

Columbia County Highway Committee
Minutes
July 6, 2017

PRESENT: Chair Jim Foley, Supervisors Kirk Konkol, JoAnn Wingers, Mary Cupery, Andy Ross and Craig Robson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: County Board Chair Vern Gove, Chris Hardy, Craig Steingraeber, Joseph Ruf, Mathew Schneider, Neal James, Ellery Schaffer from Jewell Associates, and Jonathan Stefonek from the Portage Daily Register.

Chair Foley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed and published.

AGENDA

MOTION: Motion made by Wingers, second by Ross to move the CTH V Real Estate Offering Price Report topic to the end of the meeting and approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

MINUTES

MOTION: Motion made by Konkol, second by Ross to approve the Highway Committee minutes of June 1, 2017 and June 8, 2017. The motion was unanimously approved.

VOUCHERS

The Committee reviewed the voucher report detailing payments made from June 1, 2017 through June 28, 2017. Schneider provided input regarding some of the uncommon expenditures.

MOTION: Motion made by Wingers, second by Cupery to approve the vouchers for a total of \$542,658.14. The motion was unanimously approved.

VISITOR INPUT

Foley introduced Supervisor Craig Robson as a new member to the Highway Committee.

HAYNES ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND FUNDING

Ellery Schaeffer from Jewell Associates discussed extending the proposed approaches to the Haynes Road bridge replacement project. The State will not share in the costs of the additional approach costs. Costs would be shared between Columbia County and the Town of Marcellon. The Highway Committee discussed the additional costs and whether the County should share the costs. Konkol requested Hardy to send the DOT a formal letter requesting the State to share in the additional costs.

MOTION: Motion made by Konkol, second by Wingers to share in the costs to extend the proposed bridge approaches on Haynes Road to the end of the guardrail and to request DOT to extend the funded approach work to the end of the guardrail. The motion was unanimously approved.

CTH U BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Ellery Schaeffer provided updates on the CTH U Bridge replacement project. DOT accepted a 28' bridge width on both Haynes Road and CTH U projects.

HIGH PERFORMANCE PATCH BIDS

Topic was tabled until the next meeting.

2017 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Hardy reviewed an updated 2017 capital improvement plan.

REPLACE QUAD-AXLE DUMP TRUCKS

Truck Country submitted a proposal to trade the Department's four (4) quad axle trucks with 4 new Freightliner quads at no cost to the County. The trade would not occur until early 2018, but Truck Country is requesting a commitment from the County in July.

MOTION: Motion made by Konkol, second by Ross to commit to trading 4 quad axle trucks with Truck Country in 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

COUNTY AID PETITIONS

The Committee reviewed a summary of County Road Aid petitions and approved petitions that were not approved at the June Highway Committee meeting.

MOTION: Motion made by Wingers, second by Cupery to approve the following County Road Aid petitions: T. Caledonia – Blacklock Road/Fox Glen Road, T. Fort Winnebago – Currie Road, T. Pacific – Hillcrest Road, T. Randolph – Tessmann Drive, T. Scott – Barden Road/Ross Road/Vaughn Road, and C. Portage – E. Mullet Street. The motion was unanimously approved.

BRIDGE AID PETITIONS

The Committee reviewed a summary of Bridge Aid petitions and approved the petition that had not been approved at previous meetings.

MOTION: Motion made by Cupery, second by Konkol to approve the Bridge Aid petition from the Town of Newport for a culvert replacement on Peterson Road. The motion was unanimously approved.

CAMBRIA SHOP PROJECT STATUS

Hardy provided an update on the status of the Cambria shop project.

STP FUND BALANCE & PROJECT UPDATES

Hardy provided an update on state projects planned within Columbia County.

CLARIFICATION CHANGES FOR POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR FIELD EMPLOYEES

Hardy presented a resolution to revise several items in the Policies and Procedures for the Field Employees of the Columbia County, Wisconsin Highway and Transportation Department manual.

MOTION: Motion made by Ross, second by Cupery to approve the resolution as presented and forward to Human Resources Committee for review. The motion was unanimously approved.

2018 BUDGET PROCESS FOR NEW AND REVISED POSITION REQUEST

Hardy presented two personnel proposals for the 2018 budget. The first proposal was to increase the starting wage for Highway Maintenance employees from \$16,464 to \$18,821. Neighboring counties are starting new hires at a higher average wage than Columbia County. A few current employees would require a boost in pay to the new proposed rate. Total estimated increase was \$52,689.91.

MOTION: Motion made by Wingers, second by Konkel to approve the wage rate increase proposal and forward to the joint Human Resources and Executive committee meeting for consideration. The motion was unanimously approved.

The second proposal was to hire four (4) LTEs during the summer construction season. The additional employees will decrease the use of outside vendors to haul material. The proposal originally listed a wage rate of \$16 dollars per hour, but the Committee discussed increasing the rate to attract more prospects.

MOTION: Motion made by Cupery, second by Wingers to approve the LTE proposal and forward to the joint Human Resources and Executive committee meeting for consideration. The motion was unanimously approved.

SAFETY ITEMS/WORKERS COMP CLAIMS

No new worker compensation claims were reported since the previous meeting.

ACCOUNTING REVIEW

A capital outlay summary through June and financial statements through May were presented and distributed to the Committee.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner discussed his external communications over the previous month.

VACANT POSITION UPDATE

Hardy updated the Committee on the status of filling two vacant positions.

CTH V REAL ESTATE OFFERING PRICE REPORT

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: On Motion made by Ross, second by Wingers, the Committee went into closed session at 10:05 a.m. pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute Section 19.85(1)(e) "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session." [CTH V Real Estate Offering Price Report] If the Committee goes into closed session it will return to open session. The Committee may address such other matters that are authorized by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 6, as follows: Cupery, Foley, Konkel, Robson, Ross, and Wingers.
Noes: 0

Chair Gove, Hardy, Ruf, and Schneider were present in closed session.

OPEN SESSION

MOTION: Motion made by Konkel, second by Wingers, the Committee reconvened in open session at 10:12 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.
No action was taken in closed session.

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MOTION: Motion by Wingers, second by Konkel to approve the McIntyre property Offering Price Report and Submittal for \$155,100. The motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

MOTION: Motion made by Ross, second by Konkel to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



JoAnn Wingers, Secretary



Mathew Schneider, Recording Secretary

cc: Highway Committee
County Board Chair Gove
County Board Vice Chair Cupery
Chris Hardy
Susan M. Moll
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