

# IOWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**August 2, 2010**

The Transportation Committee met in the Iowa County Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, August 2, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. and was called to order by Committee Chair John Meyers.

Roll call was taken:

Committee members present: Sups. Dave Bauer, Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Dan Curran, John Meyers, Curt Peterson, Robert Pilling, Ryan Walmer, and Robert Zinck.

Committee members excused/absent: None

Also present: Highway Commissioner Craig E. Hardy, Business Manager Jeri Grabbert, County Administrator Curt Kephart, Personnel Director Bud Trader, Highway Superintendents Mark James and Randy Sudmeier, and County Board Sups. Jim Griffiths and Dan Nankee, Highway Department AFSCME Union representatives Charles Dahl and Scott Reddell.

Sup. Dave Bauer moved that the meeting had been duly advertised. Motion was second by Sup. Ron Benish. Craig Hardy noted that the agenda had been amended to include Item 3A and was posted on July 31. Motion passed unanimously.

Sup. Curt Peterson moved for approval of the amended August 2, 2010 agenda and the July 1, 2010 minutes. Motion was seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker. The minutes were amended for New Business Item B to replace "page 38 shows **maintenance and repairs** at \$29,655" with "page 11 shows **operations of machinery and equipment** at \$29,655." Motion passed unanimously, as amended.

Motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Bob Zinck to go into Executive Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1) (c) WI Statutes for considering employment, promotion, compensation and performance evaluation data of any public employment over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (Step #2 - Equipment Operator Grievance #-10-01). Motion passed unanimously at 6:10 PM.

Return to open session at 6:55 PM. Motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Bob Zinck to deny Grievance #10-01 because it does not provide clear explanation nor meet the contract grievance criteria of identifying the article or section that was violated. Motion passed unanimously. Sup. Dave Bauer asked Union Representatives Scott Reddell and Charles Dahl if they understood the reason for the denial and they noted that they did.

Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee.

Sup. Jim Griffiths commented on the July 1, 2010 minutes, New Business Item B. The minutes state that "Craig noted the Department has 36 trucks in the fleet, which means that 3 should be replaced each year on a 12-year depreciation schedule." Sup. Griffiths noted that depreciation life does not equal the life or average life of a unit. Sup. Griffiths also noted that he does not

agree with the Transportation Advisory Referendum that was raised at the Administrative Services Committee. He feels we need property tax relief and that the motor fuel taxes should help to pay for highway operations and additional funds should go towards property tax relief. Sup. John Meyers indicated that the Advisory Referendum is telling the state to abide by the current rules.

### **Old Business**

- A. 18/151 Design Study Update – CTH ID Corridor Selection. Craig Hardy reviewed the map showing the most recent proposal with CTH ID as a frontage road that would run from Barneveld to Ridgeway. He noted that this proposal fits more in line with the directions given to the DOT by this Transportation Committee. He also noted that even though the construction phase is six years out, to 2016, now is the design stage and the time for comments from this committee. Craig noted that he is in concurrence with this DOT drawing. Sup. Curt Peterson commented that Mark O’Connell, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA), stated that Wisconsin has more roads than any state in the nation and wondered if there were any other options. Craig Hardy indicated that this alternative for CTH ID would provide more of a thoroughfare than the previous alternative of various frontage roads, intersections, and side road terminations; and the traffic flow would enhance safety. The jurisdictional transfer between the governmental entities would be different for maintenance authority, but the actual mileage of new constructed highway would be the same as originally proposed. Sup. Dave Bauer noted that the only way to not add more roads is to leave it as is. Sup. Dan Curran asked if there was also a potential of higher operating costs. Craig responded that yes, there would be more costs relating to CTH ID. Sup. Ryan Walmer asked about the effect on the adjacent farmers. Craig said that would be addressed in the Environmental Document phase.
  
- B. Blotz-Zinkle Driveway. The Highway Department has removed the culvert extension that was previously placed on the Zinkle driveway and it has been restored. Michael Blotz has been given the go ahead on his driveway permit application that was approved at the last meeting with a variance. Mr. Zinkle has been notified of the Department’s completion of work at his driveway location.

### **New Business:**

- A. June 2010 Revenue and Expenditure Report. Jeri Grabbert provided information for questions raised at the last meeting. Line 27, Miscellaneous Revenue in the amount of \$3,594 is over the budgeted amount of \$1,200. The budgeted amount of \$1,200 is for rental income from a building in Mifflin and has been received. Revenue of \$400 was received for Tourist Oriented Directional Signs. Craig Hardy explained that these are the roadway signs that businesses advertise on and pay a fee for. Jeri then noted that the remainder of the revenue is from a gas credit of about \$1,900 that was received from Alliant Energy for the years 2005 through 2009. Jeri then reviewed the June Revenue and Expenditure Report. She noted that amounts have been received for salt storage, radio, and GPL reimbursements from DOT and should be coming soon. These amounts are \$9,227.86, \$3,047.87, and \$16,370.02, respectively. These once-per-year revenue

amounts exceed the budgeted amounts, however they are determined based on the 2008 winter costs. The General Transportation Aids second installment arrived on July 6 in the amount of \$504,294.28. Retained Fees of \$4,775 was received from Planning and Zoning for GPS/CAD training and development. The year-to-date total of \$40,371.30 balances with the capital expenditure shown on line 88. Local Government Revenue of \$681.18 is reimbursement from the Health Department for the cost of CPR classes taken by highway department staff. Under the expenditures, line 57 shows STHS-Discretionary Maintenance – Paint. The costs related to the state paint program are \$42,547.42 for June and \$133,053.69 as of June 30, 2010. Line 59 shows STHS-Local Force Accounts. This includes cost for accident damages and the LFA for work on STH 39 from Edmund to Linden. Sup. Ron Benish asked about line 67, General Public Liability Insurance. Jeri explained that this is a one time charge for this item. He also asked about line 47, Allocated Fringe Benefits. There are charges to this account but no budget amount. Craig Hardy noted that the fringe benefits are budgeted within each division, but a report could be run to show the total in comparison to these charges.

