Barron County Highway Committee

Thursday, November 5th, 2026 Minutes – 8:00 a.m.

Barron County Highway Department Facility – Committee Room
260 N 7th St – Barron, W 54812

MINUTES:

Members Present: Dennis Jenkins, Pete Olson, Craig Turcott, Diane Vaughn, Brad Wolf
Absent:
Members Attending Virtually:
Others Present: Administrative Assistant II - Jen Dalsbo, Financial Director - Michelle Drury, County Administrator - Jeff French (left at 9:13am), Facility and Equipment Manager - Mike Jones, Highway Commissioner - Nate Nelson, County Board Supervisor - Louie Okey, Operations Manager - Joe Olson, Engineering Technician - Lori Raven

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 8:00AM.

Public Meeting Notification: Jen Dalsbo noted the meeting met WI Open Meeting Requirements.

Special Matters and Announcements: None.

Approve Agenda: Motion: (Wolf / Jenkins) to approve. Carried.

Approve Minutes of October 1st, 2026: (Turcott / Wolf) to approve. Carried.

Public Comment: None.

Financial Report: Finance Director Drury presented. No action taken.

Review of STP Projects and Possible Future Funding: Finance Director Drury presented. Discussion. No action taken.

Facility and Equipment Manager's Report: Facility and Equipment Manager Jones noted that expecting equipment has been pushed out into the next year. He reviewed that the crew is working on setting up plow trucks for winter, parts are ordered for bigger winter projects coming up, and that we purchased 2 new tractors.

Operations Manager's Report: Operations Manager Olson reviewed that the crew is wrapping up paving and shouldering work, and will be continuing to clean up trees, culvert work, winter readiness, culvert patches, and state concrete repairs from blow outs this summer. He noted that he has been working on bids for upcoming projects for municipalities and our Town Day event.

Engineering Technician's Report: Engineering Technician Raven noted the completion of 2 boat landings, the installation of 82 culverts, county aid projects were finished, and 428 ½ miles of road striping was painted. Raven reviewed that we are now back on an every other year plan for road striping to keep it better

maintained on our roadways. She noted that she is receiving orders for more culvert work for next construction season.

Commissioner's Report: Highway Commissioner Nelson noted that there is a new SMMA program being worked out with DOT and municipalities. He reviewed the bridge on CTH B has been repaired and there are no longer restrictions. Highway Commissioner Nelson noted recognition for our Inventory Specialist Riewestahl who was proactive in ordering blades before costs inflated saving the Highway Department over $500,000.00.

Review Edit Lists: Reviewed.

Set Next Meeting Date: Thursday, December 3rd, 2026 at 8:00AM at the Highway Facility located in Barron.

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items: None.

Adjournment: By unanimous consent at 9:15AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jen Dalsbo, Administrative Assistant II

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