

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

DAY & DATE: Thursday, August 8, 2019
PLACE: Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Ave North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
MEETING TIME: 8:00 A.M.
ADJOURNMENT TIME: 10:00 A.M.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Adam Fischer, Supervisor William Winch, Supervisor Lance Pliml, Supervisor Dennis Polach, Supervisor Marion Hokamp
OTHERS PRESENT: 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

1. Call meeting to order. Meeting called to order at 8:00 am.
2. Declaration of Quorum. A quorum declared.
3. Public comments. Pete Winestorf, Chairman for Town of Rock. He stated he is communicating as a Town of Rock resident, unless directed differently by the board.
4. Correspondence.
 - Letter sent to County Board Supervisors inquiring about townships receiving additional revenue share of County Forest timber sales, and revenue from parks to assist in funding adjacent town roads. This will be on the September agenda to discuss.
 - R. Hawk said that he attended a recent meeting regarding resolution to oppose a couple of bills for heavier trucks. They are looking at scheduling a special HIRC meeting prior to next county board to sign these resolutions.
 - Bill Clendenning, Discussion at recent RC&D meeting included resolution from Burnett County regarding the State Forest Administrator's Grant. Supervisor Clendenning has shared this information with C. Schooley and F. Schubert.
 - Highway AC heater failed recently. They found a company that would make them another one and have the money in the machinery fund to purchase this. They will be ordering this tomorrow and installing it in a couple of weeks.
 - The Pittsville area ATV Route/Trail Ribbon Cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 18, 2019 to begin sometime in later afternoon, approximately 4:30pm. More details to come.
5. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Per Supervisor Winch, pull pages 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20. Per Chairman Fischer, page 10. **Motion by L. Pliml and second by M. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
 - a. Approve minutes from previous committee meetings
 - b. Department Staff Reports
 - c. Department Vouchers
 - d. Department Revenue Reports
6. Review items, if any, pulled from consent agenda
 - Chairman Fischer began with page 10. C. Schooley presented Special Use Permit to allow outdoor equipment rental at our parks this year, from the company Northward Peddle and Paddle. He would like to do a pop-up event this fall at some of the park locations for a daylong rental at the boat landings of kayaks. C. Schooley will have Corp. Coun. review any agreement for this event. **Motion to approve providing rental equipment within the parks such as Kayaks, Canoes, Paddleboards, etc. by L. Pliml and second by B. Winch. Motion carried.**

- B. Winch believes it is wrong the Parks is fundraising for Powers Bluff when they have not given a bottom dollar for each phase yet. B. Winch asked questions regarding the other pages pulled from the Consent Agenda. B. Winch continued with questions on the other items pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Motion by L. Pliml and second by D. Polach to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

7. ATV Policy for Shared Highways (Highway). R. Hawk discussed regarding the Township of Grand Rapids. There should be a policy that we would not open any county roads or force any Wood County townships to open their roads to ATV traffic. A. Fischer states we do need some consistency from a policy standpoint. L. Pliml agrees but take a second look at this. In Grand Rapids, you are allowed to cross from one side to the other, allowed to use the most direct route, not necessarily perpendicular. This is something that will evolve and we should take a longer look at this before we create a policy.
Motion to approve L. Pliml and second by B. Winch to approve moving forward to create a policy to not allow the county to order a municipality to become an ATV route.

