

Barron County Highway Committee Meeting

March 17, 2022 Minutes – 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Roberta Mosentine, Dale Heinecke, Marv Thompson, Jim Gores, Louie Okey, Don Horstman (arrived at 1:54 p.m.)

Appearing Via Telephone: Mark Servi

Others Present: Jeff French, Nate Nelson, Anthony Tangwall, Lori Raven, Jodi Busch

The Highway Committee meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Vice Chair Marv Thompson.

Approve the agenda: (Mosentine/Heinecke) to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes: (Heinecke/Gores) to approve the February 3, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Linda Zillmer spoke about her concerns for public safety regarding opening the ATV / UTV routes to the County Highway System.

Jurisdictional Transfer CTH V and CTH AA with Dunn County: Servi gave an update on additional discussions he had regarding jurisdictional transfer with DOT. As a result of these discussions, Servi indicated that it will not benefit the county and the county will not continue to pursue the transfer. The current maintenance agreement with Dunn County will continue.

V & M Signs Update: Servi gave an update on the letters sent to sign owners via certified mail.

Decker Drive Highway Safety Improvement Project Funding Approval: Servi indicated that the City of Rice Lake has not indicated whether they will participate in the project or not. A timeline will be set at the April Highway Committee.

Ordinance on Intergovernmental Cooperation / Highway Service Agreement with Cities, Towns, and Villages: Servi discussed the ordinance and agreement. The ordinance and agreement formalizes the working relationship between the Highway Department and the local unit of governments. Motion to

approve Ordinance and Highway Service Agreement with Cities, Towns, and Villages. **(Gores / Mosentine)** All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Highway Work Zone Safety Resolution: Servi discussed the Highway Work Zone Safety Resolution. Motion to pass the resolution to make the week of April 11th – 15th Work Zone Awareness week. **(Okey / Mosentine)** All voted in favor. Motion carried.

LTE and Summer Wage Rates: Servi and French gave an update on the administrative decision to raise wages to a competitive level. Motion to approve the wage increase **(Heinecke / Mosentine)** All voted in favor. Motion carried.

ATV / UTV Route Update: Servi gave an update on county concerns regarding safety and maintenance costs. Servi will give another update after the Law Enforcement meeting on April 21st, 2022.

(Don Horstman arrived at 1:54 p.m. and relieved Chair Okey)

Staff Reports

- A. Financial Update:** Busch gave an update on finances through February 28th, 2022. No concerns at this time. No action taken.
 - a. Transfer of Funds:** Busch gave an update on the excess funds from the fuel system. Motion at executive board already passed to transfer to the funds to the non-bond money for the 405 facility construction fund.
- B. Commissioners Report**
 - a. Highway Facility Update:** Servi recapped current construction progress.
 - b. Crew Update:** Nelson indicated that the crew has been mixing salt/sand, repairing guardrail, patching, and had 2 high water issues. Nelson indicated that the state would like fill salt sheds before costs rise.
 - c. Project Update:** Servi indicated that the CTH P: Craig Solum and Associates has been hired to acquire the real estate needed for the project. STP Application is due 4/1/2022. CTH U design continues. CTH T Bridge over Vermillion River: low bid was Larson Construction from Chippewa Falls. Vance Creek Bridge Project: Bid was over budget, D.O.T. will cover extra costs at 80/20. Material prices are up substantially, decision on plans for what projects we will do on the county system will come down to cost and funds.
 - d. Sand Haul Routes** Servi indicated that there is an ongoing discussion regarding the sale of the Thompson Hills Mine in the Town of Sioux Creek. The road agreement will go with the sale of the mine.
 - e. WCHA/NACE/NACo Update**

- i. **WCHA:** Commissioner training in Wausau 3/21/2022 – 3/23/2022.
- ii. **NACO Legislative Conference:** Servi will be attending the conference in Buffalo, New York.
- iii. Town Day will be 4/14/2022 at Mosaic Telecom, there will be 3 speakers.

Update on Existing Routes

Edit List: edit lists were available with no questions or concerns.

Future Agenda Items: ATV/UTV routes, Decker Drive

Set Future Meeting Date: the next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7th, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn: meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 2:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Anthony Tangwall, Administrative Assistant III