

Highway/Landfill Committee Minutes

January 16, 2014

The Highway Committee meeting was called to order at 8:45 A.M. by Chairman Bruce Heidmann. Members present included: Bruce Heidmann, Larry Kirchman, Brian Paplham, Brian Dax and Linda Sinkula. Also present was Commissioner Dale Jandrain, Recording Secretary Jenny Salentine, Office Manager Mary O'Leary, Road Superintendent Leonard LeGrave, and Shop Superintendent Jim Fencl. Guests at today's meeting include: County Administrator, Ed Dorner; County Board Chairman, Bob Weidner; County Board Supervisor, Ron Heuer and Pat Benes.

Brian Paplham made a motion to adopt today's Agenda and approve the Highway Committee meeting minutes from December 19th. Second by Brian Dax. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Pat Benes inquired about the Highway Commissioners intent to retire however then join the work force. Commission Jandrain addressed Mr. Benes' inquiry stating he is resigning from the Commissioner position but will continue to work in the department.

Reports:

Office Manager, Mary O'Leary, had the following reports to hand out:

- ❖ Roads & Bridges Budget ~ January 1st thru December 31st, 2013
- ❖ "DK" Fund
- ❖ Highway Overtime Update
- ❖ Solid Waste Overtime Update

Mary has also received the updated equipment rates from the State. New equipment rates are now in effect for the Towns, Cities, and Villages as of January 1st, 2014.

Patrol Superintendent, Leonard LeGrave, had the following to report:

- ❖ Snow-fencing is up all over the County
- ❖ We have been steady plowing snow & ice
- ❖ Crews continue to pick-up & haul salt
- ❖ Crews have been mixing & hauling sand

Lenny mentioned we are doing OK with our salt supply for the season. We've had to transfer salt from 1 shop to another during recent weather events.

Committee Member, Larry Kirchman inquired about how the men are holding up with the long hours. Lenny state they are doing TERRIFIC considering the staffing circumstances. This is a very dedicated crew that is very committed to their job & work.

Ron Heuer inquired about white-out conditions between 6 – 10 PM Tuesday night (January 14th) and why plows weren't out. Lenny explained that all plows were in by 7 PM that evening White-out conditions are caused by blowing snow, snow-plow drivers cannot see the road during white-out conditions either. Travelers are advised to stay home & off the roads during such conditions. Snow on the road-way is not the problem during White-Outs & Plowing roads during said mentioned conditions will not help the white-out, snow will continue to blow.

Shop Superintendent, Jim Fencl, had the following to report:

- ❖ Mechanics are managing to keep-up fairly decent with repairs
- ❖ Issues with frozen salt brine tanks & broken valves
- ❖ Fuel System Update:
 - Pedestal is installed & IT Dept. was here
 - No date yet when the new system will be operational

Highway Commissioner, Dale Jandrain had the following to report:

Dale received a certified survey map for the Algoma Shop.

Dale had the following hand-outs for the committee:

- ❖ Kewaunee County Solid Waste Account Aging Report ~ Receivables
- ❖ A listing of all Kewaunee County Bridges approved by the State for full replacement:
 - 2nd Street Bridge, City of Algoma
 - CTH "BB", Town of Carlton
 - CTH "J" & Hwy. 42, Town of Carlton
 - CTH "E", Town of West Kewaunee
 - Saint Peter's Rd., Town of Carlton
- ❖ Crossroads Publication
- ❖ Seasonal Load Limits Boundaries

- State has divided itself into 5 zones
- Lenny checks the frost wells twice per week & reports back to the state

Dale also updated the committee about the Interviews for a Mechanic & Highway Commissioner. Also, the complete packet of all LRIP contracts has been sent in to the State.

Highway Committee Chairman, Bruce Heidmann gave a recap from the conference he attended earlier this week along w/ Committee Members Brian Paplham & Linda Sinkula. The next budget cycle in the State will be critical to the County Highway Association for project funding. It was highly stressed to make sure counties send members to "Road School" Trainings.

Ed Dorner addressed the committee on 2 topics:

- 1) Following 5 interviews for the Assistant Highway Commissioner, the position has been offered to & accepted by Todd Every. Todd currently works with the Village of Suamico and comes to us with a good background in the related field including employment experience from Ayres & Associates in a planning position, Commissioner in Langlade County, and work with the Menominee Tribe. Todd will begin his employment with Kewaunee County on February 1st.
- 2) Bruce, Bob, Dale, and Ed met w/ Brown County. The basis of this meeting was a dicussion regarding some exploration to possibly cooperate & collaborate together. Our legal councils will research by law what we could possibly do if anything at all.

Discussion on staffing levels: Current employee staffing numbers: currently at 23 employees for Winter. We are short 2 employees for Winter Plowing, the need is for 23 employees to operate all winter equipment. Commissioner Jandrain has filled in on one of the graders. We've resulted to have multiple employees run double duties ~ drive a sander & grader alternating. Interviews have been conducted for 2 mechanics which has been approved at previous meetings. 17 applications were received, 4 interviews have been conducted, the 1st offer has been declined, and the 2nd offer is pending. Discussion followed on what staff level we want to set. 52 applications were received for the general highway worker position. 8 interviews will be scheduled. Mr. Dorner has stated it would be very valuable to the department to keep Dale on staff, he is a good resource & a great asset.

Consider changes to landfill rates: Dale presented the current solid waste rates effective May 1st, 2013. After review & a short discussion, Committee Member Brian Dax suggested we leave the rates as is until May 1st, 2014.

Convene into closed session 19.85(1)(b)(c) Employee Discipline: Motion to Convene into closed session made by Larry Kirchman. Second by Brian Paplham. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene into open session: Motion to Reconvene into open session made my Brian Paplham. Second by Linda Sinkula. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve & Sign Highway & Solid Waste Vouchers: Today's Highway Voucher totals were: \$49,745.22 paid by check and \$76,422.89 paid by credit card. Today's Solid Waste Voucher totals were: \$188,332.64 paid by check and \$863.12 paid by credit card. A motion to approve Vouchers as presented was made by Brian Paplham. Second by Linda Sinkula. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve any travel requests: One travel request today: Commissioner Jandrain to attend an Utility Conference @ Rock Garden Conference Center on January 23rd, 2014. Motion to approve travel request made by Larry Kirchman. Second by Brian Dax. All in favor. Motion carried.

Any other business as allowed by law: None

Tour Construction Projects: No tours today.

Next Meeting Dates:

- Thursday, February 6th @ 8:45 AM
- Thursday, February 20th @ 8:45 AM

Motion made to adjourn today's meeting by Larry Kirchman. Second by Brian Dax. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Jenny Salentine, Recording Secretary