Rusk County
Highway Committee

May 17, 2010

Absent: J. Hofacker.
Also Present: E. Wundrow, N. Mertes, Charlie Vircks, Jim Cote.

Call meeting to order.
Highway Commissioner Ed Wundrow called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Election of Highway Chair.
Ed Wundrow called for nominations for Highway Chair.
Roger Svoma nominated Tom Costello. Wundrow called for additional nominations.
Motion by DuSell, second by Hauser to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for
Tom Costello. Motion Carried.
Tom Costello is elected Highway Chair.

Election of Highway Vice-Chair.
T. Costello called for nominations for Highway Vice-Chair. Roger Svoma nominated Gene
DuSell. Costello called for additional nominations. Motion by Svoma, second by Gierke to
close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Gene DuSell. Motion Carried.
Gene DuSell is elected Highway Vice-Chair.

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

Approval of minutes – April 19, 2010.
A Svoma/Gierke motion to approve minutes of April 19, 2010. Motion Carried.

Public Comment and/or input.
No Public Comment.

Appearance by Silvercreek Predators Inc. LLC regarding Contractual Beaver Control.
Mr. Charlie Vircks, owner of Silvercreek Predators Inc., spoke to the Committee regarding
his concerns trapping beaver in the Rusk County area. He has trapped 84 beaver to date
but there are two areas in Rusk County that continue to be a problem area. The areas are
CTH “H” and CTH”B”. Ed Wundrow explained that in order to resolve the problem areas
Silvercreek will have to continue with beaver trapping. However, the budget line for this
activity has been met for this year.
A Svoma/Gierke motion to exceed the line item for Beaver Control by whatever amount the
Department needs to correct the beaver population problem in Rusk County. Motion
Carried.

Correspondence from Mike Ostrenga from Wisconsin Department of Transportation
regarding Rusk County’s request for ATVs on the State system.
N. Mertes reported that Mike Ostrenga of the State D.O.T. is currently in the process of
preparing a letter of denial in response to the Rusk County Resolution request to approve
ATV traffic over the Chippewa River Bridge going in and out of the Village of Bruce.
Update on the Lightweight Utility Vehicles (LUV) Pilot Program and Forestry Committee status regarding this program.
N. Mertes reported that the Forestry Committee approved the resolution authorizing Rusk County participation in the Utility Terrain Vehicle Pilot Program and is on its way to County Board.

Update on Personnel decision regarding Patrol Superintendent reimbursement for safetyware.
T. Costello reported that the Personnel Committee reviewed the need for the Patrol Superintendent to use safetyware to perform his job and that they will allow the Patrol Superintendent to use union contract language in regards to reimbursement for safety boots and safety glasses.

Authorization to hire 4 Summer Students for the 2010 construction season.
E. Wundrow explained that each summer the Highway Department hires 4 college students for the construction crew.
A Gierke/DuSell motion to authorize hiring 4 college students for the 2010 construction season. Motion Carried.

Committee attendance at the Big Ten Highway Commissioners and Committeepersons meeting to be held May 27, 2010.
E. Wundrow reported that the annual Commissioners and Committeepersons meeting will be held on May 27, 2010 in Hayward. Wundrow will need the Committee to drive separately to this meeting in Hayward, he has to attend another meeting in Hayward after the Commissioner/Committeepersons meeting is over. The Suburban will be ready for the Committee at 8:00 a.m. at the Highway Department on the 27th. Those attending: Gene DuSell, Tom Costello, Roger Svoma, and Roger Gierke.

E. Wundrow discussed freight charges concerning the waste oil bids that were submitted in March to the Highway Committee. Freight charges were not included in the price per gallon. E. Wundrow feels that the bid should stay as it is for this year and that next year the ad should state that the price per gallon must include freight.
A Svoma/Costello motion that the waste oil bid awarded in March 2010 to Como Lube & Supplies was done properly, based on price per gallon as advertised, and to leave the waste oil bid as awarded with next year's bid ad stating that the price per gallon must include freight. Motion Carried.

Review cost data on new leased copy/printer at the Highway Department.
N. Mertes reported the supply expense costs for the printer/copier that was owned by the Highway Department versus supply expense costs for the newly leased printer/copier.

Update CTH "M" Relocation Project.
E. Wundrow reported that the relocated gas station on Highway 8 disturbed a wetland when installing their new driveway and the engineers along with the state are currently working on a resolution of the wetland violation. Should the driveway remain part of the "M" relocation Tea Grant project as suggested than more money will need to be expended due to wetland mitigation as a result of the wetland violation.
Engineers are currently 95% complete with fieldwork.

Review ARRA (American Recovery Reinvestment Act Project) 2010 CTH "F" from North Potato Lake Road to CTH "W".
E. Wundrow explained that the American Recovery Reinvestment Act funds (Stimulus Funds-ARRA) that will be used on CTH "F" construction this season submitted to the Highway Department a cost effective finding which lists each activity for the project and the cost for each of these activities. The Committee reviewed the cost effective finding.
Long term planning for the future Highway Department.
E. Wundrow explained that the Highway Department has two unused gravel pits that he feels can be put up for sale and used as potential revenue that can be used to help build a cold-storage equipment building at the Highway Scott Pit. This will allow him to be able to move all the outside equipment into a building, which will extend the life of the equipment. E. Wundrow feels that allowing this to happen will begin the gradual move of the entire Highway Department to the Scott Pit. E. Wundrow noted that he will be taking this information to the Finance Committee on May 19th.
A Gierke/Svoma motion to authorize E. Wundrow to go to the Finance Committee to review the preliminary plans for relocation of the cold-storage building for some time in the future. Motion Carried.

Request to amend the County Ordinance for ATV travel in order to include for ATV travel on County Highways for: Town of Flambeau – CTH “J” from Mae West Road to Cemetery Rd.
The Committee reviewed the request from the Town of Flambeau.
A Svoma/Gierke motion to forward the request for ATV travel which includes for ATV travel in the Town of Flambeau, CTH “J” from Mae West Road to Cemetery Road, to the County Board. Motion Carried.

Highway Commissioner Report.
State Highway Activity -
Currently shouldering on state highways and crack sealing Highway 40.

County Highway Activity –
Will begin crack sealing on county highways shortly.

Equipment –
Currently obtaining prices for 1 ton trucks with crew cabs and 8 foot boxes. The trucks will be diesel. A price was obtained from the Ford dealer in Bloomer for this type of truck for 33,500.00. E. Wundrow will continue to get quotes from other dealers.
Lots of equipment overhauls were performed this year.

Projects –
Still waiting for final paperwork before CTH “O” or CTH “V” projects can begin.

A Gierke/Svoma motion to approve the Highway Commissioner Report. Motion Carried.

Highway Financial Report
N. Mertes distributed the On Line Cash Balance Report and the Accounts Receivable report the Committee to review.
A Svoma/Costello motion to approve the Highway Financial Report. Motion Carried.

Highway Office Report
N. Mertes distributed the Highway Office Report for the Committee to review.
A DuSsell/Svoma motion to approve the Highway Office Report. Motion Carried.

Highway Committee – Comments
None
Action on monthly vouchers.
None were submitted.

Sign pre-approved vouchers.
Pre-approved vouchers in the amount of $192,206.58 were submitted to the Committee for approval.
A DuSell/Costello motion to sign and approve the pre-approved vouchers for a total of $192,206.58. Motion Carried.

Set date for next highway committee meeting.
The next Highway Committee meeting is set for June 21, 2010 at the Rusk County Highway Department.

Motion to adjourn.
A Gierke/Svoma motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Minutes Prepared by N. Mertes
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