

**MINUTES OF THE
HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

DAY & DATE: March 4, 2021
PLACE: Wood County Highway Department
555 17th Ave. North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
MEETING TIME: 9:00 a.m.
ADJOURNMENT TIME: 10: 23 a.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jacob Hahn, Supervisor John Hokamp;
Supervisor Dave LaFontaine

HIRC Members Present via WebEx: Supervisor Lee Thao, Supervisor Al Breu,

OTHERS PRESENT: Chad Schooley, Parks & Forestry Director; Fritz Schubert, Forest Administrator; Sandra Green, Parks & Forestry Office Supervisor; Rachel Krause, Highway Administrative Assistant; Roland Hawk, Highway Commissioner; Supervisor Bill Clendenning; Supervisor Dennis Polach; Supervisor Bill Winch; Jim Zdroik & Brian Cox from Fahrner; Chris Havel, Gee Asphalt.

OTHERS PRESENT VIA WEBEX: County Board Chairman Lance Pliml.

1. Call meeting to order. Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.
2. Declaration of quorum. Declared.
3. Public comments. None.
4. Correspondence. R. Hawk – Highway Seasonal Weight Restriction postings will go into effect on Monday, March 8, 2021. All surrounding counties will go on at the same time, except Jackson County, which will be this coming Friday.
R. Hawk stated one of the three salt mines in the US is closing. The price of salt in 2021 will most likely rise. He mentions he is glad they have moved to using more liquid brine for the roads thereby reducing dependency on salt.
5. Approve minutes from previous committee meetings.
Motion to approve by D. LaFontaine, second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.
6. ATV Trail/Route system update
 - a. CTH B & CTH BB ATV access. Communication with Town of Lincoln and Cameron to open up access on their roads. The Chairman of Cameron will meet later this spring after the elections and will decide what they will be doing at that time. Lincoln will open some of their roads and connections, which will take affect sometime in May or June.
 - b. The Hwy. sign coordinator who has been installing the ATV route signs in several locations states that signs have been taken down from some of the roads. We need to come up with a “route” type marker. Mark with either a number or designation of some type.
 - c. B. Clendenning also mentioned that Tuesday the Town of Grand Rapids will be discussing possibly opening their town roads. Chairman Hahn stated to try to work with Mandy Witt at Power Pac to get the ATV routes hooked up to their business.
 - d. A. Breu mentioned T. of Marshfield and Auburndale – Day Rd., eastern side of Marshfield that Day Road is open in Auburndale, but not in Marshfield. Unfortunately, it alternates per mile, so this needs to be changed on the ATV Map. As soon as the new map comes out, P. Bernard will let S. Green know so that the new map can be published.

7. HIGHWAY

- a. Highway staff reports. Hwy. Dept. working on a study for CTH U and 48th St. and CTH Z and 48th St. in Town of Grand Rapids. A public meeting was held and alternatives were displayed for improvements at these locations. Of the alternatives the public overwhelmingly selected the round-about options. The Highway Department is seeking available transportation funds. Mentioned at last meeting, they were able to secure an attenuator and looking for options to help cost share on a second attenuator for work on State Highways.
- b. Highway revenue report. 2020 is closed out at this time and in very good shape for 2021.
- c. Highway vouchers. **Motion to approve by D. LaFontaine, second by A. Breu. Motion carried.**
- d. Bituminous bids. This is oil for asphalt. One bidder will supply 100% of the stock to the Highway Dept. which is approximately 4,000 tons of oil from Sen Blacktop from the Chippewa Valley area. **Motion by A. Breu, second by D. LaFontaine. Motion carried.**
- e. GSB 88 bids. Highway has selected to use this pavement treatment in areas with curb and gutter and dense residential areas with lots of driveways and pedestrians. R. Hawk would like to award CTH C, P and a piece of AA in Nekoosa to the low bidder which is Fahrner. Another section on AA that is 2600 sq. yards to Gee Asphalt.

Motion by F. LaFontaine to the contractors that are most advantageous to Wood County, second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.

8. Milling and pulverizing bids.

Motion by D. LaFontaine to use the contractor that is most advantageous to Wood County. Second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.

- a. Screed Operator request to hire. This position is vital to our paving operation. There are no laterals interested in the position so this will need to be posted as it is an existing position. **Motion to approve by A. Breu, second by L. Thao. Motion carried.**
- b. LTE, Summer Intern, Summer Help request to hire. **Motion by J. Hokamp and second by A. Breu give permission to hire LTE and summer and positions that are most advantageous to the Highway Department by J. Hokamp, second by A. Breu. Motion carried.**

9. PARKS AND FORESTRY

- a. Parks & Forestry staff reports. C. Schooley gave an overview of the solar panels at the Nepco Lake County Park and what the energy production has been since installation and cost savings.
- b. Special Use permits. One permit from the Aqua Skiers utilizing Red Sands Beach area from July 10th – 20th for the State Water Ski Show event, which is a four day tournament. **Motion by D. LaFontaine to approve the fee waiver for the RSBP and the closure of the beach during these event dates and second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
- c. 2021 LTE requests for hire. This request is for approval of our seven LTE and three Camp Ranger positions. **Motion by J. Hokamp and second by D. LaFontaine. Motion carried.**
- d. Resolution authorizing application for WI DNR Outdoor Recreation Grants. The Dexter beach house is in very bad shape. It needs a new roof, sub-concrete plumbing replacement, new septic, and ADA updates. We will be getting cost estimates for a full remodel, which would be similar to the W. Beach remodel project. We will also get estimates for removal of existing building, and construction of a new building similar to the Red Sands Beach Pavilion. This would be a 2022 project if grant is awarded. **Motion to approve by D. LaFontaine, second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**

The second resolution is authorizing grant application for the Powers Bluff trail head entrance road and parking lot. C. Schooley gave a brief overview of the site plan for the entire park. This particular project is constructing an entrance road from Hwy N, to where we will eventually construct a trailhead shelter building, and a parking lot. The future shelter would be open for use throughout the entire year. This project would also fund bringing 3-phase electric power up to the parking lot, which will continue up the hill in future projects for powering snow making

equipment and the tow lines. **Motion by D. LaFontaine to approve the resolution, second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**

D. LaFontaine stated this is wise to continue investing in Powers Bluff due to the past few years of significant economic development and benefits that outdoor recreation has brought to the State of WI.

- e. 2021 fleet vehicle replacement plan. We have budgeted \$40k in our operating CIP for Fleet vehicle replacement. C. Schooley would like use this money to purchase 2 used vehicles that will replace 2 older fleet vehicles. **Motion by J. Hokamp to move forward and second by D. LaFontaine. Motion carried.**
- f. Draft Chapter 900 of Wood County Forest 15-Year Plan. Discussed. D. LaFontaine would like the repeated phrase of “On Forest” or “in Forest”, to be looked at and be consistent throughout. Also, include an explanation of “Troute”. Perhaps spell out the abbreviations or acronyms, or include in a Glossary of Terms. **Recommendation of approval from the committee by D. LaFontaine, second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
- g. Parks and Forestry revenue reports. **Motion to approve both the Parks and Forestry revenue reports by D. LaFontaine, second by A. Breu. Motion carried.**
- h. Parks & Forestry vouchers. **Motion to approve by J. Hokamp and second by L. Thao. Motion carried.**

10. Future Agenda Items. Get ahold of C. Schooley, R. Hawk or J. Hahn. C. Schooley will be out of town for the April meeting.

11. Set next regular meeting date: April 1, 2021 at 9:00am at Wood County Highway Department,
555 17th Ave North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

12. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Chairman J. Hahn at 10:23 am.