

# IOWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## September 1, 2011

The Transportation Committee met in the Iowa County Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, September 1, 2011 and was called to order by Committee Vice Chair Bob Bunker at 6:00 P.M.

Roll call was taken:

Committee members present: Sups. Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Dan Curran, Robert Pilling, Ryan Walmer, and Robert Zinck

Committee members excused/absent: Sups. Dave Bauer, John Meyers, and Curt Peterson.

Also present: Highway Commissioner Craig E. Hardy, Business Manager Jeri Grabbert, County Administrator Curt Kephart, Airport Manager Kevin King, Sup. Steve Deal, and Iowa County Airport Commissioner Arnie Christen.

Sup. Bob Bunker noted that the meeting had been duly noticed.

Approval of the 9/1/11 agenda and the minutes of the 8/1/11 meeting. Sup. Ryan Walmer moved for approval of the September 1, 2011 agenda and the minutes of August 1, 2011. Motion was seconded by Sup. Dan Curran. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee.

None.

### Old Business

- A. 18/151 Interchange Study. Tabled.
- B. On-going Historical Cash Flow Analysis Project – Jeri. Craig Hardy described the cash flow analysis for 2004 – 2009 that Jeri Grabbert has been working on. Jeri has been providing interim reports on the analysis and presented the final comparison at the last meeting. The committee requested additional information on the capital purchases to review what purchases occurred during the 6 years for a total of \$3.3 million. Jeri presented a report showing capital purchases by category for each year. The categories were Land, Buildings, Trucks, Tractors, Bulk Station-Fuel Handling, Maintenance and Construction Equipment, Bituminous Equipment, Snow Removal Equipment, Shop Equipment, and Motor Graders.
- C. 2012 Highway Budget – ASC Meeting Presentation & Update. Craig Hardy had presented a 2012 Highway Budget showing 0% increase and -3% change in budget to the ASC Committee as requested. He informed the Transportation Committee that there was no motion from the ASC. Sup. Ron Benish questioned if people know that the infrastructure is the backbone of the county and it needs to be maintained for the well-being of the County. He reminded that as previously presented the Highway Dept.

needed to spend about \$580,000/year additional to their current budget levels just to maintain the condition of the existing roads. He hopes that the final highway budget is 0%, instead of -3%.

- D. Truck and Accessory Bid Awards. Craig provided a comparison of the base bid specifications for those submitted in each bid category. He also spoke with Crawford, Sauk, and Jefferson counties regarding International trucks and with the shop foreman to make the decision on the International Single Axle. For the accessories, they were reviewed as a package – dump box, 11’ plow, 9’ wing, and sander. The low package came from Madison Truck for \$50,500. Monroe Truck’s bid was \$50,850 and Universal’s was \$51,850. With 2 upgrades – stainless steel corner post and heavier steel on sides and back of box – for a cost of \$1,200, the total amount for the truck and accessories comes to \$138,065. The capital budget was \$165,000 for a tandem axle truck. Due to the results of the equipment service life study, it was determined to be more cost effective operationally to purchase a single axle rather than a tandem axle truck for the current configuration of plow routes within the county. The service life study illustrated a savings of \$48,000 per year, if the tandem axle trucks in the fleet were changed to single and tri-axle trucks. Sup. Dan Curran asked if there was any difference in plowing or sanding between these two truck types. Craig noted the difference is related to the amount of materials the trucks carry. For the current configuration of plow routes, a single axle truck is adequate to replace the single axle truck being retired from service. The materials to haul are sized by the plow routes length not for trucks. There are 12 routes that could be adequately maintained with single axle trucks. The comparison report also included the Section Crew Cab and Dump Box. The Crew Cab was awarded to Hallada Chevrolet – Dodgeville for \$26,999.80 and the dump box from Madison Truck for \$11,206, including the \$1,400 for the upgrade to a stainless steel box. Total budget for capital purchases is \$253,045. With these capital items and the previous purchases, the Waste Oil Burner and the Commissioner’s truck, capital purchases are within budget at \$212,000. Sup. Dan Curran asked about a storage system for the brine truck materials. Craig indicated brine materials will be purchased from Green County on an as needed, due to the limited amount of materials being used.
- E. Truck Fuel System Samples verses Fuel Tank Samples. Craig indicated an issue has developed with the fuel in some trucks. He stated the tests of the fuel from the trucks involved indicated the growth of algae. As a result of the testing, the state inspector from DCOMM inspected our fuel depot and discovered no problems in either tank related to fuel, water, or algae. Some products from a fuel supplement vendor were tested a year or so ago related to a similar problem from two trucks fueling at remote private stations within the county. The vendor would like to treat the whole fuel depot system, but Craig did not feel it as necessary at this time. It appears as if the algae growths have built up in some stationary trucks, which have been sitting since winter. As a result the trucks will be treated on a case by case basis as we enter and exit the winter season. The additional cost to the Department operations would be an estimated \$.18 to \$.22 per treated gallon. The Department annually utilizes 120,000 gallons of fuel, thus the operational costs to treat the fuel would be around \$24,000 for the whole fleet. Operationally, each spring and fall the Department will individually treat the trucks which are primarily stationary during the season(s).

