

IOWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

January 9, 2012

The Transportation Committee met in the Iowa County Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, January 9, 2012 and was called to order by Committee Chair John Meyers at 6:00 P.M.

Roll call was taken:

Committee members present: Sups. Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, John Meyers, Curt Peterson, Robert Pilling, and Ryan Walmer.

Committee members excused/absent: Sups. Dave Bauer, Dan Curran, and Robert Zinck.

Also present: Highway Commissioner Craig Hardy, Business Manager Jeri Grabbert, and Sup. Steve Deal.

Sup. John Meyers noted that the meeting agenda and amended agenda had been duly noticed.

Approval of the 1/09/12 amended agenda and minutes of 12/15/11 meeting. Sup. Robert Pilling moved for approval of the January 9, 2012 agenda and the minutes of December 15, 2011. Motion was seconded by Sup. Ryan Walmer. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. None.

Old Business

2012 Budget Resolution County Aid. At the December 15 Transportation Committee meeting changes in wording of the County Aid Resolution were approved. Section VIII of the resolution pertained to who had “*authority to employ, promote, discipline, demote, discharge, suspend, or reinstate such personnel ...*” The committee removed the Administrative Services Committee, the County Administrator, and the Personnel Director, leaving the authority to only the Highway Commissioner and the Transportation Committee. It was brought to the attention of the Transportation Committee that Resolution No. 3-0907 provides for the County Administrator to have position control authority “*for all Iowa County existing job vacancies union and non-represented, regular and limited term, with the exception of positions at Bloomfield Manor, before any type of recruitment activity can be initiated.*” Therefore the new wording in Section VIII of the County Aid Resolution is not in compliance with Resolution 3-0907. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Sup. Ryan Walmer and seconded by Sup. Ron Benish to recommend to the County Board that Resolution 3-0907 be amended to include positions at the Highway Department as an exception to the rule as is with Bloomfield Manor by modification to the existing resolution verbiage as noted below in bold: “*for all Iowa County existing job vacancies union and non-represented, regular and limited term, with the exception of positions at Bloomfield Manor and the Highway Department, before*

any type of recruitment activity can be initiated.” . Motion passed 4 – 2. (Nay: Sups. John Meyers and Curt Peterson).

- A. 18/151 Interchange Study – CTH BB Interchange Side Road Layout. DOT Project Manager Larry Barta issued letters in December to the Town of Ridgeway and to property owners in the vicinity of the proposed interchange at CTH BB and US 18/151. He included maps showing the details of a new interchange at BB, an overpass for HHH, and connecting roads. The map illustrates a portion of Prairie Road may be vacated by the township. Mr. Barta requested the Town of Ridgeway discuss this at their January 4th Town Board Meeting and encouraged the property owners to attend the meeting to provide any feedback they may have. The Town of Ridgeway is in concurrence with the proposed plan.
- B. ACS/CHEMS Transition Update. The commissioner reviewed the timeline for the transition to ACS New Roads. Effective January 1, 2012, ACS New Roads is the official Highway Cost Accounting System being used by Iowa County. He noted parallel entries with CHEMS will occur during first quarter of 2012 with a target date of April 1 for CHEMS entries to be discontinued. He is also looking into a bar-code scanner process for inventory control, an updated fuel system, and an automated scale system. Each of these systems would increase efficiency and accuracy in inventory management. He is working with the Shop Leadperson in setting up specific repair related activity codes for shop repairs, which will be used to identify the work being done on equipment rather than using one or two generic codes for all shop repairs.
- C. MMC Classified & Non-Classified Equipment Numbering Changes. The commissioner discussed the action by the MMC to reduce the number of non-standard equipment by moving them to a standard equipment category or by changing them to a small field tool. Iowa County has only one unit affected by the changes, the #103S Brute Sandblaster.

New Business

- A. November and December 2011 Revenue and Expenditure Reports. The business manager reviewed the November and December reports. She noted the target rate for November is 91.67% and for December is 100%. For County Related Operations total revenues to date for November are at 95.62% and for December are at 99.5%. The December revenues should be final, therefore indicating an approximate shortfall of .5% or \$18,242. Expenditures for November are at 95.42%. Expenditures for December are at 100.98%, with the .98% amounting to \$37,098 over budget as the preliminary balance. The business manager noted the unexpected major repairs and betterments totaled \$43,507. The commissioner further identified these costs incurred as related to an upgrade to the fuel system due to new regulations under DCOMM 10, the need for a new holding tank at the Mifflin shop, and repairs to salt shed #17 in the Dodgeville yard. He noted due to the unanticipated mild winter, the machinery expenses and revenues are below budget, which may affect the indirect costing credits.
- B. WCHA Secretary Nominations – Emmer Shields, Ron Chamberlain. Biographies of the two candidates for the WCHA Secretary and the proxy voting authorization form were included in the packet. The candidates are Ashland County Highway Commissioner Emmer Shields, Jr. and La Crosse County Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain.

- C. WCHA Business Meeting Proxy Vote Authorization – 1 Vote/County. The election will take place at the 2012 Winter Road School with one vote per county.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Curt Peterson to cast the Iowa County vote for Ron Chamberlain. Motion passed unanimously.

