

MINUTES

HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DAY & DATE: September 6, 2018
TIME: 8:00 a.m.
PLACE: Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Ave North,
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

ADJOURNMENT TIME:
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Adam Fischer, Supervisor William Winch,
Supervisor Marion Hokamp, Supervisor Dennis Polach
Supervisor Lance Pliml.
EXCUSED:
OTHERS PRESENT: Chad Schooley, Director of Parks and Forestry; Fritz
Schubert, Forest Administrator; Roland Hawk, Highway
Commissioner; Sandra Green, Office Supervisor of Parks
and Forestry; Supervisor Bill Clendenning; Doug Machon,
County Board Chairman; Heath Hiles; Cintas
Representatives Brian Reas and Ben Hoffman; Wood
County Sheriff's Deputy Shawn Becker; Planning &
Zoning Director Jason Grueneberg

1. Call meeting to order. Called to order at 8:00 am
2. Declaration of Quorum. Declared.
3. Public comments. Heath Hiles commented regarding establishing mountain biking trails at South Bluff. Would essentially like to present this to the entire County Board.
4. Correspondence. None.
5. **CONSENT AGENDA** – Pull Sandy Green's report as well as the bills from both Parks and Highway. **Motion to approve the consent agenda by M. Hokamp and seconded by D. Polach. All in favor. Motion carried.**
 - a. Approve minutes from previous committee meetings
 - b. Department Staff Reports
 - c. Department Vouchers
 - d. Department Revenue Reports
6. Review items, if any, pulled from consent agenda. Consensus by the committee regarding the revenue report for the Parks Department is to return to the way they were presented to the committee previously so the reports will be brought to the meetings rather than placed in the packet. **Motion by B. Winch and seconded by D. Polach to approve bills and Sandy's report. All in favor. Motion carried.**
7. ATV Update. R. Hawk presented the update. They are wishing to present and pass a local ATV ordinance to create and connect trails. This will be presented at the next County Board meeting. Recently, Vesper and Township of Seneca opened up portions of their roads. Nekoosa also passed an ordinance to open up their streets recently. Jason G. stated they will try to ride some of the routes and areas over the next few weeks and report back on the conditions. One of the big challenges they are running into is through the T. of Remington to get through to Jackson County. Will also be riding on some of the county forest blocks. C. Schooley stated they are opening up parts of the Dexter area and campground and will begin signing those areas this fall. The trails will be considered open once they are signed properly. At some point if and when ATV trails are opened in Wood County there is enforcement and maintenance money that will need to be considered in terms of purchasing equipment and reimbursing for patrol.

8. Update on fall tour with Forestry and Highway. This will be held on September 12th. Highway has three projects to be viewed on that day. Forestry will have ATV trail possibilities as well as a few timber sales as well.

9. HIGHWAY

- a. County Highway Department Cooperative Agreement (Marathon County). The Hwy. has an agreement with other counties so that in case of an emergency they have arrangements to work together for equipment, staff and resources. R. Hawk is looking to have the committee approve and sign this. **Motion to approve the County Highway Department Cooperative Agreement by B. Winch and seconded by D. Polach. All in favor. Motion carried.**
- b. ATV Ordinance. R. Hawk presented a resolution for signature to be passed onto the County Board. He outlined the changes and updates as presented. Liability was discussed. The resolution will go forward with the following changes: The HIRC committee and the Highway Commissioner perform an audit of decisions on an annual basis. The Highway Commissioner has approval and is allowed to make decisions as needed throughout the year. Decisions can also be reviewed quarterly if there are any objections, inquiries or questions regarding those decisions.
Jurisdiction is important to the county so if the municipality does not want routes, they will respect that and will not open up county roads.
Motion by B. Winch and second by A. Fischer. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Discussion in Opposition to Increased Truck Length and Width. Discussion only. R. Hawk met with Chairman Machon and a representative from CBT to formally pass a resolution supporting opposition to this. They have been opposing this since 2015. The reason is they have an 80K lb. weight a limit and a seasonal 90K lbs. and this federal bill would promote 91K lb. weight limit on all state and federal roads and effectually county and municipality roads. All county roads are already struggling with the number of deficient bridges. This will be placed on the first agenda item before the tour on September 12th.
- d. Engine Braking Signs. Shawn Becker and R. Hawk presented this issue to the committee. The Hwy. Dept. has objected to these signs as a local ordinance had to be in place in order to be enforced. They will put a map together for the Sheriff's Dept. so they know where the signs are. Consensus of the committee is to put the signs up.
- e. Employee Uniforms Policy. This will be for everyone working out in dangerous situations and high traffic areas. They will have safety vests available for seasonal help as well. **Motion to approve the Employee Uniforms Policy for the Highway Department by M. Hokamp and second by B. Winch. All in favor. Motion carried.**

PARKS AND FORESTRY

- f. 2019 County Conservation Grant resolution. This is an annual resolution to be approved by the committee to release musky into the Nepco Lake and the Wisconsin River by the Consolidated Musky Club. Half of the funds come from the DNR and other half is donated from the club. **Motion to approve the resolution for 2019 by A. Fischer and second by M. Hokamp. All in favor. Motion carried.**

10. Future Agenda Items.

- a. Add to the September 12th agenda: Opposition to engine braking issue.
 - b. Add to October 4th agenda: Discuss and/or take action regarding the Disc Golf League representative receiving a lot of feedback regarding the “Pay to Play” decision.
 - c. Fritz will have some Timber Sale Contract extensions for approval. Remove his report from the Consent Agenda for discussion.
11. Set next regular meeting date. Special Tour meeting held on September 12, 2018 for Highway and Parks. Next regular meeting to be held on October 4, 2018 at 8:00 am at the Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Ave. North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.
12. Fischer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39.

Signed electronically by, Secretary Marion Hokamp

Marion Hokamp

Minutes taken by Sandra Green, Parks & Forestry Office Supervisor