

Barron County Highway Committee Meeting

December 4th, 2025 Minutes – 8:00 a.m.

Committee Members Attended in Person: Bill Effertz (left at 8:41am), Dennis Jenkins, Roberta Mosentine, Pete Olson, Marv Thompson

Committee Members Attended Virtually: None.

Committee Members Absent: Louie Okey.

Staff Present: Jen Dalsbo, Jeff French (left at 8:50am), Jason Kirby, Nate Nelson, Joe Olson, Lori Raven

Staff Present Virtually: None.

Others Present: None

Others Present Virtually: None

The Highway Committee meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chair Thompson.

Approve the agenda: (Olson / Mosentine) to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve the October 2nd, 2025 minutes: (Mosentine / Olson). All in favor. Carried.

Public Comment: None.

Financial Report: None.

Approve the Waiver of Liability and Confidential Pledge: This is a waiver is to allow ride alongs with highway operators. Discussion. **(Olson / Jenkins).** All in favor. Carried.

Bridge Replacements on CTH F, over Dorrity Creek: Discussion. Future years budget item.

Bridge Replacements on CTH O, over Upper Pine Creek: Discussion. Future years budget item.

Facility and Equipment Report: Jason Kirby is filling in as interim. They are waiting on the new plow truck to be built. They have refined the pre-trip inspections so that the mechanics have access to them at all times to know what needs to be worked on. They have converted a water truck to have ice/storm components and everyone is keeping up on shop duties and equipment.

Operation's Manager Report: Joe Olson is filling in as interim. We just finished up Hines Lakeview project in City of Cumberland, and all of our paving and shouldering that needed to get completed. We completed all of our municipality's work that we were hired for, and was even able to finish up some extra that they needed. Looking ahead, we will be working on inventory, salt and sand deliveries, guardrails, and reacting to weather as storms come in.

Commissioner's Report: Nate Nelson is the new commissioner. Nate asked Lori Raven to recap the 2025 construction season. Lori stated that we had completed 2 boat landings, installed 67 culverts, and many driveway and right of way permits. Nate then stated that we laid out 73,000 tons of asphalt this season.

He then explained a new training area that was made for plowing, driving, flagger training, and other misc. safety road trainings to be done in a more controlled environment before going out on the road. He discussed where we are at for hiring for both the Facilities and Equipment Manager and the Operations Manager positions, and that we will be starting the process for full time replacements that are still needed.

Project Update: Nate is currently in the process of working on a STP project that will be split into 2 projects for work in 2028-2031 timeframe. We have 2 more boat landings that will need work and appropriate signage. There were 3 culverts that we were not able to complete this construction season, and so they will be at the top of the list for next year.

WCHA/NACE/NACo Update: Nothing at this time.

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

Future Agenda Items: Blacktopping at the museum.

Set Future Meeting Date: January 8th, 2025 at 8:00 am.

Motion to adjourn: by unanimous consent at 9:07 am.

Minutes submitted by:

Jen Dalsbo, Administrative Assistant II