Rusk County
Highway Committee

March 17, 2009

Present: H. Golat, T. Costello, G. DuSell.

Absent: J. Hofacker, R. Svoma.

Also Present: E. Wundrow, N. Mertes.

Highway Chair H. Golat called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of the agenda and move any agenda items as needed.
A DuSell/Costello motion to approve the agenda and move items as needed. Motion Carried.

Approval of minutes – Regular Meeting from February 16, 2009.
A Costello/DuSell motion to approve the minutes of the regular Highway Committee meeting of February 16, 2009. Motion Carried.

James Meng Mining Contract with Rusk County.
James Meng appeared before the Committee to discuss conditions for renewing the current mining contract between himself and the Highway Department. The current contract has Rusk County paying Mr. Meng $.40 cents per ton for material removed from his gravel pit. The Highway Commissioner stated a modest increase would be in line.
A DuSell/Costello motion to renew the Mining Contract between Rusk County Highway Department and James Meng with the following changes:
Increase price for materials from $.40 cents per ton to $.47 cents per ton.
Omit #6 (b) - Installation of a 30 foot gate at the entrance to the Meng Pit within 6 months of the date of this contract; this has been done already. Motion Carried.

N. Mertes informed the Committee that she sent Eric Edming two certified letters informing him that he had until March 5, 2009 to accept the Highway Committees terms of payment and if the Committee did not hear back from Edming by March 5, 2009, Corporate Council would proceed with a judgment. N. Mertes informed the Committee that E. Edming signed for the certified letters but had not contacted the Department to date. Corporate Council said he would proceed with the judgment.

Rick Nash Easement Request – Committee discussed a portion of unused county highway easement located on CTH “J”. It was determined by the Committee that since the highway was relocated at the subject easement area on CTH “J” the easement is no longer needed by the Highway Department and is available for sale.
A Golat/Costello motion to prepare a resolution for County Board notifying the Board of the committee’s intent to sell the right of way along CTH “J” and to place the easement for bid after County Board approval. Motion Carried.

Lyn Fredrick request for wood donation from the Highway Department.
Lyn Fredrick appeared before the Committee to ask if the Highway Department could donate cut trees located at the Highway Department Scott Pit to the Harvest of Talent Church Project that he and his wife are associated with. Mr. Fredrick explained to the Committee what the Harvest of Talent project is about and how the wood donated by the Highway Department would be cut and sold with the proceeds from the sale of the wood being funneled back to the taxpayers of Rusk County through Rusk Counties Local Food Pantry and Rusk Counties Health and Human Services Department. The Highway Committee explained to Mr. Fredrick that they would discuss his donation request further and get back to him as to their decision. The Highway Commissioner will continue researching the issue of donations; Chapter 12 Ethics Code 10.5 Fair and Equal Treatment (2).
**Purchase of Crack Sealer.**
Cost to purchase a Crack Sealer from Midstates Equipment & Supply

- 2006 Cimline 230DH Melter with Arrow Board $28,995.00 with 2 Routers $44,185.00
- 2008 Cimline 230DH Melter with Arrow Board $36,995.00 with 2 Routers $52,185.00
- 2008 Cimline 230DH Melter with Arrow Board $35,495.00 with 2 Routers $50,685.00

Routers
- 2009 Cimline 25 HP Router Rental Units $7,595.00 each

Above equipment does not include cost for the heater hose which would be an extra charge of approximately $2000.00.

A Costello/DuSell motion to re-visit the purchase of a Crack Sealer in May 2009. Motion Carried.

**Asphalt Additive by Revix.**
E. Wundrow discussed the uses of Asphalt Additive in asphalt mix. Using Asphalt Additive changes the asphalt mix coming out of the plant from a "hot mix" to a "warm mix". The asphalt produced by Rusk Counties Blacktop Plant is currently a "hot mix". Two of the advantages of using "warm mix" asphalt is that it lowers air emissions and reduces odor.

A Costello/Golat motion to authorize use of the Asphalt Additive for a one-year trial period. Motion Carried.

**Inter-Department communications and boundaries of responsibilities at the Highway Department.**
The Committee discussed communication issues at the Highway Department.

**Authorization to let for bid crushing of Highway Department inventory materials.**
E. Wundrow explained that he would like to bid out the crushing of certain inventory materials for the 2009 season; Asphalt Gravel, Binder Gravel and Road Gravel for a total of approximately 61,600 tons.

A Costello/DuSell motion to authorize letting for bid the crushing of Highway Department inventory materials. Motion Carried.

