

Date: December 13, 2011
Highway Committee Meeting
Location: Highway office
Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order by Chairman Vold at 9:00 am.
Open meeting law requirements have been met.
Members present: Chrm. Ernest Vold, John Aasen, Rodney Severson, Mike Nelson(Arrived at 9:02), Tom Bice and Commissioner Johnson.
Members absent: None

Other persons attending: Dave Lyga for Buildings and Equipment Discussions
Rian Radtke for New Business Items

Minutes of November 8, 2011 meeting were presented as drafted. Motion to accept by John Aasen. Seconded by Rod Severson. Motion Carried.

Motion to accept agenda by Tom Bice, second by Rod Severson. Change to agenda was made to delete #2B under Personnel Discussion. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of vouchers approved by audit committee – Vouchers #938 to #953 for \$116,466.50. Motion to pay by John Aasen, second by Rod Severson. Motion carried.

Voucher #954 thru #1035 were audited in the amount of \$216,851.80. Motion to pay vouchers by Mike Nelson. Seconded by John Aasen. Motion Carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS DISCUSSION

An agreement has been signed with the Village of Strum for the placement of Highway Radio Equipment on the Village of Strum water tower. Contract is for 10 years at the cost of \$480.00 per year for utilities charges(No rental fee). Waiting for the equipment to be moved.

The use of the TCC tower will be \$2,268.00 yearly which includes rent and utilities.

HIGHWAY VIEWING and MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION

Trucks are ready for winter road maintenance.
Two graders have some work to be completed to be winter ready.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION/VIEWING/PURCHASE

One truck chassis has not been delivered at this time.
There are no funds available from the state to help purchase an arrow board.
A new arrow board would have the cost of \$5,500 to \$6,500. The new arrow board is solar powered. Mike Nelson made the motion to advertise for bids to purchase an Arrow Board. John Aasen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Dave Lyga informed the committee of the condition of one of the mechanic's trucks. Truck has 180,000 miles and body is in poor condition. The cost to replace engine is approximately \$10,000 to \$11,000 installed. The cost to replace chassis is \$30,000 and equipment around \$40,000. Committee viewed both of the mechanic trucks. Committee recommended that an estimate to replace the heads on the engine be obtained for the next meeting.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

No employees off work at this time.

One employee off work beginning December 19, 2011 for possible two months. Not work related. A second employee will be having surgery in early 2012, not known how long employee will be off work. Not work related.

One employee will be retiring on January 3, 2012. Commissioner Johnson asked the committee if he could post in house to replace this position. John Aasen made the motion to post in house for the position being vacated due to retirement. Tom Bice seconded the motion . Motion Carried.

APPEARANCE:

Marv Ruhland and Leah Martins from MSA spoke to the committee about their firm.

Marc informed the committee of all the different areas of construction and engineering his firm can handle.

NEW BUSINESS

The committee discussed a letter received from the Attorney General in regards to ATV Ordinances within the county. Tom Bice made the motion to allow Rian Radtke to amend the current ATV Ordinance to be consistent with the opinion of the Attorney General. Seconded by John Aasen. Motion Carried.

Rian Radtke, Corporate Counsel, presented information about County Road Maintenance and Upgrade agreements. State Statutes allow the Highway Commissioner and Committee to enter into agreements with heavy weight users of county roads for reimbursement of damages and necessary upgrades. Committee discussed the possibility of assessing a per ton fee to maintain roads used by heavy weight equipment and trucks. The committee discussed that companies falling into the heavy equipment/truck category need to designate county roads that will be used for transporting heavy loads. Committee requested that more information be brought to the January 10, 2012 meeting.

The next Audit Meeting will be held on January 10, 2012 at 9:00 am at the Highway Office in Whitehall.

John Aasen made the motion to adjourn meeting with a second from Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Debra Haines
Recording Secretary**