- D. Asphalt Plant Repairs, O & M Plan. The commissioner described repairs necessary for the asphalt plant to be placed back into operation. The drive motor has been recently repaired and placed back in service for the dryer drum chain gear; however, the process identified other repairs necessary for the plant. The screen table for the top of the batch plant has holes within the sieve tables and require repair, as well as some internal plant structural cross beams. The repairs could be expensive and a determination of cost effectiveness should be made prior to commencing any work. Under the current LRIP CHIP improvement programs the state will not allow the county to utilize its own plant for production and utilization of materials. However under the 80/20 STP programs, such as the Williams Creek CTH K project, the County could use the plant for production and be compensated/reimbursed by the state for doing so under certain guidelines. Sup. Ron Benish noted legislation is currently looking into allowing counties to use their own plants on the CHIP projects and if so, would help the revenue stream. The commissioner noted oil costs remain the same for all plants but the trucking costs is what makes a big difference in the project related costs pertaining to whether the County utilizes its plant or purchases from private vendors. There are approximately 14 counties with asphalt plants in the state, approximately 3 – 4 have been decommissioned not including Iowa County, leaving 10 – 11 in operation statewide. He will put together some cost estimates for the recommended repairs, and a summary of comparative costs for utilizing the county plant verses private vendors.

Highway Commissioner Report: The commissioner reviewed the following items with the Committee:

- A. LRB 2324 now AB454 – Construction Work by a Governmental Entity. Current law restricts counties from using their own workforce to perform highway improvement projects for other counties or municipalities within other counties, to share equipment and labor between counties, and to perform improvement projects for some municipalities. The WCHA has not taken a position stance on this issue; therefore the counties must respond on their own if they choose to. The commissioner stated the provisions restricting work for some municipalities will not affect Iowa County as the County does not perform the work nor do any communities qualify for the restrictions. The Commissioner contacted Senator Schultz and Rep. Marklein on this issue, and has provided copies of the information provided to them to the committee previously. He stated there are two core values which he feels stand at the heart of the issue; the ability to share services between governmental entities and the ability for local governments to decide how to perform their operations – governance. He has expressed those concerns to both the SW WCHA Board of Director representative and the legislators within the Iowa County district.

- B. WCHA Shared Services Survey Summary. The commissioner presented the results of a survey taken by the WCHA regarding the shared county services. Many counties share equipment and labor with other counties.
- C. 2012-2013 LRIP Program Project Selections. The commissioner noted the following projects were reviewed and motioned for approval by the County TRIP committee:
- a. Township – TRI and TRI-D.
 - i. Town of Dodgeville – Roh Road; TRI-D project recommended to be forward to the state TRIP committee for review.
 - ii. Town of Clyde – Clyde Road; \$18,947.93 TRI project.
 - iii. Town of Clyde – High Point Road; \$18,947.93 TRI project.
 - iv. Town of Clyde – Leaches Crossing; \$18,947.93 TRI project.
 - v. Town of Wyoming – Sneed Creek Road; \$18,947.93 TRI project.
 - vi. Town of Wyoming – Weaver Road; \$18,947.93 TRI Project.
 - b. Municipal – MSILT and MSI-D.
 - i. Village of Ridgeway – Ternes Court; \$12,658.61.
 - ii. Village of Hollandale – Severson Street; \$12,658.59.
 - iii. Village of Barneveld – Kenzie Street; \$12,658.59.
 - c. County – CHI and CHI-D.
 - i. CTH N from STH 133 to the south for a distance of approximately 2.8 miles.
 - d. Current LRIP CHIP & CHIP-D Project Backlog.
 - i. CTH T from USH 151 to CTH K (5.58 miles) – CHI-D; \$407,689.41.
 - ii. CTH DD from CTH W to Ferrell Rd (17,794’) – CHI; \$142,971.89.

The commissioner informed the committee the Business Manager, Jeri Grabbert is retiring and her last day will be January 24, 2012. Also, County Patrolman from Highland Mark Olson retired and his last day was December 28, 2011.

The Transportation Committee shall entertain a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1) (c) WI Statutes for considering employment, promotion, compensation and performance evaluation data of any public employment over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (Highway Department Position Vacancies and Staffing Chart) – Possible action.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker to go into Executive Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1) (c) WI Statutes for considering employment, promotion, compensation and performance evaluation data of any public employment over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (Highway Department Position Vacancies and Staffing Chart). Motion passed unanimously

Members of the audience were excused. Highway Commissioner Craig Hardy, Business Manager Jeri Grabbert, and Sup. Steve Deal were invited to stay.
The committee went into Executive Session at 7:13 PM.

A motion was made by Sup. Ryan Walmer and seconded by Sup. Robert Pilling to return to open session at 7:45 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sup. Ron Benish and seconded by Sup. Ryan Walmer to approve the new Highway Department organizational chart as presented by the commissioner, to include a temporary position for data entry during ACS New Roads implementation, about 6 – 8 months, and 43 full time staff, including management. Sup. Bob Bunker asked if the previously discussed Resolution 3-0907 could come into play and allow the County Administrator to object to the motion. The committee agreed that was possible. Motion passed unanimously.

The commissioner informed the committee of a new Transportation Commission created by Governor Walker with the duties relating to identifying financial and policy issues.

The commissioner distributed before and after pictures of Truck #119 with the box corner repairs performed by Monroe Truck Equipment.

The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held on February 6, 2012 at 6:00 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by the Business Manager.