The Transportation Committee met in the Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, August 31, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Larry Steffes.

Roll call was taken:
Committee members present: Sups. Larry Steffes, Bob Bunker, Ron Benish, Ron Berg, Dave Bauer, Brad Wells, Gerald Dorscheid, and John Meyers.

Committee members excused/absent: Sup. Mark Masters.

Also present: Highway Commissioner Craig E. Hardy, Highway Office Administrator Jeri Grabbert, and Finance Director Roxie Hamilton.

Sup. Ron Benish moved that the meeting had been duly advertised. Seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer. Motion passed unanimously.

Sup. John Meyers moved for approval of the August 31, 2009 agenda and the August 3, 2009 minutes. Motion was seconded by Sup. Ron Benish. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. Sup. Ron Benish commented that he had been approached by a local farmer regarding mowing on right of way in state sections by private landowners. Craig Hardy indicated that the county is doing additional mowing in areas where safety is an issue.

Sup. Gerald Dorscheid noted that visibility is also a concern on Reimann Road because someone is parking a car there with a “for sale” sign on it. Craig Hardy will look into that.

Sup. John Meyers said that he had received a call about rough patches on Hwy. 23 where it was recently repaired. Craig Hardy indicated that there is some asphalt shoulder work yet to be completed and there are also manholes in that area which will have an affect. Sup. John Meyers also asked about the forklift that the Hwy. Dept. was bidding on. Craig told the committee that the Hwy. Dept. was outbid and did not get it.

Old Business
A. Corp Counsel Response to Sales of Goods and Services - Craig Hardy referenced the legal opinion and noted that the benefit must be public. Discussion followed regarding the current status of 09-10 salt orders.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. John Meyers to honor the agreements with private vendors for the 09-10 season and to give them written notice that Iowa County Highway Department will not be supplying goods and services to private vendors effective 4/15/2010. Sup. Ron Berg suggested that a copy of the legal opinion be included with the notice to the vendors. Motion passed 7 - 1. (Yes) Ron Benish, Ron Berg, Bob Bunker, Gerald Dorscheid, John Meyers, Larry Steffes, and Brad Wells; (No) Dave Bauer.
B. LRIP written response to proposed changes – tabled until October meeting. Craig Hardy indicated that he wanted to table this item until the October meeting in order to focus on the budget during this current meeting.

New Business:

A. July 2009 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Reports – Jeri Grabbert reviewed the 2009 Financial Report noting that revenues were at 60.5% as of July 31 and expenditures were at 45% as of July 31. Jeri pointed out that the General Transportation Aids payment was received in July as discussed at the June meeting. The expenditures will show an increase in the August report because sealcoating started in August.

B. Review of the Highway Department tentative 2010 Budget and supporting documents. Craig Hardy reviewed the 2010 budget summary report with reference to Forms 1 through 11 and other supporting documents. Sup. Ron Berg asked if the 35 acres near the quarry could be rented out now that the CRP program has ended. He will raise this question at the Property Committee Meeting on Thursday September 3. Also Craig Hardy will look into this option. A potential increase of $7,000 in the revenue budget could be projected. The Routine Maintenance Agreements are projected to decrease 6.3% for 2010. The Discretionary Maintenance Agreements are projected to remain the same. Local Force Account reimbursements are budgeted for 2010, whereas in the past they have not been included. The Department of Justice grant application for the radio upgrade was not approved and will be removed from the budget. This removes $180,000 from revenues and $387,000 from expenditures. Craig explained the change in allocating wage and fringe benefit costs so they reconcile with Form 2A – Personnel Costs. An Engineering Technician position has been added, which will be cost shared with Land Conservation Department on an 80% LCD and 20% Highway split. Sup. Ron Berg questioned why the Shop Operations expenditures were so high compared to the 3-year average in the detailed support documents. Craig and Jeri will look into this and provide additional information at the next meeting. Craig indicated that the Pit and Quarry Operations and the Bituminous Operations are still under review and he will have additional information on the indirect costing amounts at the next meeting. Craig reviewed the projects that are included in the County Maintenance and County Construction budgets, the County Bridge Construction budget, and the 5-year capital plan for maintenance and equipment.

Sup. Ron Benish commended Craig and Jeri for the work put into getting the 2010 budget together. No action was taken on the budget. It will be reviewed and revised per discussions and brought back to the October meeting.

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

A. Truck #103, Freightliner Truck, cracked frame. Craig Hardy explained that this is the semi for the lowboy trailer and it needed a new 5th wheel bracket. It was then realized that the truck frame was cracked also. Two estimates were received, $5,800 and $3,000. The truck will be repaired for $3,000.
Highway Commissioner Report – additional items

- Slope restoration on CTH HH is delayed due to a Verizon cable in the slope.
- A meeting on Hwy. 151 is scheduled for September.
- A detour will be scheduled for STH 39 next year utilizing USH 151, CTH Y, and STH 191 from Mineral Point to Hollandale.
- The truck with the fuel filter problem was found to have foreign material in the filter and the tank and fuel system has been flushed by Hallada Chevrolet.
- A collection letter was sent to John Brings. This is his 2nd notice by certified mail that he needs to contact the Highway Office. His deadline is September 30 and then small claims proceedings will begin. The amount he owes is $3,057.08.

The next regular Transportation Committee meeting is set for Monday, October 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sup. John Meyers, seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes by Jeri Grabbert