## New Business

- A. July 2011 Revenue and Expenditure Report. Jeri Grabbert reviewed the July report. She noted that the target rate for July is 58.33%. In July the second installment payment for GTA revenue came in the amount of \$526,290, 50% of the total revenue. The revenue received to date is at 75%, or \$789,435. The remainder will come in October. The Ground Hog Day Blizzard costs were about \$62,000. The FEMA reimbursement was \$48,647 as shown in the revenues. Overtime labor is reimbursable but regular labor is not. In the State Related (yellow) section, state reimbursement for the AVL-GPS costs have been received for about \$64,500. State revenues are at 63.29% and expenditures are at 65.32%. On the last page, the total of all divisions show revenue at 58.26% and expenditures at 50.09%, compared to 58.33% for target rate.
- B. Transportation Committee position as an advisory body to the Iowa County Airport Commission per Corporate Counsel correspondence. Craig Hardy distributed a memo provided by Corporate Counsel Tim Helmberger dated September 1, 2011 regarding the Airport Commission and Transportation Committee. After everyone took a few minutes to read the memo Sup. Bob Bunker asked what action should be taken. Airport Manager Kevin King stated that he is very upset over this memo as he feels this opinion is opposite of the one that was issued in a memo dated October 8, 2010. Kevin asked what the Airport Commission was for and stated that the tax levy does not have anything to do with the Highway. Craig Hardy referenced the County Board Rules. Kevin King commented that the County Board Rules should be the same as the statutes. Sup. Ron Benish referenced the last paragraph of the October 8, 2010 memo and felt this determination stands.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Ryan Walmer that the Transportation Committee recognizes that it is advisory to the Airport Commission.

Sup. Robert Zinck stated that the County Board should have oversight to which Sup. Ron Benish responded that they do. Sup. Robert Zinck clarified that the oversight was not through the Transportation Committee. County Administrator Curt Kephart stated that the statutes use both of the words "may" and "shall," that County Board Rules do not supersede statutes, and that he has reviewed his interpretation of the statutes. Then Curt Kephart asked who brought this issue forward; where did it come from. Airport Manager Kevin King commented that it has been working fine but now there have been questions asked. Airport Commissioner Arnie Christen stated that elimination of the Airport Commission could cause liability issues for the County. Sup. Ron Benish stated that if the County Board Rules need to be changed, then they do.

Vote was called on the motion. Passed unanimously.

- C. Highway Department Operations & Funding Report Part III – Routine Maintenance. Part III of the Operations and Funding Report focuses on Routine Maintenance. First is a summary, of the average expenses for 2006 – 2010 by account number category – sections, signs and sign production, pavement marking, unallocated, drug and alcohol testing (CDL licenses), Safety Education & Training, Dodge Point bike trail, sign inventory, hazardous materials inventory GASB 34, buildings and grounds allocations, and bridges. The five-year total maintenance account expenditures averaged \$1,057,500.

Within each job-activity account number category, they can be further broken down into 4 functions – core function, service function, administrative function, and other miscellaneous functions. The 5-year average for Core functions is \$450,000, almost half of the total. Core service function work pertains to activities required to maintain the infra-structure in a usable form for the user. The 5-year average Service function was \$491,200. Service function activities were related to activities which although they provide a better use of the infra-structure, the infra-structure is usable either with or without the activity. Administrative function 5-year average costs were \$44,700. The Administrative function activities are related to training, safety, education, and compliance with legal mandates related to the staff performing the work. Miscellaneous function activities amounted to \$48,050. Operationally, the costs are coded as maintenance when actually are a small portion of some other project which occurred. There was extensive discussion on the current mowing policy, state mowing directives, costs of operations and the NR-40 Pilot Program and policy study.

