

MINUTES

HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, May 4, 2023
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Highway Dept. – Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Al Breu
(via WebEx)

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There were no public comments at this time but were allowed during the agenda item during the meeting.
3. The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed. Motion by LaFontaine/Breu to accept them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. There is a request to open up a section of CTH Z for ATV traffic. Motion by Hahn/LaFontaine to approve opening CTH Z from 20th Street to 80th Street in the Town of Grand Rapids. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Breu (feels we should wait until the City opens up the rest of the section so as to avoid confusion).
5. The Highway Dept. staff reports and revenue reports were presented.
6. Motion by LaFontaine/Thao to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Commissioner Hawk informed the committee of the delay in the construction of the roundabout at CTH Z & 48th St intersection until 2024. Savings from the CTH W roundabout project can be used for this project. Citizen comments were allowed during this time and provided alternative ideas other than a roundabout.
8. The sick leave policy referral to the Operations Committee is being investigated. More information will follow at a later date.
9. Work continues on investigating a site for a new state/county salt shed in the Pittsville area. The lease on the old sheds is coming due in 5 years and in order to get funding from the state for a new shed, time is of the essence. A piece of county forest property along STH 80 in Dexterville is being looked at presently.
10. The committee reviewed the bids for the CTH W roundabout. Motion by Breu/Hokamp to accept the bid of McCabe Construction. Motion carried unanimously.
11. There is a lobbying group opposed to the premise of longer and heavier trucks being allowed along the roadways. Hawk reported the Highway Dept. is in favor of their efforts as the CTH system and bridges were not designed or built for this heavy of traffic.

A resolution offering support of this venture will be drafted by Hawk for the next meeting.

12. Hahn informed the committee that the ARPA Funding Adhoc Committee approved the \$600,000 asphalt drum replacement. A resolution will be going to county board in May.
13. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were presented.
14. There was one special use permit for Wisconsin Rapids Best Christmas Ever function to take place at South Park. Motion by LaFontaine/Thao to approve this request. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Schooley presented a resolution to become eligible to apply for WIDNR Outdoor Recreation Grant funding for the Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter Building Project. Motion by LaFontaine/Hokamp to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Parks & Forestry revenue reports were presented.
17. Motion by LaFontaine/Breu to approve the Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
18. Hahn informed the committee that the ARPA Funding Adhoc Committee approved \$431,500 for the Powers Bluff Trailhead project. A resolution will be going to county board in May.
19. Wisconsin County Forest Association (WCFA) Director Rebekah Luedtke presented a PowerPoint presentation about the history of county forests and of WCFA. She highlighted the financial implication of the county forests, the current priorities of WCFA. An invitation to the summer tour was extended to the committee. Questions and answers followed.
20. Chairman Hahn requested per diem for two Wisconsin County Highway Association meetings he attended. Motion by LaFontaine/Hokamp to approve this expense. Motion carried unanimously.
21. Agenda items for next meeting include timber sale awards.
22. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 1st at 9:00 AM at the Highway Office.
23. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:27 AM.

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

