetings. Motion carried.

AT APPROXIMATELY 8:05 A.M., CONSIDER MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.85 (1)(C),(F) AND (G) OF WISCONSIN STATUTES, TO CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, COMPENSATION OR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION DATA OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OVER WHICH THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY HAS JURISDICTION OR EXERCISES RESPONSIBILITY; TO CONSIDER PERSONAL HISTORIES, DISCIPLINARY DATA OF SPECIFIC PERSONS, AND THE INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES AGAINST SPECIFIC PERSONS, WHICH, IF DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC, WOULD BE LIKELY TO HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE REPUTATION OF ANY PERSON REFERRED TO IN SUCH HISTORIES OR DATA, OR INVOLVED IN SUCH PROBLEMS OR INVESTIGATIONS; TO REVIEW THE FINDINGS OF PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION WITH LABOR COUNSEL:

Motion by Jansen, second by Bonacci, to move into closed session at 8:01 a.m. By individual vote of the Committee; all ayes.

AT APPROXIMATELY 8:30 A.M., RETURN TO OPEN SESSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY MATTERS DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Pennington, second by Bonacci, to move out of closed session at 9:02 a.m. Motion carried.

DISCUSS MACHINERY, SHOP AND REPAIRS:

Box repairs are being made to #166 truck and the engine was rebuilt in #163 truck. Annual maintenance continues on the quad axle trucks and hot mix plant as well as routine maintenance on our other equipment. The old chip spreader has not been used since 1995 (chip sealing operations were discontinued). We will broker the chip spreader for sale and also have the broker look for a used moving truck (semi tractor) to buy to replace two of our current moving trucks that are in poor condition. One truck should be able to handle the volume of work we currently have for a moving truck.

DISCUSS HIGHWAY OPERATIONS:

There was one plowing event (on April 10) since the last regular meeting. We are brushing and patching as necessary. We are crack sealing on County roads and finished the State Performance Based Maintenance (PBM) crack sealing project on USH "45". We will start County culvert replacements today and began painting the County roads last week. Yesterday, we participated in the WCA Annual Safety Day in Forest County along with Forest, Florence, Vilas and Iron Counties. We rented a bus and transported all employees to the safety training; providing additional required training on the bus ride. There was no charge for the training; the only cost was the bus rental and the DOT will participate in that cost. Now that our annual training is completed, we started crushing gravel today.

The April budget report was distributed.

REVIEW/APPROVE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR 2016 – 2020:

Commissioner Rusch reviewed the capital improvement projects. Motion by Jansen , second by Pennington, to forward the rating and ranking of the CIP projects to the Finance Department. Motion carried.

DISCUSS DIFFERENTIAL PAY FOR OPERATING EQUIPMENT:

Discussion was had about past practices related to equipment operation and paying "out of class". The new salary matrix and the positions were reviewed, along with changes that have occurred throughout the years regarding equipment operation and the amount of what used to be called "out of class" equipment operation. This was for discussion only.

DISCUSS STAFFING LEVELS:

With the promotion of Jason Thom to the Assistant Commissioner/Patrol Superintendent position and the resignation of another employee, the hourly staff is reduced by two employees. Anticipated work, including snowplowing is expected to remain at the current levels. Motion by Pennington, second by Bonacci, to request approval from the Executive Committee and County Board to replace two employees, establish an eligibility list, and establish pre-authorization to fill positions from the eligibility list should they occur to keep our minimal staffing level at 28 hourly employees. Motion carried.

AT APPROXIMATELY 9:00 A.M., CONSIDER MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.85 (1) (C) OF THE WISCONSIN STATUTES TO CONSIDER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE/STAFFING, AND TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR THE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER POSITION:

Motion by Jansen, second by Pennington, to move into closed session at 9:30 a.m. By individual vote of the Committee; all ayes.

AT APPROXIMATELY 10:00 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 10:40 a.m. Motion carried.

Three applicants for the Commissioner position selected in closed session will be interviewed.

DISCUSS LONG TERM PLANNING/ECONOMIC CONDITIONS:

There were no current issues to discuss.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion by Bonacci, second by Jansen, to adjourn the meeting at 10:42 a.m. Motion carried.

Arlene Bonacci, Secretary