Rusk County Highway Committee
August 15, 2016

NOT COMMITTEE APPROVED

Absent: Jerry Biller.
Also Present: Scott Emch, Nanci Mertes, Paul Teska.

Call Meeting to Order.
Chairman Karl Fisher called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Gary Swoverland left the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes – July 18, 2016.
A Knops/Platteter motion to approve the minutes of July 18, 2016. Motion Carried.

Public Comment.
None

Out of County Travel Request – N. Mertes, L. Podgornik, S. Wilder attendance at the 2016
WisDOT and CHEMSPRO Annual Highway Training on October 13 and 14, 2016.
The Committee reviewed the Out of County request.
A Platteter/Knops motion to authorize N. Mertes, L. Podgornik, and S. Wilder attendance at
the 2016 WisDOT and CHEMSPRO Annual Highway Training on October 13 and 14, 2016 in
the Wisconsin Dells. Motion Carried.

Approve Resolution “Just Fix It” County and Town/Village Infrastructure.
The Committee reviewed the “Just Fix It” State sponsored resolution.
A Platteter/Knopp motion to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board.
Motion Carried.

Approve allocation of Highway funds to cover shortfalls on Forestry ATV Trails.
The Highway Commissioner requested to use excess Highway funds from a Highway non-levy
cost pool to help cover a shortfall on the Forestry ATV Rehab Trail Project.
A Knops/Fisher motion to authorize excess funds from a Highway cost pool (non-levy
account) to help fund the Forestry ATV Trail Rehab Project not to exceed $30,000.00. Roll
Call: Fisher – Yes, Platteter – No, Knops – Yes. Motion Carried.

Update on Highway Building Renovation Project.
The Highway Commissioner and Chair Fisher updated the Committee on the 2009 Highway
Building Renovation Feasibility Study. The Commissioner reported that this study was a good
study and it was not necessary to have a new one done. The 2009 Feasibility Study was
presented to three (3) engineering firms who will report back to the Highway Committee with
building renovation costs. This item will be on next month agenda.

Authorize purchase of new automated gas system software.
A Platteter/Knops motion to authorize the purchase of new automated gas system
software not to exceed $20,000.00. Motion Carried.

Authorize purchase of Trailer.
The Highway Commissioner discussed the need for a new trailer to carry the Highway Skidsteer.
Quote from Pete's Trailer Sales - $5850.00 for a PJ 20’ Equipment Trailer (21k) W/ Standup
Ramps.
A Knops/Platteter motion to authorize purchase of a trailer not to exceed $5850.00. Motion
Carried.
Review cost estimates for two (2) Tri-Axle Dump trucks.
The Highway Commissioner received a cost estimate for two (2) Tri-Axle Dump Trucks:
V&H - $126,760.00 - 4700 Set-Back Front Axle Chassis – Detroit DD3 Western Star.
Monroe Truck Equipment - $81,436.00 17' Crysteel Select Stainless Steel Dump Body.
Total Cost $208,196.00 per truck.
A Platter/Platter motion to approve the purchase of two (2) Tri-Axle Dump trucks for
$208,196.00 per truck. Motion Carried.

Salary Presentations.
The Committee was presented with the results of a wage/salary survey that was done for the
Highway Commissioner, Financial Administrator, and Operations Manager positions. The survey
results are from the following counties: Barron, Polk, Washburn, Bayfield, Douglas, Sawyer, and
Burnett County. Discussion followed. Chair Fisher reported the Highway Commissioner has
completed his training this year in bridge inspections and is now certified and will be conducting
all County bridge inspections beginning in 2017. This will create a savings to the County in
excess of $17,000.00 annually. Discussion on the Highway Commissioner salary being
compensated for conducting bridge inspections.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT
The Commissioner reviewed status of highway projects.

HIGHWAY SAFETY REPORT
The newly hired Highway Laborer begins on August 16, 2016. The employee will undergo several
days of safety training before being released to work with the highway crews.

HIGHWAY FINANCIAL REPORT
This report includes the current status of Highway Cash, Payables, Receivables,
Equipment/Blacktop Plant funds and current Year-to-Date Fund Statement.

HIGHWAY OFFICE REPORT
This report includes the status of worker compensation claims, liability insurance, office personnel
activity, crew updates, retirements, unemployment claims and number of Highway FMLA
requests.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE- ANNOUNCEMENTS
None

Approve payment of bills.
A Knops/Platter motion to approve the Highway Payables and the Highway Crew and
Administration payrolls as presented. Motion Carried.

Set date for next highway committee meeting.
The next regular Highway Committee meeting is set for September 15, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at
the Rusk County Highway Department.

Motion to adjourn.
A Knops/Platter motion to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Nanci A. Mertes, Asst to Highway Commissioner/Financial Administrator
Distributed on August 16, 2016.