

Date: July 13, 2010
Highway Committee Meeting
Location: Highway office
Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order by Chairman Vold at 9:05 am.
Open meeting law requirements have been met.
Members present: Chrm. Ernest Vold, John Aasen, Mike Nelson, Tom Bice and Commissioner Johnson. Rodney Severson arrived at 9:30 am.
Members absent: None
Other person's attending: Dave Lyga during Buildings and Equipment Discussion.

Minutes of June 14, 2010 meeting were presented as drafted. Motion to accept by John Aasen. Seconded Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Motion to accept agenda by Mike Nelson, second by John Aasen. Commissioner Johnson informed the committee that E. #2 Retirement needed to be deleted and Tom Kratt will be the representative from Mead & Hunt. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Voucher #456 thru #542 were audited in the amount of \$374,900.13. Voucher #483 for \$398.00 needed to be voided. The final amount to be paid was \$374,504.13 Motion to pay by John Aasen. Seconded Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Approval of vouchers approved by audit committee – Vouchers # 449 to #455 for \$16,412.27. Motion to pay by John Aasen second by Mike Nelson. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS DISCUSSION

Employees currently working on the outside walls of Whitehall Shop.
Work is being done to move the wall back in the salt shed in Strum.
A Representative from Wilson and Company who helps administer our Work Comp has done a safety inspection. A few minor items need to be addressed or replaced. The homemade lift needs to be replaced.
The Department of Commerce has sent Trempealeau County Highway Department a letter in regards to the salt shed in Galesville. The Cover-All Company recently went out of business. We needed to put a fence across the openings until the building is inspected.

HIGHWAY VIEWING and MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION

The Highway Department began sealcoating on Monday, July 12, 2010. Approximately 50 miles needs to be done. Depending on the weather, sealcoating should be completed in 2-3 weeks.
Mowing has been done.
Currently rut filling on Highway 121 towards Gilmanton.

Two more semi loads of paint have been received. Crew should be able to do more centerline painting after seal coating is completed. The Highway Committee asked some questions about painting. Some of the County Roads will be painted this summer. Commissioner Johnson informed the committee that it takes approximately 34 gallons of paint per mile (this included the white and yellow). One ton of glass beads are used per tote of paint. Pepin, Jackson and Eau Claire Counties have all contacted the Highway Department about possible painting for their county.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION/VIEWING/PURCHASE

Dave Lyga presented information and a quote received from Tri-State Scale for a new electronic scale. The quote was for \$28,040.00 with county employees preparing the site. After discussing the condition of the current scale, Mike Nelson made the motion to advertise for bids to purchase a new scale. Rodney Severson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Dave Lyga stated that the single axle plow truck chassis is in at La Crosse. Dave and Commissioner Johnson need to inspect the truck to insure it meets all the specifications. The truck will then go to Universal Truck for equipment to be installed. Hope to have in operation some time in October.

The Freightliner quad axle dump truck should be built around August 1, 2010.

Martin Goettl from Land Records informed Commissioner Johnson about the need for 911 signs. His department currently needs to wait 3-4 weeks after signs are ordered. The Highway Department's sign machine is older and the supplies are expensive. John Aasen made the motion to get quotes for a new sign making machine. Rodney Severson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Dave Lyga showed a picture of our current shouldering machine. To operate this piece of equipment costs approximately \$250.00 per hour which includes 3 men. A good used machine has been found that will only cost \$142.00 per hour to operate which only needs one man. This would save the county about \$108.00 per hour to operate. It was felt we could sell our current shouldering machine for \$7,500 to \$10,000. John Aasen made the motion to authorize Commissioner Johnson to purchase the used Road Widener for up to \$32,500.00. Rodney Severson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

No one is off of work.

APPEARANCES: Tom Kratt from Mead and Hunt attended meeting for Bid Opening on the County "J" Project.

NEW BUSINESS

The bids for the County J Project are for the Construction Only. The County will do the asphalt work. After reviewing the bids, John Aasen made the motion to accept the bid of \$196,311.25 from St. Joseph's Construction. Mike Nelson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Tom Kratt proposed to the committee that Mead & Hunt would be willing to do the Construction Administration on this project. The costs would not exceed \$10,000.00.

Mike Nelson made the motion to hire Mead & Hunt after Commissioner Johnson reviews the written proposal. Rodney Severson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Tom Bice addressed the committee about the need to hold down any unnecessary spending. Asked for any ideas to help reduce operating costs. A committee member stated that a survey was going to be sent to approximately 500 Trempealeau County Residents about what services were necessary and to prioritize the services.

LaVern Michalak, Corp. Counsel and Mark Bartow from the local ATV Club were present during the ATV Trails discussion. LaVern Michalak spoke about creating an ordinance to take directly to the County Board in regards to the County Roads to be used as an ATV Trail. Hours of operation, speed limit, signing costs, months of operation, maintenance and possible permit fees were discussed. Rodney Severson made the motion to draft the ordinance and bring it to the next meeting in August. John Aasen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

A Resolution concerning the use of culverts was presented by LaVern Michalak. Rodney Severson made the motion to pass the Resolution. Tom Bice scoded the motion. Motion Carried.

Commission Johnson informed the committee about the LFA contract being offered by the state. The contract is paving and rut filling on Highway 53 and Highway 121. Tom Bice made the motion to accept the LFA Contract. Mike Nelson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

The Town of Trempealeau sent a letter to the Highway Department asking to add some roads to the County Co-Aids Road System. The committee discussed the roads and specifications for a Co-Aid road. Tom Bice made the motion to approve the following roads as Co-Aid Roads:

**Todd Road
Buckskin Road
Larkspur Road
Little Tamarack Road
Primrose Road
Wildrose Road**

The motion was seconded by Rodney Severson. Motion Carried.

The next Audit meeting was set for August 10, 2010 at 9:am at the Highway Office in Whitehall.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm by Ernest Vold.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Rodney Severson, Secretary
Trempealeau County Highway Department**

