

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

HELD ON: February 9, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: HOFFMAN, WOLK, PASZAK, HOLEWINSKI, SHARON

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: BENNETT/COMMISSIONER, COOPER/SECRETARY, DUTCHER/PATROL SUPT, WRYCHA/OFFICE MGR, CHARBARNEAU/HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR, EVENHOUSE/SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR, O'BRIEN/LAKE NOKOMIS CRANBERRY MARSH, THREE RESIDENTS FROM NORTH NOKOMIS LAKE, NOKOMIS ATV CLUB REPRESENTATIVE, LITTLE RICE ATV CLUB REPRESENTATIVE, NESEMANN/ RIVER NEWS

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Hoffman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** Paszak/Wolk to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Sharon/Holewinski to approve the minutes of the January 12th, 2012 meeting. All ayes.
4. **Motion:** Holewinski/Paszak to approve vendor vouchers #045-088 for a total of \$64,707.49, plus personal expense vouchers presented. All ayes.
5. Bennett updated the committee on the correspondence received from the DNR regarding the culvert we replaced on CTH 'D' near North Nokomis Lake. The DNR would like the water level on either side of the culvert to be even. This would mean that the culvert would be lowered, and as a result, this would considerably lower the water level in North Nokomis Lake. He received a letter of Non-Compliance from the DNR that said we needed to have a hydraulic study done on the area where we replaced the culvert. This could cost the county around \$20,000 - \$30,000. Mr. O'Brien, Nokomis Cranberry Marsh, received an email from the DNR that did not mention a study being needed, but it did say it was up to the county to decide whether to keep the culvert as it is at the current level, or to lower the culvert. His email said the DNR is not requesting that the culvert be lowered. The committee agreed that they did not want to spend the money on a study that is not necessary and they did not want to lower the culvert. Holewinski suggested contacting Secretary Stepp of the DNR, and ask for her help in rectifying the situation. Three lake residents were present and expressed their concern with lowering the lake level. The committee agreed they were not going to do anything until the DNR came here to explain to them exactly what they want.
6. Committee viewed maps created by Bennett, Forestry Dept, and the ATV Clubs, showing existing and requested ATV trails in Little Rice, Nokomis, and Lynne. **Motion:** Paszak/Wolk to schedule a special meeting, a public informational meeting, March 13th, 6:00 p.m. at the Nokomis Town Hall, to discuss opening portions of CTH 'N', and 'Y' to ATVs. All ayes.
7. Committee/Supervisor discussions of department construction and/or maintenance activities.
Dutcher discussed:
State work: Hauling salt to outside shops; Brine tank busy on curves and intersection; State inspection of salt sheds showed cracks in the aprons. This will be repaired in the spring; tree cutting and chipping on STH 45 and 70; water issue addressed on 70 West; bump signs placed at CTH 'J' and STH 47; State is directing us to remove political signs on their right of ways, repairing guardrail damaged on STH 32 by Spirit Lake
County work: Mower on 'Q'; tree cutting and chipping on 'N'; repaired guardrail damaged on CTH 'N' by Fish Trap

Misc: Bennett showed him how to measure out road striping; working on transferring unused fuel tank to Minocqua shop; discussed new federal law prohibiting cell phone use by CDL drivers. Even though the county is exempt from the law, management wants our drivers to still follow this law. Employees have been spoken to about it.

Bennett discussed:

Complaint received regarding county roads near Three Lakes, driver has been spoken to; Salt shed inspections show a need to repair cracks in aprons, will be done in spring; attending meetings with Human Services Director and Finance Director on work week and office hours, correspondence on CTH 'D' culvert; meeting on Hwy 51 & 'J' construction projects; worked with ATV Clubs and Forestry on maps; measured for road striping for spring; snow storm call-in on Saturday; working on Alpha Terra spill control measures; XST has a commercial spraying application to test on front plows to extend the life of the plow.

8. **Motion:** Holewinski/Paszak to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which this body has jurisdiction or responsibility. Roll call vote taken. All ayes.

Motion: Hoffman/Wolk to go back into open session. Roll call vote taken. All ayes.

Motion: Paszak/Wolk to recommend to the LRES Committee to fill a third mechanic position in the Highway Department in order to provide inter-county governmental use of available services, billed out as wages, benefits and materials to the department using the service. Roll call vote taken. All ayes.

9. A Project Agreement letter was received from WisDOT approving the design for CTH 'W'. The estimated cost of design would be \$300,000, with an 80/20 split that would have the county responsible for \$60,000. Because CTH 'W' is located in an urban area, TRANS 75 would apply and the project would have to include bike lanes and sidewalks. This, and the large amount of retaining walls required because of the lake along the route, would bring the project to an estimated cost of 3.8 million dollars. The committee felt that, because of TRANS 75, the project has become more than we can afford, and recommended transferring the money over to 'Y' where TRANS 75 would not apply. We can pave more miles for less.
Motion: Holewinski/Paszak to decline the CTH 'W' engineering design agreement and apply for funding for 'Y' in the future. All ayes.

10. **Motion:** Holewinski/Sharon to return the Highway Dept work week to Saturday to Friday. All ayes.

11. Bennett told the committee that the department is operating within our hours of operation.

12. Bennett discussed turning an old truck, one that is used in the summer as a crash barrier, into an additional brine truck. The department could use another brine truck, and it would give this truck a purpose during the winter months. **Motion:** Holewinski/Paszak to move forward with creating an additional brine truck. All ayes.

13. Discussed Comm 10 fuel system updates being regulated by Wisconsin Department of Commerce. Dutcher read a list of code revision requirements and time-lines for fueling facilities. Dutcher explained that the changes would be very costly and the regulations are changing from year to year. Holewinski said he did not see these changes being made at any of the local gas stations. The committee agreed that they wanted to wait to make any changes.

14. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to approve the two WisDOT Traffic Maintenance Agreements for \$4,150 each. All ayes.

15. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to pay the annual NACE dues of \$120. All ayes.

16. Future meeting dates:

- February 23rd, 2012, 8:00 a.m.
- March 8th, 2012, 8:00 a.m.
- March 22nd, 2012, 8:00 a.m.

17. Future agenda items:
 - CTH D
 - ATV Requests
 - CTH J Project
18. No Public comments
19. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to adjourn at 10:50 am. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Secretary