

Barron County Highway Committee Meeting

February 6, 2025 Minutes – 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members Attended in Person: Dennis Jenkins, Bill Effertz, Roberta Mosentine, Louie Okey, Pete Olson, Marv Thompson

Committee Members Attended Virtually: None.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jodi Busch (left at 9:40 am), Jeff French (left at 10:49 am), Gary Gall, Tyler Gruetzmacher (arrived at 9:40 am and left at 10:40 am), Michael Hoefs, Nate Nelson, Lori Raven, Tony Tangwall

Staff Present Virtually: None.

Others Present: Craig Turcott (County Board)

Others Present Virtually: None

The Highway Committee meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Thompson

Approve the agenda: (Olson/Effertz) to approve the agenda and move the financial update to after public comment. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve the January 9, 2025 minutes: (Mosentine/Jenkins). All in favor. Carried.

Approve the January 29, 2025 minutes: (Mosentine/Jenkins). All in favor. Carried.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Financial Update: Busch presented, no concerns at this time. Discussion.

Discuss Staffing Change Allowing Year Round 4-10 Work Schedule: Discussion on the benefits and concerns of switching to a 4 day per week, 10-hour day work schedule year round with the understanding that Mike and/or Nate can change the work schedule as necessary to reflect weather related incidents. Recommendation to send to the Executive Committee on March 7th, 2025.

Discuss/Review/Approve Request from Supervisor Randall Cook Sr, Supervisor District #18, Analysis of Utility Costs: Hoefs and Raven presented information on utility costs. Discussion. Recommendation to send the findings to the Executive Committee on March 7th, 2025.

Discuss Request from Supervisor Craig Turcott, Supervisor District #28, Bike and Ped Route Signage Implementation: Hoefs and Gruetzmacher provided background information on the Bike and Ped Planning Committee. Discussion to have committee reconvene to start discussions on plan implementation.

Discuss/Support Recommendation of Highway Facilities Finance Committee: Okey presented information from the Highway Facility Finance Committee meeting held on February 5th, 2025. **Motion:**

to move forward with the DDC upgrades and controls as recommended by the Highway Facilities Finance Committee. **(Mosentine/Olson)**. All in favor. Carried.

Facility and Equipment Report: Gall indicated that equipment is being ordered for 2025 and other general operational matters.

Operation's Manager Report: Nelson reported that the crew has been working on hauling field rock, cutting brush, and regular winter maintenance. Nelson indicated that the Village of Cameron and City of Cumberland have approached the county about paving work to be done in 2025. Raven indicated that there are already 85 culverts on the schedule to be replaced in 2025.

Commissioner's Report: Hoefs indicated that he has been working on bridge programs and will attend a training, bidding for materials will happen soon, and work is coming in for the 2025 construction season.

Heavy Haul Routes: Hoefs recapped the action items from the January 29, 2025 Highway Committee Meeting. Hoefs indicated that he has been working with Sheriff Fitzgerald on acquiring scale tickets from the current owner of the old NIS facility. Discussion.

WCHA/NACE/NACo Update: Hoefs and Thompson reported on the conference they attended in January and the LRIP Pilot Program.

Edit List: Edit Lists were available with no questions or concerns.

Future Agenda Items: Approve the 2/5/2025 Highway Facility Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

Set Future Meeting Date: March 6, 2025 at 9:30 am.

Motion to adjourn: by unanimous consent at 11:27 am.

Minutes submitted by:

Tony Tangwall, Administrative Assistant III