

6

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

DAY & DATE: Thursday, September 5, 2019
PLACE: ATV Intensive Use Area Shelter, 4415 State Hwy. 54,
Port Edwards, WI 54469
MEETING TIME: 8:00 A.M.
ADJOURNMENT TIME: 10:19 A.M.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Adam Fischer, Supervisor William Winch, Supervisor Lance Pliml, Supervisor Dennis Polach, Supervisor Marion Hokamp, Bill Clendenning, Wood County Board; Commissioner Roland Hawk, Parks and Forestry Director Chad Schooley; Parks & Forestry Office Supervisor, Sandra Green; Forest Administrator Fritz Schubert; DNR Forester, Gavin Hutchinson; Pete Winistorfer, Town of Rock; Jodi Lubeck assisting Supervisor Winch, Reuben VanTassel, Maintenance; Jim Good, Town of Richfield; Amy Kaup, IT; Rick Potter, Clean Green Action; Marla Cummings, Finance

1. Call meeting to order. Meeting called to order at 8:00 am.
2. Declaration of Quorum. Chairman Fischer declared there was a quorum.
3. Public Comments. Rick Potter, Board Member of Clean Green Action in support of the Solar Ray Panels being considered at the Nepco Lake Shelter. He feels very strongly this will be a very positive addition to the Parks system. This project would add an educational component and would be very visible to the public.
4. Correspondence. Highway, R. Hawk, review intersection of W, Z and 48th St. Review for number of accidents, turning into traffic. Currently working with a consultant to conduct a preliminary study for a supplemental transportation fund grant.
5. CONSENT AGENDA. Pull 13, 14, 16, and 17 per Supervisor Winch as well as the Parks Committee Report as that did not make it into the packet.
 - a. Approve minutes from previous committee meeting. Approved.
 - b. Department Staff Reports. C. Schooley presented an additional Special Use Permit. This is from the Multi-Metro Deer Management Group. There are two wooded areas within South Park that have been open for bow hunting in years' past. The goal of this group is to reduce the population of deer in urban areas. **Motion by L. Pliml and second by M. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
 - c. Department Vouchers.
 - d. Department Revenue Reports
 - e. Review items, if any, pulled from consent agenda. **Motion to approve all pages pulled by L. Pliml and second by D. Polach. Motion carried.**
6. ATV Update: S. Green commented that the second Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Dexter Park is scheduled for September 19, 2019 at 5pm. Follow the signs as you enter the park. S. Green and C. Schooley went through the recent approvals from the Off Road Vehicle Council Meetings and awarded ATV grants for the 2019-2020 season.
7. R. Hawk received three requests for additional segments, County Trunk Z off Hwy. 73 to get access to a subdivision to a town Road and Hwy. DD in T. of Rudolph, and a segment of Hwy. V in the Town of Rock in Lindsey. He has informed those people that he will review them this month and return to the HIRC for approvals and/or suggestions.

HIGHWAY

8. 2020 Budget. R. Hawk gave an overview of the Highway budget. Highway said that in their "Personal Services" area the wages from 2019 to 2020 actually decreased. He asks for an explanation from M. Cummings. She and IT Director, Amy Kaup provided explanations to the issues they are having with Questica and the reason for them. They mention it has been a huge manual process and very time consuming. The salary and payroll pieces of the software were the largest part of the problem.
9. R. Hawk asked his staff to find out how they can increase their revenues and decrease their expenses. They have done a good job in putting this information together. Chairman Fischer asks if we would like to hold the budget meeting next week on the 12th. C. Schooley said his department currently does not have accurate information for the budget packet. These inaccuracies are primarily in the LTE Personal Services line items of the budget. M. Cummings stated that she came up with a fix for the LTE's. She had to put in a new salary grid. Chairman Fischer will work with the department heads and the Finance Director regarding the budget meeting on the 12th.
10. Sale of Low Use Highway Properties. Discussion. R. Hawk would have two of the three larger parcels ready to advertise next week on the Wisconsin Surplus Site. R. Hawk also presented his proposal for the sale of a five acres parcel; adjacent to their rock pit, at a cost per acre similar to other small acreage parcels in the area, with a reduction to offset the cost of a deed restriction and no direct road access to the five acre parcel. Pete Winistorfer from the Town of Rock gave his opinion on this proposal. The recommendation is to check with P&Z to verify if a land transfer can be done with a Plat of Survey for adjacent landowners. The committee may consider selling the parcel for the same price per acre as the larger parcels. The committee requests that this location be included in the HIRC tour on November 19th. We will revisit this decision in October. **Motion by L. Pliml and second by D. Polach to move forward with the sale of the parcels. Discussion. Highway will need separate resolutions; one for the two large parcels; one for the third large parcel after the completion of a Phase II environmental survey by REI; and one for the sale, if approved, for the five acre parcel. Motion carried.**
11. Access Policy. Discussion. **Motion to approve by L. Pliml and second by B. Winch. Motion carried.**
12. July Storm Update. Met with EM in August to give an update on costs. At that point, only had approximately \$30k in clean-up costs but are estimating about \$95k by the time they are done. They will be moving a bigger crew out soon to get the cleanup done at a faster pace.
13. Senate Bill 244 and Assembly Bill 262 – Vehicle Owner Liability Work Zone. R. Hawk was in Madison a week ago regarding the loss of on road construction workers caused by distracted drivers. Highway associations are advocating legislatures to pass these bills giving flaggers the same authority, as bus driver to turn in license plate numbers, any identifying information of the driver that they feel was unsafe in a work zone. R. Hawk is asking they sign a joint resolution with Judicial & Legislative in support of this. The committee agrees they would support this.
14. Discussion of Budget Meeting: Discussed above.

