

## BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Buffalo County Highway Committee

Date of the Meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Chairman Mr. Don Hillert called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Buffalo County Highway Department, Alma, Wisconsin.

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Don Hillert, Mr. Dwight Ruff, Mr. John Sendelbach, and Mr. David Danzinger. Mr. Max Weiss joined the meeting at 8:20 a.m.

**Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting:** Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Bob Platteter, Mr. John Dewitt, Ms. Janet LaDuke, Mr. Jim Palkowski, and Ms. Sonya Hansen.

**Public Comments regarding Agenda Items:** None.

**Review/Discussion/Action - Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action - Monthly Vouchers #28367 through #28430 totaling \$188,156.02 were reviewed.** Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the vouchers, seconded by Mr. Sendelbach. Carried.

### **Review/Discussion/Action– Staffing:**

- a. LTE's for Summer Help: Mr. Platteter explained in the past they have hired two truck drivers and three or four seasonal mowers. This year with the reduction in roadwork he is having the full-time staff mow the roads on their routes. This will help with looking over the roads and culverts on their routes for needed repairs. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve hiring two LTE truck drivers, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.
- b. Trench Safety Training: County Mutual will be putting this training event on in Stevens Point.
- c. MSHA Training Schedule: This will be an internal mandatory training held on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Review/Discussion/Action - Equipment:**

- a. Truck Surcharges: There were two trucks ordered and Highway was just informed that there will be a \$1,500 surcharge per truck. If this is not paid, then the Highway will not receive the trucks. Mr. Ruff made a motion to pay the surcharge, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Sendelbach voting no. Carried.
- b. Quotes on Patch Heater: There are six patch heaters and the oldest unit will be rotated out as it is at the end of its life. There was \$27,000 budgeted, but the price has increased. The different models were reviewed. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the oil jacketed patch heater from Sherwin Industries in the amount of \$39,341.00, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Ruff would like a list of all equipment with the age of the equipment and the miles/hours it has on it.

- c. Pickups- Mr. Platteter explained Fountain City Ford has a truck on the lot at a cheaper price than the one that had been ordered. The truck that was ordered was canceled by Ford. The truck on the lot will be purchased in place of the order that was canceled.
- d. Quotes on a Skid Steer Trailer- Bids for the skid steer trailer were received. The Highway Department would like to purchase a trailer with a tilt bed as it is safer than the trailer with ramps. The cost is about \$2,000 more. The old trailer will be put on auction with a minimum bid of \$3,000 which is the trade-in amount. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the purchase of the tilt trailer from Frenchville Trailer Sales in the amount of \$13,850, seconded by Mr. Sendelbach. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.
- e. Quotes on a Rubber Tired Roller – Mr. Platteter explained this rubber tired roller would be replacing an older roller that has had some issues. Some bids were received with rollers that did not meet specifications. One bid did meet specifications for a used roller with 15 hours on it, a cab and air conditioning. This roller will not be available until July as it is a backup for a construction company in WI Dells. Mr. Weiss made a motion to purchase the BoMag roller from Miller Bradford in the amount of \$74,625, seconded by Mr. Ruff. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried. The old roller will be offered on auction at the trade-in price.

#### **Review/Discussion/Action – Buildings & Grounds:**

- a. Digital Communication Project – Mr. Dewitt explained the digital communication components are all installed and working well. Kelly, Janet and John all went to Eau Claire County to see how their system is utilized and ideas of how to use the system in Buffalo County. The employees have had positive comments about the system.
- b. Sign Shop Overhead Door- Mr. Platteter explained the quotes received need to be officially approved. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the quote from American Door in the amount of \$3,200, seconded by Mr. Ruff. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

#### **Review/Discussion/Action – Roads and Bridges:**

- a. CTH and STP Fundings- Mr. Platteter explained he was successful in obtaining funding for the County Road H and County Road O projects in the amount of \$152,538. County Road AA bridge project and County Road E project need to be designed yet. There will be some federal funding for County Road B in Gilmanton. There are eight bridges scheduled for this year.
- b. BIL Application – Mr. Platteter will be sending in an application for County Road OO. The application will include the addition of a possible bike trail on that road which should give more points in the application process. The application needs to be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Bids for Asphaltic Material:** The asphalt plant will be

set up in Mondovi for the Highway 37 road project and can be used for projects the county has. There is only one company in the area that handles asphalt so there is only one bid. The bid is for \$12,000 per ton from Mathey (American Materials). Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the bid from Mathey, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Bids for Seal Coat Oil:** Two bids were received. Megs (who applies the seal coat oil) and Flight Hills (who does not apply the seal coat oil). Buffalo County does not have the equipment to apply the seal coat oil. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the Megs bid at \$2.89 per gallon applied, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Bids for Culverts:** Bids for both metal and plastic culverts were reviewed. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the bids for the culverts, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

**Review/Discussion regarding ATV Ordinance Changes:** The ATV Club approached Mr. Platteter with opening portions of State Highway 88. The State is okay with this but would like the ordinance verbiage changed to allow it. This will be brought back to a future meeting.

**Review/Discussion regarding the Budget/Financials:** Issues with revenues and expenses balancing for the budget were discussed. When preparing the budget expenses and revenues must equal each other. It was discovered they do not. This happened in 2021 and again in 2022. The budget was balanced when first submitted, however it was adjusted and never sent back to the Highway Department for review. This may cause some budget issues in the Administrative portion of the budget, but will be watched. The Auditors are set to come soon, but it is unsure if things will be ready for them.

**Review/Discussion regarding the Commissioners Report-** DMA funds from the State have been received and can be used for road maintenance. Highway 35 from funeral home north will be resurfaced. Bridges will be washed. There will be some equipment coming up to place on auction. The landowner on 35 is hauling in scrap material onto land that was just cleaned by the State. DOT is looking into this. The Summer Highway Conference is June 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. The tank truck is being looked at to be converted to a boom sprayer to spray brush along the roads. Highway 37 from County Road F to Hwy. 88 will be ground down 2 inches and repaved with 3 inches of black top. Hwy. 37 from Hwy. 88 to Hwy. 10 will be reconstructed in 2025 with 8 inches of concrete. The road will be shut down at that time and a detour will be in place. Hwy. 37 to Hwy. 85 is being rebid and scheduled for 2026. Staffing is currently at full level with the hiring of Rafael Sanchez, Tyler Rieck, Brent Everson, and Bob Bautch.

**Chair Report:** The Chair reported that brushing along Highway 37 is being completed and looks good.

**Next Meeting –** The next meeting will be determined by the new committee.

**Public Comments-** Mr. Danzinger spoke regarding the Flyway Trail. He is working with Ms. Sonya Hansen on the second phase of the project. She will be assisting in writing grants to help pay for the project. The goal is to eventually have the trail extend north to Nelson. Mr. Danzinger explained the route that is under consideration for a future bike route. There may need to be some road widening in some areas. Engineer work will begin this summer on Phase

2, with construction hopefully to begin in 2024. The goal is to have this project complete without costing the county any money. This will be put on a future agenda for further discussion.

**Adjournment-** Mr. Danzinger made a motion to adjourn at 10:25 a.m., seconded by Mr. Ruff. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann Halverson  
County Clerk