

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 2, 2025 – 7:30 a.m.
Barron County Highway Department
260 N 7th Street – Barron, Wisconsin 54812

MINUTES

Members Present: Dennis Jenkins, Bill Effertz, Marv Thompson, Roberta Mosentine (8:10 a.m.)

Others Present: Nate Nelson, Joe Olson, Jeff French, Lori Raven, Wendy Coleman, Jodi Busch, Gary Gall, Joe Olson

The Highway Committee was called to order by Chair Thompson at 7:31 a.m. on Thursday, October 2, 2025.

Public meeting notification was provided confirming compliance with open meeting requirements.

Motion: (Effertz / Jenkins) to the agenda as presented with the change of moving financial update up on the agenda after public comment. Carried

Motion: (Jenkins / Effertz) to approve the minutes of the 9-4-25 meeting. Carried

There were no comments from the public.

Financial Report: Busch reviewed financials. Financials are currently showing an operating loss however there are a lot of projects to bill out. Winter maintenance budget is sitting good going into winter months. Overtime wages are looking better than earlier in the year. Paving crew is getting a lot of work done with the nice weather.

Update on Maple Plain Shooting Range: Nelson updated that the project has been completed and some additional work was completed beyond the original plan. Nelson has been in contact with Burnett County.

Discussion on Tour of Barron County Asphalt Production Facility: Nelson reported that staff would like to provide a tour of the asphalt plant to the Board before shutting down for the season.

Discussion. Consensus to hold a tour for the County Board on October 14, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. at the plant. Raven will put a map together and Tangwall will post notice.

Staff Reports

Operational Report

- Facility and Equipment Report: Gall gave an update on the new boom mower training, pre-trip inspections, research into dash / vehicle cameras with GPS units for the trucks. Winter schedule for employees is being worked on. Nelson is looking into whether Highway Department can combine radio equipment with the Sheriff's Department upgrade proposal.

Mosentine arrived at 8:10 a.m.

- Operation Manager's Report: Raven gave an update on current projects. Road stripping is underway. Some lower priority stripping may need to be completed in the spring. Road paving is underway in the City of Cumberland but is delayed due to water testing issues in the city. Paving will be completed as soon as the contractor completes the water main project. Culvert crew is working on Cattail Trail and then to Bear Lake and Sand Lake boat landing repairs. Discussion. Waste oil and antifreeze collection needs additional signage and some additional clean up around the tank is needed periodically.

Nelson introduced Foreman Joe Olson who is helping out with operations while short staffed. Olson provided an update on paving / shouldering projects and mowing crew. Signage in the right of way is picked up as needed.

- Commissioner's Report: Nelson provided an update work at the CTH K / CTH KK intersection. Bridge inspection information is completed and waiting on DOT confirmation for which bridges will go into the aid program. There are a few open positions that need to be filled. John Dietrich is retiring after 35 years. Nelson will be at Commissioner training next week.

There were no questions or concerns regarding the voucher edit lists.

Future Agenda Items: None

The next meeting date will be November 6 at 7:30 a.m.

The Highway Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:50 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:
Wendy Coleman, Executive Assistant

Minutes are not official until approved by the Highway Committee at their next meeting.