PARKS AND FORESTRY

- a. Letter from Chris McDaniel, Town of Richfield Supervisor. Jim Good, Town Chairman for the Township of Richfield. Concerns are the maintenance to the roads and access to the Parks and feel they are carrying the brunt of the load to maintain the road. They would like to create an agreement to compensate the Township. C. Schooley gave information regarding the letter. Current practice, there is no revenue sharing that comes from the Parks that goes to those townships, and never has been that he is aware of. In that letter, it talks about working with the towns on adjacent road projects, and we have done that in the past. B. Clendenning, Vice Chair of the Wood County Towns Association said he would like to review this and possibly bring it to the Towns Association. Chairman Fischer supports the Towns Association talking about it. B. Clendenning will take this information back to the Towns Association Meeting.
- b. 2019 Renewable and Sustainable Grant application for Solar panels at Nepco Lake County Park. C. Schooley gave a summary of how we got to this point. Chairman Machon asked C. Schooley to obtain estimates for solar panels for some of our park properties. The contractor's information sheet with cost estimate was provided and placed in the packet for the committee. R. VanTassel also gave a short summary on how this came about and how to proceed. There is no request for funding from the HIRC committee, just approval to move forward with the grant application. C. Schooley stated he didn't believe there would be any significant annual maintenance cost based on the information that he has seen. Additional hidden costs are a concern of Chairman Fischer. C. Schooley stated that although vandalism is a concern with any new development within parks, the proposed location would be quite visible from the highway and to other park users. It can always happen, but certainly less of a chance here. Chairman Fischer asks what kind of damage will the panels take and are there hidden costs? How will this affect our budget? **Motion to approve by L. Pliml and second by M. Hokamp.** Discussion. Chairman Machon talked about the positives of this project. Chairman Fischer does not support this project. Discussion regarding the most practical location for this project ensued. **Motion passed.**
- c. Fleet Vehicle Replacement quotes. C. Schooley received quotes. Has two options. These would be to purchase a remaining 2019 vehicle on the lot, or to order a 2020 fleet vehicle. As of right now, the lowest priced vehicle found is a 2019 Ford Edge for \$27,548, and the highest priced is a 2020 Edge for \$31,951. C. Schooley will continue looking for the best deal, and pursue the purchase as directed by the HIRC at the August HIRC meeting.
- d. Parks, Forestry, and Highway tour route. C. Schooley will be putting together a tour route. Areas included are the property mentioned above for Highway. R. Hawk said he would like to take the committee through the asphalt plant, Highway S, and a completed rural project on Highway H west of Marshfield, if time permits. Lastly, Highway V, which is the route where the newest Frac Sand mine will be located, and Highway D from 73 S to Elm Lake Road. For Parks and Forestry, there may be an active Timber Sale to view, and if there is interest in seeing County Forest and Town Roads, we would do that as well. Also, North Wood County Park and the perimeters of some of the approved ATV trails. Local bus services will be contacted for an in-kind donation for our tour, which was suggested by Town of Rock, Pete Winistorfer.

- e. Parks Revenue Report. C. Schooley gave an overview of the report.
- f. Forestry Revenue Report. F. Schubert gave an overview of the report.

Motion to approve the Parks & Forestry Revenue reports by L. Pliml and second by D. Polach.
Motion carried.

- g. Storm Damage/Salvage Update. F. Schubert gave an overview of the storm damage from the July storms. One of the areas is a direct salvage harvest. On the Parks end, they are still cleaning up as much as they can in between all other duties. With FEMA reimbursement, they are tracking everything they are doing with the storms hoping for at least 80% reimbursement, which, may be upwards of \$40k.
15. Future agenda items. R. Hawk will have communication w/Town of Remington regarding the bridge crossing and resolution. C. Schooley said that during the October meeting he would have the MSA presentation for Powers Bluff. Sale of Low Use Highway Properties.
16. Set next regular meeting date:
- a. Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019 at the Wood County Highway Department, WI Rapids, WI 54495.
 - b. *Special Meeting(s): HIRC Budget meeting, September 18, 2019 at 8:00 am.
 - c. Parks & Forestry & Highway tour, September 19, 2019 at 8:00 am. Meet at the Wood County Highway Department at 555 17th Ave. North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.
 - d. R. Hawk went over the bills from last month that B. Winch had questions on.

12. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:19 am.

Minutes taken by Sandra Green, Parks & Forestry Office Supervisor