

Date: November 08, 2013
Highway Committee Meeting
Location: Highway Office
Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order by Chairman Aasen at 9:00 am.

Open meeting law requirements have been met.

Members present: Chairman John Aasen, Mike Nelson, Doug Winters, Curt Skoyen, Dave Larson, and Commissioner Johnson.

Members absent: None

Other persons attending: Rian Radtke, Paul Syverson, 4 Trempealeau County Residents

Minutes of October 08, 2013 meeting were presented as drafted. Motion to accept by Doug Winters. Seconded by Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Motion to accept agenda by Dave Larson, seconded by Doug Winters. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of vouchers approved by audit committee – Vouchers #902 to #931 for \$201,022.73. Motion to pay by Doug Winters, seconded by Curt Skoyen. Motion carried.

Voucher #932 thru #999 were audited in the amount of \$530,161.32. Motion to pay by Doug Winters. Seconded by Dave Larson. Motion Carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS DISCUSSION

Rian Radtke explained that the claim on the Whitehall Shop Roof has been re-submitted to the county insurance company. The company that provided the materials for the initial roof repair has only stated that the claim has been forwarded to their legal department.

HIGHWAY VIEWING and MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION

Commissioner Johnson informed the committee that approximately 90 miles of county roads have been painted this year. Weather permitting, more painting will be done this fall, including County “K” after paving is completed.

Trempealeau County has painted nearly 9 million feet for the state this season.

The County will be finishing the paving on County “K” today, November 8, 2013.

The County “C” project is completed.

The Highway Committee reviewed the Winter Maintenance Guidelines for 2013-2014 Winter season. Curt Skoyen made the motion to approve the Winter Maintenance Guidelines as presented. Motion was seconded by Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION/VIEWING/PURCHASE

Commissioner Johnson and Dave Lyga, Shop Superintendent, have been getting information to re-condition the county’s current paver, as well as pricing for new or used unit. Miller-Bradford representatives explained that with the condition of our paver, they felt to re-condition would exceed \$50,000 to \$60,000. Miller-Bradford does have a re-conditioned paver that has an asking price of \$155,000. A new paver would be in the

\$350,000 to \$400,000 range. The committee requested that more information be brought to the December Audit meeting. Doug Winters made the motion to table any action on the paver until more information could be brought to the committee. Seconded by Dave Larson. Motion Carried.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

**One employee is off work this week to work related injury. Plan to return next week.
One employee is scheduled for surgery next week, not work related.**

APPEARANCES: None

NEW BUSINESS

Committee discussed the 2014 Budget. The proposed budget was cut nearly \$400,000.00 by the Executive-Finance Committee .

Mike Nelson made the motion to allow Commissioner Johnson and any Highway Committee Members to attend the Winter Road School in Wisconsin Dells, January 13-15, 2014. Seconded by Dave Larson. Motion Carried.

A Routine Maintenance Agreement for \$1,462,400.00 has been offered to Trempealeau County from the State. Curt Skoyen made the motion to accept the RMA from the state. Doug Winters seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Rian Radtke spoke about some concerns he has with the County Road Agreement with ALLENERGY. Mr. Radtke felt the number of trucks does not need to be listed in this road agreement. The loads being hauled by ALLENERGY would be addressed in the Land Use Agreement. The committee was informed that ALLENERGY has filed a lawsuit against Trempealeau County in regards to their proposed sand mine. If ALLENERGY would win their lawsuit, the company would need to come back to the Highway Committee and negotiate a new Road Agreement. The whole process of opening their sand operation would need to start over.

The Wheel Tax in Trempealeau County was discussed. Mr. Radtke said the wording should be "Wheel Fee". It would be a fee charged once per year when your vehicle license renewal is done. According to Department of Transportation, this Wheel Fee would affect 26,691 vehicles. The vehicles this would affect are: Autos, Vans, SUVs, and trucks under 8,000 lbs. Dave Larson made the motion to table any further action indefinitely. Seconded by Curt Skoyen. Motion Carried.

Paul Syverson explained the bonding process to the committee. The county has one bond payment remaining to be paid June 1, 2013. If the Highway Department wants to pursue bonding for road construction it would not affect the county levy. Current bonding rates are 1% to 2%. No action was taken at this time. Committee asked that the Representative from the bonding company attend the December meeting to give more information on bonding. The Committee felt it would be beneficial to ask the Executive-Finance Committee to attend the December meeting. Having the members of both committees present would eliminate the need to have the bonding company attend two different meetings.

Commissioner Johnson presented some information to the committee about the need to re-vamp out part inventory system. The Department would like to try to simplify the system and include more items on the inventory. No action was taken, this topic was for discussion purposes only.

The next Audit Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 9:00 am at the Highway Office in Whitehall. Executive-Finance Committee being asked to attend this meeting.

Chairman John Aasen adjourned the meeting at 10:55 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Debra Haines
Recording Secretary
Trempealeau County Hwy Dept**

