

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, October 10, 2012

COMMITTEE: Highway

CHAIRMAN: Jeffrey Zalewski

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Zalewski, Arlene Bonacci, Richard Hurlbert and William Bostwick.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rick Bina

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Rusch , Patrol Superintendent Washatko, Office Manager Wells and consultants from various engineering firms.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA/MINUTES:

Chairman Zalewski asked for additions to the amended agenda. There were none. Motion by Bonacci, second by Hurlbert, to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bonacci, approve the minutes of the September 12, 2012 meeting. Motion carried.

REVIEW DISBURSEMENTS:

Motion by Bostwick, second by Bonacci to approve the September, 2012 voucher/procurement card disbursements, and sign the history report. Motion carried.

DISCUSS MACHINERY, SHOP AND REPAIRS:

It has been a pretty good month. The crusher was down for 2 days- the crusher section has several cross-shafts which are linked together, and one of the collars on one shaft slipped, upsetting the timing; the bad collar and two others were replaced, and the timing re-set. The clutch in truck #153 (quad axle dump) is being replaced. The hydraulic steering cylinder in #273 loader was damaged; we are having a new one made. Prepping for winter and seasonal maintenance continues. One snowplow truck remains to be scheduled for preventative maintenance.

DISCUSS HIGHWAY OPERATIONS:

We have only a couple more days of paving left before the plant is shut down for the winter. A small paving job is being completed for the Town of Upham; then we will be completing the re-paving of the yard area around the south side of the shop to the new gate. We paved 14 miles of County roads this year, 2 more miles than the base plan. Shouldering on CTH "A" has been completed, CTH's "U" and "Q" need to be shouldered yet. Crack sealing for a couple of Town projects will be scheduled soon, as well as County roads as weather permits. Mixing salt/sand for the winter will begin about October 22nd. We are prepping for winter and finalizing the beat assignments for winter plowing. Next week we will be posting for two State plow beats that are vacant due to retirements. Pavement marking is being completed for Price County Highway Department; we only have a couple more days of pavement marking remaining for the year.

The September budget report was distributed.

PRESENTATIONS BY ENGINEERING FIRMS FOR THE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ON CTH “Y”, STP BRIDGE PROGRAM 2011-2013:

Presentations were given from MSA Professional Services, OMNNI Associates, Mead and Hunt and Ayres Associates. Each Committee member ranked each individual consulting firm, and the rankings were tabulated. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bostwick, to forward the following ranking to our management consultant for the project, Cedar Corp. Motion carried.

1. Mead and Hunt
2. Ayres and Associates
3. OMMNI Associates
4. MSA Professional Services

DISCUSS APPRAISALS AND RIGHT OF WAY PURCHASE – CTH “B” – USH “45” TO STH “52”:

Discussion was held on appraisals and right of way purchasing on CTH “B” – USH “45 to STH “52. In the past, the right of way purchasing was done in house with the Commissioner and Highway Committee Chairman purchasing the right of way. The Commissioner and Office Manager recommend that we hire an outside firm for this job since this is a larger project on a tight schedule - all right of way purchasing has to be completed by late spring, 2013 in order to receive the 50% funding through CHIP Program; the project funding sunsets 6/30/13. The route is six miles long with approximately 58 parcels to buy on both sides of the road. Much of the required right of way is farmland. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bostwick, to proceed with hiring an outside firm for right of way purchasing on CTH “B” – USH “45” TO STH “52”. Motion carried.

Office Manager Wells recommended the Highway Committee hire Gordon Meyer for appraisals. Mr. Meyer has done appraisals for right of way purchasing for the County in the past on their federal aid projects. Motion by Bonacci, second by Hurlbert, to hire Gordon Meyer to do appraisals for CTH “B” – USH “45” to STH “52”. Motion carried.

DISCUSS FRAC SAND MINING RESOLUTION:

At the last Highway Committee meeting, the Committee instructed Commissioner Rusch to work with Corporation Counsel Stowe to redraft a resolution stating Langlade County supports frac. sand mining but does not support reallocating existing DOT funding for road repairs/improvements because of frac. sand mining. The draft resolution was discussed. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bostwick to forward the redrafted resolution to the County Board. Motion carried.

DISCUSS STAFFING AND UPCOMING RETIREMENTS:

At the last Highway Committee meeting the Committee approved refilling one Mechanic position and two Common Laborer positions. Since the last meeting, we have received paperwork for an additional Mechanic retirement, making four retirements by the end of 2012. Commissioner Rusch requested approval to refill an additional Mechanic position to maintain the current staffing level. Motion by Bonacci, second by Bostwick, to approve the refilling of an additional Mechanic. Motion carried.

DISCUSS COUNTY EMPLOYEE REQUEST TO DONATE VACATION/SICK LEAVE TO ANOTHER EMPLOYEE:

This item was discussed and tabled due to the retirement of the employee.

AT APPROXIMATELY 9:15 A.M., CONSIDER MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WIS. STATS. SEC. 19.85 (1) (C) OF WISCONSIN STATUTES TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR ONE MECHANIC AND TWO COMMON LABORER POSITIONS:

Motion by Bonacci, second by Bostwick, to move into closed session at 10:10 a.m. By individual vote of the committee, all ayes. Motion carried.

AT APPROXIMATELY 9:45 A.M., RETURN TO OPEN SESSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY MATTER DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bonacci, to move out of closed session at 11:25 a.m. all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bostwick, to interview selected applicants for the Mechanic position on October 18, 2012 and interview selected applicants for the Common Laborer positions on October 25, 2012. Motion carried, all ayes.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion by Bonacci, second by Bostwick, to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m. Motion carried. The meeting was over four hours long.

Richard H. Hurlbert, Secretary