

Highway Committee

October 11, 2022

Chair Max Weiss called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. John Sendelbach, Mr. Steve Nelson, Mr. Dwight Ruff, and Mr. Brian Michaels.

Others Present for All or Portions of the Meeting: Mr. Bob Platteter, Mr. John DeWitt, Mr. Lee Engfer, Mr. Ryan VanDeWalle, and Ms. Roxann Halverson.

Review/Discussion regarding Public Comments: None.

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

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Vouchers: Vouchers were reviewed and discussed. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Nelson. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Open Patrol Position and CDL

Training/Trainer: Mr. Platteter explained they have one open position and have not had many applications. He would like to look at sponsoring CDL training to maybe draw in more applicants. The cost of the training is approximately \$4,000.00 and the county would pay that for the employee. The employee would then need to enter into a contract to stay employed at the Highway Department for 2 years or pay the training cost back to the county if they leave employment earlier than that 2 year timeframe. A contract and resolution will be worked on and will be brought back to the next meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding 2022 Equipment Deliveries: Mr. Platteter explained the equipment that has come in. The grader has been built and delivered to Eau Claire but needs to go to North Dakota for the wings to be attached. He is unsure when this will happen as the company is having trouble finding shipping. The reclaimer was down for a few days again. He is working with Miller Bradford to find a replacement for this unit.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Building and Grounds – Fluid Secure and the

Mondovi Building: The Fluid Secure program is up but having issues running. The program runs off of a hotspot but loses connectivity often. They are working on ways to get a stronger internet connection to where they need it.

The Walters Building Engineer came to look at the Mondovi building. He does not believe the crack in the floor is causing the interior wall issues or the overhead door issues. The Engineer will be consulting with his co-workers to see what else could be causing the issues. They will be coming back and adjusting the door so that it can be used.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Road Construction and Bridge Construction

Updates: County Road O is just about finished on the railroad side. Shouldering is being

completed and the area where the bridge was widened will be paved. County Road H south of Mondovi has been milled and will be prepped for paving in about 2 weeks.

A discussion was held about mowing state roads. Mr. Platteter explained this is regulated by the State and they only allow one mowing and a certain time of the year. They did go through and spray the vegetation and so that has died off.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution for Joint Project Petitions: Mr. Platteter presented the resolution for the joint projects. These are for culverts or bridges that towns have petitioned for the county to cost share with them on. The county share of all projects is \$90,373.86. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

The Committee May Go into Closed Session for Personnel Review: Mr. Ruff made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Mr. Weiss-yes, Mr. Sendelbach-yes, Mr. Ruff-yes, Mr. Nelson-yes, and Mr. Michaels-yes. Carried.

The Committee May Return to Open Session: Mr. Ruff made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Mr. Weiss-yes, Mr. Sendelbach-yes, Mr. Ruff-yes, Mr. Nelson-yes, and Mr. Michaels-yes. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2nd draft of the 2023 Budget: Mr. Platteter reviewed the second draft of the budget. He decreased the number of miles to be reconstructed from 10.8 miles to 8.7 miles to meet the request of a 10% reduction. They will do more on the maintenance side to help extend the life of the roads.

Commissioner Report: Mr. Platteter reported on a conference he attended where the State discussed budgets and personnel changes. The infrastructure bill may have more funds available. A letter was sent to the municipalities regarding the change in fee structure for bridge inspections. Upcoming trainings and conferences were reviewed.

Mr. VanDeWalle explained he was working on contracting gas and Pehler would agree to a contract if we had an 8,000 to 10,000 gallon tank. They would then contract at \$3.149.

Committee Chair Report: None.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be November 8th at 8:00 a.m.

Public Comments: None.

Adjourn: Mr. Ruff made a motion to adjourn at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk

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