

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: September 26, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: David Albrecht, Highway Committee Chairman
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Chuck Farrey, Highway Committee Member
Ralph Harrison, Highway Committee Member
Donald Nussbaum, Highway Committee Member
Robert Doemel, Highway Commissioner

ALSO
PRESENT: Jon Groth, Highway Maintenance Superintendent
Ken and Carol Nodolf

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Harrison to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2022 meeting as written. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Albrecht asked for public input on the agenda items. Ken Nodolf stated he was in attendance regarding his property on CTH "E" in Nepeuskun. He stated that he has been dealing with drainage issues, as the water has nowhere to go and pools in his barnyard. He stated that his neighbors have been filling in the ditches making the problems for him worse. He feels that they should all have to share in the water storage. He is requesting that the county dig the ditches out. Jon Groth, Highway Superintendent, has reviewed the area and spoke to the neighbors. Jon was informed by town officials that this could be a civil matter. Supervisor Farrey recommended contacting Corporation Counsel to have her review the natural water course law, looking for a resolution. Commissioner Doemel stated that the Highway Department only has jurisdiction on the right-of-way for driveway accesses. Supervisor Farrey stated that he will stop at the Land and Water Department when he leaves this meeting to get their input.

Commissioner Doemel updated the committee on the CTH CB/JJ Roundabout project. He informed them that he visited the site this morning and the paving should be completed today. Other than some small finishing work, the project should be wrapped up this week. The City of Neenah inquired if there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony since this was a collaboration between Winnebago County and them. Commissioner Doemel stated that there is nothing planned. Mr. Doemel also stated that the project looks very good, that the contractor did a nice job. He stated the biggest problem with the project was traffic ignoring the road signs and driving down closed roads, causing numerous accidents.

The CTH T/Pioneer Road project was discussed. Commissioner Doemel stated that the contractor has been struggling out at this project, and he's had to keep pushing them. Since the contractor was so far behind, county crews did the excavating in Larsen to keep things moving forward. It's hoped the concrete contractor can come and get the curb and gutter portion done soon. The county cannot do their paving until the contractors finish their portion of the project. For the tie-in to Pioneer Road (new CTH "T"), the contractor stated that they will have a second crew coming to help. The contractor will also have ditching and restoration to complete after the paving is done. Supervisor Egan asked since the county crews did the excavating work, if they'll be reimbursed. Commissioner Doemel stated that they will. He also noted that the contractor faces monetary fines for not finishing the project on time. Recently, the contractor asked for a two-week extension on the project. Mr. Doemel stated that although they did run into some poor soils, there were inefficiencies in the way the contractor utilized different methods to expedite their excavation, so he doesn't think they should be allowed more time. The contractor also stated at the beginning of the project that they'd be running two crews, but they have been running with a single skeleton crew. Commissioner Doemel stated that there is an engineer assigned to the project around the clock to document everything.

Also related to the CTH T/Pioneer Road project, Commissioner Doemel distributed copies of a draft resolution authorizing a jurisdictional transfer. The resolution authorizes transferring jurisdiction and maintenance of a portion of CTH "T" from Pioneer Road to CTH "II" to the Town of Clayton, and accepting the transfer of jurisdiction and maintenance of a portion of Pioneer Road from CTH "II" to CTH "T" from the Town of Clayton. The Town of Clayton must also pass a resolution accepting these jurisdictional transfers. From there the WisDOT will record the transfer in the state records and do the formal process for transferring. After discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Farrey to approve the removal and acceptance from the county highway system and town road system the following segments:

- Removal of an existing segment of CTH "T" beginning at CTH "II" to E. Grandview Road for a total distance of 5,122 linear feet.
- Acceptance of an existing segment of Pioneer Road beginning at CTH "II" to CTH "T" for a distance of 4,171 linear feet.

The motion was seconded by Supervisor Nussbaum, and carried 5-0.

Commissioner Doemel informed the committee that starting Wednesday of this week a project to mill and overlay CTH "A" from CTH "GG" to South Park Avenue in Neenah will begin. The road will be paved on the exiting footprint and remain open to traffic during the work. This should provide 10 more years of life to the road, and at that time funding may be available for reconstruction. This project should take a couple of weeks to complete.

Commissioner Doemel provided the committee a list of proposed equipment for the 2023 budget, totaling \$1,515,000:

1. Air compressor
2. Hydrostatic power broom
3. Two single axle trailers
4. Two tandem axle trailers
5. Used rubber-tire roller from Door County
6. Two tri-axle trucks with winter equipment
7. Tar kettle
8. Mower
9. Gradall

Commissioner Doemel also informed the committee that the department received bad news recently when they learned that the three Freightliner trucks that were ordered are no longer being built. The three trucks are currently out for bids again. Additionally, last week it was discovered that another truck in the fleet has a cracked frame, making two. The department was also informed that the truck with the blown motor may also need a new transmission that could cost \$10,000-\$12,000. This puts the department in a very bad spot, short on equipment operators and trucks.

The following were reported as general operations:

- Supervisor Albrecht inquired when the Oregon Street bridge repairs would be done. Commissioner Doemel stated that the WisDOT is having supply chain issues, and waiting on the necessary parts. The bridge is now proposed to be finished by mid-November.
- Commissioner Doemel updated the committee on the employee status. He stated that one mechanic has been hired. The department lost two operators to the Solid Waste Department, two to Waupaca County, one to Fond du Lac County, and one to the Facilities Department. Commissioner Doemel stated that he is doing the best he can to fill the vacancies with what he has to work with.
- Supervisor Farrey requested signage for CTH "GG" west of the overpass for safety.
- The Facilities Department has bids out for snow removal at various county properties, instead of having the Highway Department do it.

- Supervisor Harrison inquired how the 2023 budget looked. Commissioner Doemel stated there were no increases, that the same amounts from this year will be carried over.

The next regular meeting of the Highway Committee will be held on Monday, October 17, 2022.

A motion was made by Chairman Albrecht, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Laura Spanbauer
Administrative Associate