- B. Transportation Fund Advisory Referendum. Craig Hardy explained that the resolution and referendum were at the request of the WCHA. Standard wording and format was prepared and all counties have been asked to present this request to their Boards. Administrative Services Committee (ASC) reviewed this with respect to the cost of putting it on the ballot. ASC did not support the referendum being placed on the ballot. Craig Hardy brought this issue back to the Transportation Committee for direction on how he should respond to the WCHA. Sup. Bob Zinck stated that he felt the WCHA should have asked the County Boards to act and then have it go to a state referendum. Craig Hardy noted that 32 counties have passed the resolution to place the referendum on the November ballot and 6 counties have denied due to the cost. Sup. Bob Zinck noted that one county passed the resolution with the contingency that 36 other counties have placed it on their ballots. Sup. Curt Peterson felt that in addition to the cost of placing this on the ballot, if more money was not spent to advertise the issue the people won't know what the referendum is for. Craig Hardy stated that this referendum is intended to accomplish two goals. First, to find out what the public awareness is regarding the Transportation Fund. And second, for the public to provide direction on the issue. Craig asked for direction on how to present the County's standpoint to the WCHA. He asked if he should indicate that there was 100% support from the Transportation Committee, then it went to the County Board, and then to ASC, where it was dropped due to cost. Sup. John Meyers reiterated that the cost estimate ranged from \$550 to \$2,800.

A motion was made by Sup. Bob Zinck and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer to send this to the County Board to support a statewide referendum. Sup. Jim Griffiths stated he felt ASC did not turn down the resolution due to cost of the referendum. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Village of Avoca Community Development Block Grant from the Emergency Assistance Program (CDBG-EAP) for Proposed Flood Water Control Improvements Project – Request for Comments. Craig Hardy described the existing flooding issues in the Village of Avoca and their proposal to remedy the situation. Craig recommended that no

comments be submitted to the Village as they have DOT, DNR, and FEMA working with their engineers to resolve the issue and the county highway system is not affected. Sup. Dave Bauer asked if the County has any liability and Craig noted that it is on a state highway and the county has no liability. No action was taken.

- D. Long Range Planning Committee Directive. Item 7C, 2011 Budget Update (handout Forms 1 and 5) is combined with this item as they both address the same goals. Form 1 of the Budget Packet describes the goals and objectives of the Highway Department in 2011. Form 5 is the 5 Year Capital Plan for the Highway Department. Sup. Dan Curran stated that the goal of the LRPC is to get the thinking and planning to go beyond just a couple years. Craig indicated that Forms 1 and 5 show those goals for the Highway Department. Craig stated to retain and review the forms for the September meeting agenda topic related to the requirements of standing committees by the LRPC.
- E. CTH B Asphalt Milling and Pulverization Project Bids and Awards. Craig Hardy explained that this is a CHIP-D project therefore must go through approval at the Committee level.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer to approve awarding the project to Kraemer Company for a cost of \$18,231.47. Vote: Yes – Sups. Dave Bauer, Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Dan Curran, John Meyers, Robert Pillings, Ryan Walmer, Robert Zinck. Abstain – Sup. Curt Peterson. Motion passed.

**Highway Commissioner Report:** Craig Hardy reviewed the following items with the Committee:

- A. EECBG Grant Update. The Bloomfield boiler has been put out for bids. A site visit was conducted today (August 2). An addendum will be out by Wednesday and bids will be opened next week Monday. Other projects under this grant include insulation at Bloomfield Healthcare and insulation and windows at the Highway Department, which will be let for bids in the next three weeks.
- B. WCHA Informer Newsletter. This is a periodic newsletter issued by WCHA to inform readers of current issues. Discussion took place regarding the wheel tax imposed in St. Croix County in 2008.
- C. 2011 Budget Update (Handout Forms 1, 5). This item was combined and addressed in New Business Item D, Long Range Planning Committee Directive.
- D. Federal Applications. Applications have been submitted for bridges on CTH's K, E, and HK. Also an application by the Town of Brigham for the bridge on Clay Hill Road and by the Town of Dodgeville for the bridge on Blotz Road. Applications were also submitted for CTH K, CTH E, and CTH F design only as rural road projects.
- E. Truck Work Order Form. Craig Hardy discussed his plans for a weekly report form. The ultimate goal is to streamline operations in the shop. Discussions on this form started

with the Shop Foreman, then the Superintendents, then Office Staff, and then the Union. It has been a collaborative effort to create the form. Sup. Bob Zinck asked what the cost of installing the GPS system in the trucks. Craig said according to the Dane County bid, it would be about \$1,500 per truck – \$1,200 to \$1,250 for the GPS and about \$300 for other costs. Craig said he has currently taken a back seat on this. He feels there is a need to proceed with caution and look at any potential liability issues. WDOT has advised the County of an implementation plan for the state route utilized equipment for the 2011-2012 winter season. An estimated installation process and contract window of June 2011.

- F. Wedging Work on CTH DD, etc. Craig distributed some photos of the various repair locations along CTH DD in the Towns of Mineral Point and Waldwick. Some discussion of the wedging process, sealcoating, and reconstruction projects.

The next regular Transportation Committee meeting will be on Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sup. Curt Peterson and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Jeri Grabbert.