Rusk County
Highway Committee August 15, 2011


Also Present: N. Mertes, E. Wundrow, L. Gotham, P. Montwill, R. Tatur.

Call meeting to order.
Highway Chair Tom Costello called today’s meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

Approval of minutes – July 18, 2011.
A Boss/Gierke motion to approve the minutes of July 18, 2011. Motion Carried.

Public Comment and/or input – 30 minutes.
None

Larry Gotham – Morgan & Parmley regarding the CTH “M” Relocate project.
Larry Gotham outlined the TEA Grant agreement between Jeld-Wen and the State and the County and Jeld-Wen and the State. The County will be doing most of the road work on this project through an LFA (Local Force Account). There are some construction items the County will not be able to do such as pulverizing. Mr. Gotham requested authorization from the Committee to place the CTH “M” project out for bid for construction items that cannot be completed by county forces.
The following documents were signed today: Project Justification Documentation, Project Right-Of-Way Certificate, LFA (Local Force Account) Agreement.
A Svoma/Gierke motion to approve the LFA agreement for the CTH “M” Relocate Project. Motion Carried.
A Gierke/Freeman motion to authorize placing the CTH “M” Relocate project out for bid for specific items that will not be completed by county forces. Motion Carried.

Correspondence – Office of the Commissioner of Railroads – Alteration of a public crossing of the Wisconsin Central Ltd tracks with Old 14 Road in the Town of Strickland.
The Department of Transportation is notifying the County of the following “ The DOT and the Town of Strickland plan to improve the intersection of Old Road 14 and Section 13 Road. That intersection is located in close proximity to the Old Road 14 crossing of the WCL’s Cameron to Ladysmith line. The intersection improvements would require altering the crossing. A public hearing will be held at the Rusk County Courthouse, 311 Miner Avenue East, First Floor Conference Room, Ladysmith, Wisconsin, on October 13, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. ”

R. Titera & Sons – Offer to purchase hardwood pulp at the Scott Pit.
R. Titera requested to purchase the hardwood pulp at the County Scott Pit for $55.00 per cord. E. Wundrow explained that he had placed this wood out for bid in the spring but did not receive any bids. There is about 80 to 90 cords available.
A Svoma/Gierke motion to allow the sale of the hardwood pulp to R. Titera for $55.00 per cord only after Rusk County Forester Paul Teska confirms that $55.00 per cord is the most current price per cord. Motion Carried.
Highway Commissioner – Retirement.
E. Wundrow reports that he plans to retire sometime this year but has not yet decided on the specific date.

N. Mertes reviewed the Administration Budget (Page 310 of the Highway Budget) with the Committee. The consensus of the Committee is to allow an Administrative Wage/Benefit Subtotal (Page 310 - Ref #d) of $216,947.60, an Administrative Total Expenditure (Page 310 - Ref #q) of $243,047.60, and Revenue Total (Page 310 – Ref #x) of $132,000.00 resulting in a total administrative levy request of $111,047.60. A $10,901.52 increase from 2011.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT.
E. Wundrow reported that Highway Crews are currently working on rut paving, Forestry’s ATV Trail and poly-filling of County Highways.
A Freeman/Gierke motion to approve the Highway Commissioner report. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY FINANCIAL REPORT.

HIGHWAY OFFICE REPORT.
N. Mertes reviewed status of workers compensation claims, liability insurance, office personnel activity, crew update, retirements, and FMLA requests. P. Boss requested that payment of windshield claims be put on the next agenda. A Gierke/Boss motion to approve the Highway Office Report. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE- COMMENTS
None.

Action on monthly vouchers.
None submitted.

Sign and approve pre-approved vouchers.
Pre-approved vouchers totaling $418,634.77 were reviewed and signed by the Committee. A Freeman/Costello motion to approve the pre-approved vouchers totaling $418,634.77. Motion Carried.

Set date for next highway committee meeting.
The next regular Highway Committee meeting is set for September 19, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Rusk County Highway Department.

Motion to adjourn.
A Freeman/Costello motion to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Highway Office Manager – Nanci A. Mertes

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