- D. Transportation & Public Works State Budget Affects – Funding. Craig briefly stated the General Transportation Aids for the county is anticipated to decrease on average 10% statewide and expected at 9% decrease for Iowa County. From numbers received this week, the counties state RMA is anticipated to decrease 1.4% from \$1,333,700 to \$1,315,000. Craig stated there were some other changes as a result of the state budget approval, but are minimal to the county as they pertain to work performed for villages, cities, and communities greater than 5,000 in population.
- E. Prevailing Wage changes and Effects to Department Operations. Prevailing wage laws with regards to county projects, have reverted back to the previous thresholds of \$48,000 for a single entity of work and \$234,000 for a single project. The changes are not anticipated to affect ICHD operations. There are some requirements with regards to affects on doing work for other municipalities, but the threshold cutoff related to that is \$100,000 and should not affect historic operations much. There are some new limitations for future work related not to the workforce, but might for the equipment.
- F. Bicycle Race/Tour Events in Iowa County. Sup. Robert Zinck presided over a public hearing related to bicycling events in the townships of Brigham and Ridgeway. The meeting was held on 8-18-2011 at the town hall of Brigham in Barneveld. Sups John Meyers and Joe Thomas were in attendance at the meeting. In addition, Highway Commissioner Craig Hardy, Emergency Management Director Keith Hurlbert, Sgt Dan Carey, and Sheriff Deputy Jon Pepper attended the meeting. Copies of the comments made at the meeting compiled by Hardy and Hurlbert were provided in the committee packets and reviewed for content indicating concerns expressed by the public. Craig Hardy commented that a race is governed by statutory authority and has traffic control; where a tour is a ride and the bicyclists are to follow the rules of the road. The problems escalate when a tour turns into a race without proper permits and notification. Sup. Dan Curran asked if any other counties had ordinances regarding this. Craig stated Vermont Township in Dane County recently passed an ordinance as a result of the Centurion racing event near Blue Mounds State Park. In addition, due to the recent push by the city of Chicago to bid for the Olympics; more bicyclists are visiting the area and riding the routes whether sponsored by a group organization or not. Sup. Ryan Walmer agreed with some of the comments written by Keith Hurlbert and Craig Hardy; however, stated he

was not aware of any problems within his district. He wondered what the economic impact was by having the events occur here. Craig Hardy suggested that this information may be available from the Dane County Chamber of Commerce related to the Centurion racing sponsored event, but the information would be regional in nature not specific to Iowa County. Sup. Robert Zinck indicated that nothing will be done for the current year but that this is in the planning stage for next year. Sup. Zinck stated a consortium of Justice Committee and Transportation Committee members, in combination with the EM director, highway commissioner, and the event organizers should review and discuss the topics. After which a recommendation could be presented to the committees providing guidance on how to monitor the events and provide information to residents.

**Highway Commissioner Report:** Craig Hardy reviewed the following items with the Committee:

- A. WCHA Machinery Management Committee Update. Tabled.
- B. WCHA Training & Safety Committee Update. Tabled.
- C. WCHA President's Task Force Objective. Craig stated Highway Commissioner Al Geurtz from Outagamie County resigned from his position as president of the WCHA due to issues surrounding the passage of joint finance motion 352. As a result, the WCHA executive committee took action to appoint Bruce Stelzer, Past President to fill the position of President. As a result and for clearer direction, Bruce proposed to create a task force that consisted of 5 past presidents and 2 commissioners from at large to address the legislative issues going on. Commissioners from 45 of the 72 counties were present and disagreed with the appointed task force membership. The commissioners wanted to have one commissioner from each of the WCHA regions make up the task force to discuss the WCHA position on issues such as Road Builders, GTA, and RMA. Sup. Ron Benish stated that Iowa County needs to be very politically active about these issues when the time comes.
- D. Discussion of Foundry Slag Product Usage. Tabled.
- E. LRIP program 2012 – 2013 Cycle. Tabled.

The next regular Transportation Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 3, 2011 at 6:00 P.M.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sup. Robert Zinck and seconded by Sup. Ryan Walmer. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Jeri Grabbert, Business Manager.  
As revised by Highway Commissioner, Craig Hardy on September 21, 2011.