

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, September 12, 2012

COMMITTEE: Highway

CHAIRMAN: Jeffrey Zalewski

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Rusch, Patrol Superintendent Washatko and Rick Satterlee of Ayres and Associates.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA/MINUTES:

Chairman Zalewski asked for additions to the agenda. There were none. Motion by Bonacci, second by Hurlbert, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bonacci, to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2012 and August 13, 2012 meetings. Motion carried.

REVIEW DISBURSEMENTS:

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

DISCUSS MACHINERY, SHOP AND REPAIRS:

There are no major repairs at this time, or in the past month. The hot mix plant and crusher are both running well. Routine maintenance and repairs are being performed as necessary. Preventative maintenance continues on plow trucks as workload allows. About only 4 more trucks remain to be gone over prior to snow season.

DISCUSS HIGHWAY OPERATIONS:

We have completed most of our town work; we have some patching and pavement overlay work to do for the Town of Evergreen. We are in progress on the parking lot for the Housing Authority. We have completed paving on a STH 55 project for the State, and have about ¾ of a mile to shoulder. On County roads, we have between 5-6 miles of paving and shouldering to be done (CTH A, Q, and U). We will also re-pave a part of the yard area around the south side of the shop to the new gate as previously approved. We will start mixing salt/sand in October in preparation for the winter months. Work on the three bridge replacements on CTH "C" is on schedule. We have begun our bi-annual bridge inspections. The State DOT and Federal Highway Administration were here for a routine audit of our bridge inspection program on August 15th- the program was found to be in good shape. A public meeting to discuss the CTH B reconstruction was held at the Neva Town Hall Sept 6th—we will be purchasing right-of-way in 2013 and building the first segment in 2014.

The August, 2012 budget report was distributed:

DISCUSS FRAC SAND MINING RESOLUTION ASSIGNED TO HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:

Discussion was had on the frac. sand mining resolution. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bonacci, to have Commissioner Rusch redraft the resolution, stating Langlade County supports frac. sand mining but does not support reallocating existing DOT funding to road repairs/improvements necessary because of the mining. Motion carried. The Commissioner will work with Corporation Counsel Stowe to redraft a resolution reflecting this.

DISCUSS REGIONAL FALL MEETING – OCTOBER 26, 2012:

Motion by Bonacci, second by Bostwick, to approve Commissioner Rusch, Chairman Zalewski and Supervisor Hurlbert to attend the North Central Region Fall Highway Conference on October 26, 2012 in Stratford, WI. All ayes. Motion carried.

DISCUSS REQUEST FOR COMMISSIONER TO ATTEND COMMISSIONER’S TRAINING OCTOBER 16 AND 17, 2012:

Motion by Bina, second by Hurlbert, to allow Commissioner Rusch to attend Commissioner’s training October 16 and 17, 2012 in Madison, WI. All ayes, Motion carried.

DISCUSS HIGHWAY CONFERENCE TOPICS AND HIGHWAY CONFERENCE, JANUARY 14 – 16, 2013:

Commissioner Rusch informed the Highway Committee about the upcoming Winter Highway Conference, January 14 – 16, 2012 in Wisconsin Dells. This was for informational purposes only so if any of the Committee members would like to attend they could plan accordingly. This will be put on a future agenda.

DISCUSS REQUEST FOR SHOP SUPERINTENDENT DONALD MOYLE FOR A COUNTY CREDIT CARD WITH A \$1,000 LIMIT:

Motion by Bostwick, second by Bina, to allow the new Shop Superintendent a County credit card with a \$1,000 limit. All ayes, Motion carried.

DISCUSS CTH Y BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - SELECTION PROCESS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN:

The bridge on CTH “Y” over the Eau Claire River will be replaced in 2015. Funding has been approved through the STP Bridge Program with funding at 80% Federal/20% County. The Committee discussed the selection process for the engineering design portion of the project to begin in 2013. The Committee decided that Commissioner Rusch will send a request for Statement of Qualifications to three or four engineering firms—to be due October 3rd. The information will be distributed to Committee members for review prior to the October 10, 2012 meeting. Those firms providing a proposal will be invited to make a 15-minute presentation at the October 10, 2012 meeting after which the Committee will select the engineering firm.

DISCUSS REQUEST FROM CTH Z RESIDENTS REGARDING CONVEYING EXCESS RIGHT-OF-WAY TO ADJOINING LANDOWNER:

In the 1930’s and 1940’s the County acquired land that was tax delinquent and then resold it- but in some cases retained 100’ wide strips for future road purposes. A CTH Z homeowner has property where the edge of the 100’ wide strip goes directly through the house. Normal right-of-way width in this area would be 33’ from the centerline. The residents would like the extra right-of-way conveyed to them. Two other properties in this area have worked with the County to have the excess right-of-way conveyed to them in previous years. Commissioner Rusch stated the Highway Department does not need this extra 67’ of property for road purposes and recommended the Committee designate it so. Motion by Bina, second by Hurlbert, to designate the extra 67’ of property unnecessary for highway purposes, and forward the matter to the Land Sales Committee. All ayes, motion carried.

DISCUSS STAFFING, APPROVAL FOR REPLACEMENTS FOR RETIRING EMPLOYEES, HIRING PROCESS:

At a prior Highway meeting, the Highway Committee approved the refilling of one Mechanic position and one Common Laborer position due to two retirements within the Highway Department. Since the last meeting there as been another unexpected retirement, making at least three retirements by the end of 2012. Commissioner Rusch would like approval to refill an additional Common Laborer position to maintain the current minimum staffing level. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bostwick, to move forward approval for the replacement of one Mechanic and two Common Laborer positions. All ayes, motion carried.

Advertising for these three positions will be in the Wausau Daily Herald and the Antigo Daily Journal. The Committee will review the applications and pick the applicants to interview at a special meeting. It has been decided that it is hard to get all five Committee members together due to prior commitments; Committee members agreed that at least three members of the Committee will be present for interviews.

The next regular meeting of the Highway Committee will be October 10, 2012.

The Highway Committee Chairman has been approached regarding participation in the TAG (Teens Active in Government) Program. Motion by Hurlbert, second by Bonacci, to approve participation in the TAG Program. Motion carried.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion by Bostwick, second by Hurlbert, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 a.m. Motion carried.

Richard H. Hurlbert, Secretary