

IOWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

July 6, 2009

The Transportation Committee met in the Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, July 6, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Ron Berg.

Roll call was taken:

Committee members present: Sups. Bob Bunker, Ron Benish, Ron Berg, Dave Bauer, Brad Wells, Gerald Dorscheid and John Meyers.

Committee members excused/absent: Sups. Larry Steffes and Mark Masters.

Also present: County Administrator Randy Terronez and Highway Commissioner Craig E. Hardy.

Sup. John Meyers moved that the meeting had been duly advertised. Seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker. Motion passed unanimously.

Sup. Ron Benish moved for approval of the July 6, 2009 agenda with the addition of Highway Access Ordinance and June 1, 2009 minutes. Motion was seconded by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. Sup. Bob Bunker commented on the Grant County issue of Amish harvesting hay along the road right of way. Highway Commissioner Craig Hardy noted that working in the road right of way may require a \$50 permit. Sup. Ron Berg distributed brochure obtained at the Summer Highway Conference he attended. He noted that a finance/lease firm has a number of contracts with other counties to fund equipment replacement.

Old Business

- A. Federal Stimulus Update - Craig Hardy informed the Committee of the status of CTH C Sneed Creek Bridge in the Town of Wyoming and the CTH X storm sewer improvements sponsored by the village of Linden having been accepted as 100% federal stimulus funding projects. As a result of the CTHC bridge replacement being part of the federal stimulus funding, the County will save \$105,000 on construction costs, representing the estimated 20% local match. With the Village of Linden CTH X project qualifying for federal stimulus funding, the County will save \$96,500 of the estimated costs on a 50-50 cost share. The county will save approximately \$210,000 in construction costs for the two projects. The costs are actually capped at the bid award amount.

Motion by Sup. John Meyers and seconded by Sup. Ron Benish to authorize the Highway Commissioner to execute the appropriate agreements for the CTH C bridge replacement and the Village of Linden CTH X federal stimulus funded projects. Passed unanimously.

- B. County Highway Improvement Cost Estimate – Craig Hardy distributed report and gave highlights.

- C. Countywide Summer Construction Schedule Update – Craig Hardy reviewed agenda enclosure.
- D. County Summer Work in Progress Schedule – Craig Hardy discussed CTH HH project involving repairing failing slope and sinking road conditions near the Hilden property. Also discussed the process of excavating soils from some highway slopes along CTH HH between the site and CTH K to alleviate sight visibility issues. Also discussed was riprap removal and replacement on Bridge number B-0015 on CTH X west of Linden.

New Business:

- A. May 2009 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Reports – 2009 Financial Reports contained in the agenda packet was reviewed and nothing unusual needs to be reported at this time.
- B. Legal Response to WDOT Directive and RMA Agreement, Further Clarifications, WCHA Press Release and Maintenance manual Verbiage – Craig Hardy reviewed highlights of enclosure.

Motion by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. John Meyers to authorize the Highway Commissioner to forward the Highway Association press release to local media as a means of informing the public about conditions placed by the State DOT on state highways and to include a statement that motorists should contact the Highway Department if a safety issue exists. Passed unanimously.

- C. 2009/2010 Salt Contract – Craig Hardy noted that the past salt cost \$53.91/ton and the new state rate is \$59.28/ton. This figure includes delivery from Dubuque. Other counties that did not participate in the state bid are seeing bids in the \$70/ton range. Discussions ensued over using a salt-sand mix or straight salt. Craig noted the department intends to continue to use a straight salt application this season for certain high traffic intersections and locations. However, the department will primarily utilize a salt-sand mixture on the county system. Ron Berg commented on complaints and issues the village of Barneveld expressed with a salt-sand mix and storm sewer complications.

Motion by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid and seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker to concur with the state salt bid for the 2009/2010 season to Cargill in the amount of \$59.28. Passed unanimously.

- D. Proposed Cost Savings/Unallocated Budget Revenues - Craig distributed handout and reviewed highlights of cost savings and unanticipated/unbudgeted revenues totaling approximately \$288,000 due in part to flood repair reimbursements. Discussions of the ramifications of applying the amount towards the 2008 Highway Department deficit. It was noted that the remaining 2008 deficit was approximately \$390,000. The 2009 savings would bring down the 2008 deficit substantially. The Committee commended Craig and staff for identifying this significant amount of funds.