**Bid Opening – Crack Sealing.**
Four bids were presented.
- Allied Blacktop Corp. - $1.08 per pound
- Total Asphalt Maintenance - $1.06 per pound
- American Pavement Solutions - $1.45 per pound
- Fahrner - $1.24 per pound

A Costello/Golat motion that if the Highway Commissioner determines in May 2009 that he is going to contract out for crack sealing of county highways then the bid shall be awarded to Allied Blacktop Corp. for $1.08 per pound. Motion Carried.

**Bid Opening – Culverts.**
Seven bids were presented.
- Forrer Supply Co., Inc.
  - Plastic Culverts  No Metal Culverts
  - 12" - 3.95
  - 15" - 5.57
  - 18" - 7.70
  - 24" - 12.12
  - 30" - 16.90

- PK Forest Farms
  - Plastic Culverts  Metal Culverts
  - 12" - 3.99  12" - 6.50
  - 15" - 5.56  15" - 7.80
  - 18" - 7.70  18" - 9.75
  - 24" - 12.20  24" - 12.35
  - 30" - 17.06  30" - 19.50
Keeling Company
Plastic Culverts No Metal Culverts
12” – 4.189  
15” – 5.836  
18” – 8.147  
24” – 12.838  
30” – 17.896

Metal Culvert, Inc.
Metal Culverts No Plastic Culverts
12” – 5.79  
15” – 7.28  
18” – 8.65  
21” – 10.01  
24” – 11.57  
30” – 17.88

Johnston Fargo Culvert Inc.
Metal Culverts Plastic Culverts
12” – 7.50 12” – 5.00  
15” – 9.30 15” – 7.00  
18” – 11.00 18” – 9.00  
21” – 12.70 24” – 14.00  
24” – 14.30 30” – 22.00  
30” – 22.40

County Materials Corp.
Metal Culvert No Plastic Culverts
12” – 6.55  
15” – 7.65  
18” – 9.21  
21” – 10.86  
24” – 12.51  
30” – 19.22

First Supply
Plastic Culverts No Metal Culverts
12” – 3.89  
15” – 5.43  
18” – 7.58  
24” – 11.94  
30” – 16.65

A Costello/DuSell motion to award metal culvert bid to Metal Culverts Inc. and plastic culvert bid to First Supply. Motion Carried.

Bid Opening – Road Striping.
Three bids were presented.
Fahrner
$.046 cents LF

Twin City Striping
$.046 cents LF

Taylor County Highway Department
$.046 cents LF

A DuSell/Costello motion to award Road Striping bid to Taylor County Highway Department. Motion Carried.
Bid Opening – Hay.
Four bids were presented.
Randy Tatur
Hay
$120.00 – per ton delivered to County Shop.

Troy Lybert
Straw
$2.00 per bale of straw; not able to deliver.

Dale Beissel
Straw
$120.00 per ton delivered to the Highway Department

Bill Kochevar
Hay
$195.00 per ton

A Costello/DuSell motion to award hay bid to Randy Tatur for up to 30 tons of hay at $120.00 per ton. Motion Carried.

Bid Opening – Beaver Control.
No Bids submitted.

Recessed for lunch: 11:50 a.m.
Returned from lunch: 12:45 a.m.

Revisit possible purchase of security camera for Highway Yard.
E. Wundrow explained he would like to wait on purchasing a security camera at this time due to lack of funds available for this item.

Implementing Highway Department Security.
E. Wundrow discussed the need for extra security at the Highway Department and is currently looking at replacing the glass front entrance to the Highway Office with a solid door with a window and a security entrance lock that would allow the front desk receptionist to buzz authorized people through.

Review correspondence from City of Ladysmith dated February 23, 2009.
E. Wundrow reviewed correspondence from the City of Ladysmith dated February 23, 2009 regarding the possible rerouting of CTH “D” across Doughty Road, instead of over its present route between CTH “G” and Highway 27, in hopes that it would be more likely to attract the needed upgrade funding by increasing the traffic count on the road. Discussion followed.
A Costello/DuSell motion that the Committee will not move forward on this item. Motion Carried with Golat opposing.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair.
Personnel – Terminations and Unemployment.
For considering employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. WI Stats 19.85 (1) (c)
For considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. WI Stats (1) (f)
A DuSell/Costello motion to enter into closed session. Roll Call. Voting yes: Golat, Costello, DuSell. Motion Carried.

CLOSED SESSION at 1:30 p.m.
OPEN SESSION – possible motion regarding topics of closed session. 
A Costello/DuSell motion to return to open session. Motion Carried.