8. HIGHWAY

- a. Employee Recognition – 40 Year Anniversary. Steve Breu, 40 years to one employer deserves recognition. He started in 1979.
- b. Employee Policy – Reporting to Work Site. **Motion to approve the policy as presented, L. Pliml and second by M. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
- c. Sale of Low-Use Highway Properties. R. Hawk would like a few things verified before he moves forward with a resolution. Will put the parcels up for bid on state surplus auction site. It is more advantageous to go through a Phase 2 process with this 40-acre parcel. **Motion to spend up to \$10,000 for this process by L. Pliml, second by D. Polach. Motion carried.**
R. Hawk presented a parcel that is five acres within the existing quarry parcel. He stated they would not want the sale of this parcel to restrict the Department from being able to continue mining on the property if the five acres is sold. L Pliml recommended a deed restriction that states whomever owns this property could not build a dwelling on this parcel, which may impede mining operations. P. Kastenholz would have to draft the language for the resolution to be sure all is in order before moving forward. R. Hawk states there are two ways to sell this property. Direction is have a conversation with P. Kastenholz and be sure Wood County is doing everything correctly and then bring this back to the committee for approval. Tabled for a later date.
- d. Updated Access Policy. Chairman Fischer requests that this be brought back to the committee next month for consideration.
- e. Sign Crew Staffing. Additional sign crew member position. This would be funded 80 percent by the State Maintenance funds. Salary cost for this position would be approximately \$45K. **Motion by D. Polach and second by M. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
- f. Overweight Vehicle Forfeiture Violations

9. PARKS AND FORESTRY

- a. Fleet vehicle replacement request. P&F has a 2005 F150 they would like to replace with the Highway Department's 2006 GMC Canyon, which they were going to sell on the Wisconsin Surplus Auction website. A fair price that was agreed upon is \$3K. The second vehicle P&F would like to replace is a 2011 Chevy Equinox. Although this vehicle has low miles it has had engine issues for the past couple years. The Highway Dpt. Mechanic has recommended replacing this vehicle sooner than later. C. Schooley would like to use monies from their non-lapsing equipment auction fund to purchase both of these vehicles. **Motion to replace both**

vehicles and with a process that is most advantageous to Wood County by M. Hokamp and second by B. Winch. Motion carried.

- b. Low use park property. C. Schooley handed out a map of locations within South Wood County Park that have been identified as low use areas. Chad stated that these areas may not be currently being used, but there is definitely future potential use due to the high amount of visitors that enjoy this park. Consent of committee was to table this item indefinitely.
- c. MSA Powers Bluff Update. C. Schooley handed out maps and drawings of these properties to show the updates and changes to the Master Plan. They will be providing an estimate for this project in the near future. They are targeting the September or October HIRC meeting for a presentation by MSA, along with a full estimate.
- d. Parks Revenue Report. Discussed.
- e. Forestry Revenue Report. Discussed. There was some scattered storm damage in the area. More significant damage in specific areas and will be setting up direct sales for cleanup.
Motion to approve both reports by D. Polach and second by M. Hokamp. Motion carried.
- f. Contract Extension: #767 Wiitala & Vozka Logging. Requesting that the committee grant a one year extension on this contract that expires 6/1/2020. Contractor is requesting this due to recent storms and heavy storm damage to areas in northern Wisconsin and resulting need to concentrate efforts there. Pros and cons of granting this early extension were discussed. F. Schubert's recommendation is to do a 6-month extension. **Motion to approve a 6-month extension by B. Winch and second by M. Hokamp. All yes, 1 no by A. Fischer for the reasons that it's too early to even consider an extension and would make more sense to do this in late winter or early spring. Motion carried.**
- g. Set date for Parks, Forestry & Highway Tour. Tentatively set for September 19, 2019. Meet at Highway Dept. at 8:00 am. C. Schooley, F. Schubert and R. Hawk will create an agenda for this day. Roland would like to include the asphalt plant to the tour.

10. Future Agenda Items.

11. **Special Budget HIRC Meeting** scheduled for **August 22, 2019 at 8:00 am** at the Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Ave North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.
Next regular meeting date: **September 5, 2019 at 8:00 am** at the ATV Intensive Use Area Shelter, 4415 State Hwy. 54, Port Edwards, WI 54469

12. Fischer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Signed by, Secretary Marion Hokamp

Marion Hokamp

Minutes taken by Sandra Green, Parks & Forestry Office Supervisor