

MINUTES

HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, September 11, 2024
TIME: 8:00 AM
PLACE: Highway Dept., Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu (WebEx), Scott Brehm, John Hokamp, Lee Thao

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk, see attached sign-in sheet

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. A Village of Biron resident requested the speed limit on a portion of CTH U be reduced due to safety factors. Supervisor Clendenning asked about passing zones on Griffith Ave. Hawk reported he is working on a grant to conduct a safety study on the entire segment, east of 8th Street.
3. Under correspondence Hawk reported a variance request will be forthcoming from a resident in the Village of Arpin wanting to build a residence within the allowable set backs for county highways.
4. The minutes of the August 1 & 20, 2024, meetings were reviewed. Motion by Breu/Hokamp to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Hawk brought forward a request for the opening of Griffith Ave. from 20th St to 9th St. since all of the Town of Grand Rapids roads are open to ATV/UTV traffic. The committee reviewed municipal boundaries within this area, as well as the upcoming referendum in the City of Wisconsin Rapids to adopt an ATV/UTV ordinance. The committee took no action on this request and will wait for the results of the referendum. Supervisor Breu brought up concerns shared by the Town of Marshfield board and residents of previous committee action opening up sections of CTH T & H.
6. Representative from the City of Wisconsin Rapids were present to request the committee provide a letter of support for the planning process of the possibility of relocating the railroad in the City of Wisconsin Rapids that crosses Grand Ave. This is a continuation of a study completed in previous years, but there may be federal funding to help with the costs of relocation. Motion by Hahn/Brehm to direct the Parks & Forestry Director and Highway Commissioner to draft a letter of support and bring back to the committee for review and approval prior to the county board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Hawk presented a resolution of appreciation from the Wisconsin County Highway Association to former Supervisor Dave LaFontaine for his years of service to the committee, county, and state.

8. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed.
9. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
10. Motion by Hokamp/Thao to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
11. The 2025 Highway Budget and CIP were updated to include the new wage structure approved by the Operations Committee. Motion by Hahn/Hokamp to approve the budget and CIP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Hawk updated the committee on the ongoing issue regarding the roof and floor drains at the Wisconsin Rapids Shop. In order to meet current laws, the roof drains have been disconnected from the sanitary sewer system and is running above ground. This is not a long-term fix, however, and work will continue.
13. Hawk stated the women's locker room bids were reviewed after the committee meeting last month. There was only one complete bidder, that being Accent Construction. After review of the Facilities Manager, the contract was awarded to them.
14. Hawk reported on the vacated parcel on the corner of CTH A and Richfield Drive that was discussed last month. The letter has been sent to the DNR in regard to liability, however they have not yet responded. More information will be forthcoming.
15. Hawk presented a request to lower the speed limit on a section of CTH U due to the upcoming reconstruction of this road. By lowering the speed limit now, it will hopefully get drivers used to the slower speed limit that will be needed when the project is complete. Motion by Hahn/Brehm to lower the speed limit on CTH U to 25 MPH from Huffman Road, approximately 800 to the west. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Hawk discussed the current situation on CTH AA/Plank Hill. A public information meeting was held and at that time it was determined the town was not interested in taking over any portion of the road. Hawk informed the committee he is looking for additional funding to repair this section of road with the hopes of being able to do it in late 2025.
17. Hawk reviewed the cost share percentages as it relates to crossings and bike paths on CTH U. No action taken by the committee. This was informational only.
18. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.
19. Schooley presented the updated 2025 Parks & Forestry budget and reviewed the proposed dredging project at Red Sands beach. The Aqua Skiers applied for a CEED Economic Development grant in the amount of \$31,000 for 2025, however it was hoped this project could be done yet this year. Consensus of the committee was to move forward with the dredging and allocate funding via resolution at the end of the year.

Motion by Thao/Hokamp to approve the 2025 Parks & Forestry budget as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

20. Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.

21. Motion by Thao/Breu to approve the Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.

22. Motion by Hahn/Hokamp to approve per diem for those committee members attending the North Central Region meeting on September 26th in Stratford. Motion carried unanimously.

23. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the Highway Department Conference Room.

24. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee
September 11, 2024

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Clendinning	WCB #15 - GR Board
Jeff Ferraro	WCB #11
Mike Smith	Town of Grand Rapids PW
Tom Wilt	City of Wis. Rapids
Gawn Hutchison	WDMR
Matt Zacher	W.R.
Stacie Hedgen	WCPF
Dr. Schuchert	Forest
R VANTASSEL	MAINT.
Dennis Santora	SEER
Doug & Sharon Villeneuve	Village of Byron residents
Roland Hawk	Hwy
Lance Pliml	CB Chain
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
Ed Newton (WebEx)	Finance