

Date: June 14, 2010
Highway Committee Meeting
Location: Highway office
Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order by Chairman Vold

Open meeting law requirements have been met.

Members present: Chrm. Ernest Vold, John Aasen, Mike Nelson, Tom Bice and Commissioner Johnson.

Members absent: Rodney Severson

Other person's attending: Dave Lyga, Shop Superintendent, during Equipment discussions.

Minutes of May 11, 2010 meeting were presented as drafted. Motion to accept by John Aasen. Seconded by Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Motion to accept agenda by Mike Nelson, second by Tom Bice. Commissioner Johnson requested that the agenda be changed to delete item 7A-Bid Openings. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Voucher # 365 thru #448 were audited in the amount of \$219,092.32. Motion to pay by John Aasen. Seconded by Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

Approval of vouchers approved by audit committee – Vouchers # 357 to #364 for \$44,453.32. Motion to pay by Tom Bice second by Ernest Vold. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS DISCUSSION

Shop Superintendent, Dave Lyga, informed the Highway Committee of the condition of the main shop in Whitehall. The building was constructed in 1978 with sheet steel. The bottom of the walls are rusting due to the water and salt exposure to the building. Dave Lyga proposed removing the bottom 3 feet of both end walls, repairing the wall, and replace with new steel. A quote of \$1827.90 was given to Trempealeau County Highway Department for the replacement steel. The county employees will do all of the work. A motion to proceed with the project was made by John Aasen and seconded by Mike Nelson. Motion Carried.

There are new Federal Regulations in regards to storage tanks. The Highway Department needs to have a SPCC plan in place by November 1, 2010 to be in compliance. Two estimates were obtained to complete these plans. Metco estimated the costs to be \$6100.00. Metco will not be able to have plan completed before the deadline. REI, a sub-division of Northwest Petroleum, estimate is \$2300.00. REI will do all the work for the main building and give the county a template with all necessary internet or phone help needed to complete the outlying shops. REI stated the plan would be complete within 30 days. Tom Bice made the motion to hire REI for \$2300.00 to complete the plan. John Aasen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY VIEWING and MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION

Employees currently do shouldering work along Highway 93. Hope to have project complete within a couple of days, weather permitting.

A crew is currently working with the Town of Trempealeau to replace a bridge with culverts on Bortle Road.

Some blade patching work will be done.

Employees will start sealcoating after July 4, 2010.

Mowing has been done on most of the County Roads. The State only permits the county to mow along State Roads once during summer.

The County has centerline painting to do for the state. County has received 2 of the 8 semi loads of paint that have been ordered. Company is informing County of a paint shortage.

Will do the centerline painting as quickly as County receives paint.

Some paving work is schedule for townships.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION/VIEWING/PURCHASE

The single axle plow truck should be delivered to La Crosse after July 4, 2010.

The tandem truck has a August 1, 2010 delivery for equipment to be installed.

Both trucks should be ready in September for County use.

The county did not have the high bid on the chip spreader the committee authorized the Highway Department to bid on during the auction. Dave Lyga is still looking for a suitable chip spreader.

Dave Lyga informed the committee that the current truck scale has some weak spots, unsure how long this scale will pass certification. Replacement cost will be near \$40,000.00

Committee asked Dave Lyga to get more information and bring back to the committee at the July meeting.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

No employee off of work.

The Office Manager position was offered to the current Highway Payroll Clerk. This leaves the Payroll Clerk position open. Commissioner Johnson asked the committee to have this position posted internally. John Aasen made the motion to post internally for the Payroll Clerk position. Mike Nelson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

APPEARANCES: None

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Johnson and the Highway Committee discussed the WCHSFA Conference, September 15-17, 2010 in Sheboygan. After discussing the benefits and costs to attend this conference, John Aasen made the motion to allow up to five Superintendents/Foremen to attend. Mike Nelson seconded the motion. Motion Carried with the vote of 2 YES votes and 1 NO vote.

Tom Bice addressed the committee of the need to hold down on all spending. Mr. Bice asked Commissioner Johnson to comprise a list of any projects/purchases that could possibly be delayed.

Commissioner Johnson presented the committee with the Advisory Referendum Resolution. The committee discussed the very important need to get this referendum on the November ballot. John Aasen made the motion to approve the Advisory Referendum Resolution. Mike Nelson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Johnson is working with Corporate Council, Lavern Michalek, to create a resolution to send to the DNR. There are many old bridges that need to be replaced or have work done to them. Many of these bridges could be replaced with culverts but the DNR regulations are so stringent. The resolution would recommend the DNR relax some the regulations to the replacement of the bridges. The committee fears that the high cost to replace a bridge could cause the old bridges to fall into worse condition because of the lack of funding to build new. If allowed to replace many of these bridges with culverts could reduce the costs by as much as 60% and would be more affordable. The Committee asked Commissioner Johnson to continue to work with Corporate Council to create this resolution.

The next Audit Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 9 am at the Highway Office in Whitehall.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Vold at 10:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