OPEN SESSION at 1:40 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair.
Review Workmen Compensation Claim for K. Bainter - % of loss.
For considering employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public 
employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. WI Stats 
19.85 (1) (c)
For considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific 
persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges 
against specific persons except where par (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would likely to 
have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or 
data, or involved in such problems or investigations. WI Stats (1) (f)
A DuSell/Costello motion to enter into closed session. Roll Call. Voting yes: Golat, Costello, DuSell. 
Motion Carried.

CLOSED SESSION at 1:43 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – possible motion regarding topics of closed session. 
A Costello/DuSell motion to return to open session. Motion Carried.

OPEN SESSION at 1:48 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair.
FMLA Leave Request.
For considering employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public 
employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. WI Stats 
19.85 (1) (c)
A DuSell/Costello motion to enter into closed session. Roll Call. Voting yes: Golat, Costello, DuSell. 
Motion Carried.

CLOSED SESSION at 1:51 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – possible motion regarding topics of closed session. 
A Costello/DuSell motion to return to open session. Motion Carried.

OPEN SESSION at 1:55 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair.
Workmen's Compensation Claim -- Jerry Quinn vs. Rusk County
For considering employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public 
employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. WI Stats (1) 
(c)
For considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific 
persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges 
against specific persons except where par (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would likely to 
have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or 
data, or involved in such problems or investigations. WI Stats (1) (f)
Motion Carried.

CLOSED SESSION at 1:57 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – possible motion regarding topics of closed session. 
A Costello/DuSell motion to return to open session. Motion Carried.

OPEN SESSION at 2:10 p.m.
The Rusk County Highway Department has found that while the Towns of Thornapple and Flambeau have been approved for ATV travel on portions of CTH “A” and CTH “J” in their respective Townships, certain portions of these county highways have not been approved for ATV travel and in order for the Highway Department to establish safe and uninterrupted ATV travel on CTH “A” and CTH “J” in the Townships of Thornapple and Flambeau the Rusk County Highway Department hereby request to amend the County Ordinance for ATV travel in order to include for ATV travel on County Highway for: CTH “A” from Bass Lake Road west to Town of Thornapple Towline (1 mile) AND CTH “J” west to West Fairview Road (750’).

A Costello/DuSell motion to approve opening CTH"A" from Bass Lake Road west to Town of Thornapple Towline (1 mile) and CTH “J” west to West Fairview Road (750’) for ATV travel and move amended ordinance to the County Board for final approval. Motion Carried.

Discussion regarding possible changes to the current procedure for towns and villages requesting authorization for ATV travel on County Highways.

The Highway Committee is reviewing different options for presenting amended ATV Ordinances to County Board each year. Will be looked at further at April’s meeting.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT.

E. Wundrow reported that the Highway Crews are currently at the Scott Pit clearing trees.

Update on Winter Schedule - 4 day/10 hour days.
1 Friday was worked during the winter schedule of 4 day/10 hour day weeks. Cost to the department was $680.00 in overtime. Utilities costs for heat in January, before 4 day/10 hour day weeks began, $6666.60. Utilities costs for heat in February, after 1 month of 4 day/10 hour day weeks, $3147.99. Temperatures were the same in January as in February which indicates the department was able to save $3819.60 in utility costs by reducing days of operation each week.

Town and Village employees entering the County yard shall be loaded with materials by County personnel only beginning in 2009. This is part of the internal control project.

Stimulus Update – E. Wundrow reported that it is possible that the County will receive 1 million in stimulus money.

Feasibility Study - The Committee reviewed phase 1 blueprint.

HIGHWAY FINANCIAL REPORT.

N. Mertes reviewed the current financial status of the Highway Department, including Cash, Payables, Receivables, Blacktop Plant Fund, Equipment Fund and current balance of the J/T Transfer Cash Fund.

A DuSell/Costello motion to approve the Financial Report. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY OFFICE REPORT.

N. Mertes reviewed status of Workmen’s Compensation Claims, Liability Insurance Claims and retirements.

A DuSell/Costello motion to approve the Office Report. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE – COMMENTS

Sign pre-approved vouchers.
Pre-approved vouchers in the amount of $175,095.49 were reviewed and signed by the Highway Committee.

A DuSell/Costello motion to approve the pre-approved vouchers for $175,095.49. Motion Carried.

Set date for next highway committee meeting.
The next Highway Committee meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2009.

Motion to Adjourn.
A DuSell/Hofacker motion to adjourn. Motion Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by N. Mertes
Distributed on March 18, 2009