- E. CTH K – Williams Creek Bridge Replacement Revised Municipal Agreement – Craig Hardy reviewed enclosure and noted that the majority of the county match would not be incurred until 2011-2012 project construction. The original project agreement scope signed in 2008 covered the bridge and minor approach work. This revised project agreement includes the bridge and approximately 0.5 miles of approaches which are funded by a separate funding mechanism and associated project number.

Motion by Sup. John Meyers and seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker to approve the CTH K – Williams Creek Bridge and Approaches replacement municipal agreement and authorize the Highway Commissioner to execute the appropriate agreements. Passed unanimously.

- F. LFA Work, Traffic Control USH 18/151 – Craig Hardy reviewed enclosure and noted the DOT will be working on parts of the four-lane at CTH BB requiring assistance from the county with traffic control and pavement patching repairs.

Motion by Sup. John Meyers and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer to approve the LFA Work, Traffic Control USH 18/151 project and authorize the Highway Commissioner to execute the appropriate agreements. Passed unanimously.

- G. 151 Study Discussion of Alternatives – Craig Hardy reviewed design options. Discussion given on the operational costs and safety aspects of different interchange designs and amount of additional right-of-way acreage needed.

Motion by Sup. Gerald Dorscheid and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer to select Option 1B for the County Y interchange. Passed unanimously.

For the remainder of the interchanges, the Committee consensus was to give preference and consideration to the recommendations of the local unit of government (Village, Towns, etc.) and to concur with the Village and Town of Ridgeway request to have the west interchange be the 1st of the 2 Ridgeway interchanges to be constructed. Discussion also ensued with regards to the alternatives of connecting CTH ID to CTH BB through Ridgeway.

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

- A. JDS 4-Lane 20 Association Request - Craig Hardy noted that a funding request is being made from this Illinois – based association.

Motion by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer to decline the funding request from JDS 4-Lane Association. Passed unanimously.

- B. Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill and Information - Craig Hardy gave highlights of the recently adopted state budget including the close call on the private contract road work issue that would have dramatically affected county highway departments. Fortunately, the Governor vetoed the provision. In regard to the prevailing wage legislation, the County will undoubtedly incur higher costs as many projects will meet the new \$25,000 threshold limits put in place.

Also discussed was the federal highway reauthorization legislation. The Obama administration is requesting an 18-month extension to the existing transportation bill. That would significantly affect Wisconsin transportation funding for the existing program is far less than the current program, and affects the solvency of the transportation fund.

Craig Hardy distributed various pictures and discussion of various issues confronted by the Highway Department on CTH A B-0612, Driveways on CTH Q, CTH II and CTH I flood repairs, CTH H bridge railing repairs, CTH Z sealcoat damages, CTH HH White Driveway, and repairs to 406T during June 2009.

- C. CTH H Knight Hollow Creek Bridge, CTH G Updates - Craig Hardy distributed pictures of the CTH HH bridge site and provided an update on the project progress. Discussion of CTH G surface repairs from Lafayette county line to Rewey.
- D. Fuel Tank System Update - Craig Hardy noted that a fuel filter was replaced on a department truck. As a result, Daryll Weber with the Department of Commerce performed a sampling and inspection of the county fuel system. The test results concluded a fuel octane level of 88.4 for the system. It was noted that the fuel filter problem centers on the blend that fuel company's use as it relates to degree of ethanol verses gasoline product. Craig will be obtaining information on fuel blend and products provided by various county suppliers, and may be revising the fuel bid specification criteria in the future.
- E. Driveway Access Control Ordinance – The County Board pulled this item from the June Board meeting as no one was present to explain the document. Craig Hardy distributed a marked-up version of the document. The changes in red were additions or new verbiage added to the Ordinance. The majority of the changes were minor format and consistency of content. He plans on being present at the July 21 County Board meeting for the 1st of 2 readings.

The next regular Transportation Committee meeting is set for Monday, August 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sup. Ron Benish, seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez