



APPROVED MINUTES
Public Works Committee
Tuesday, August 29, 2017 – 6:00 pm
Health & Human Services Center – Room 1001
303 W. Chapel Street
Dodgeville, Wisconsin

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

1	The meeting was called to order by Parman at 6:00 pm.
2	Members present: Parman, Benish, Bunker & Gollon Members excused: Meyers Members absent: Grimmer Others Present: Commissioner Hardy, Administrator Bierke, Operations Manager Sudmeier, Business Manager Schutt, Scott Godfrey (Planning & Zoning) & Katie Abbott (Land Conservation)
3	Bunker motioned for the approval of the August 29 th , 2017 agenda. Benish seconded, motion carried unanimously.
4	Benish motioned for the approval of the minutes for the July 31 st , 2017 meeting. Bunker seconded, motion carried unanimously.
5	Parman asked about safety mowing on STH 191. Sudmeier commented that safety would be a vision issue for the driver not an animal problem such as deer. If we do STH 191 others will complain that their road wasn't done. Parman asked if the dip on STH 23 would be fixed. Sudmeier stated most likely. Parman asked if the workers could throw animals off the road if it's convenient. Sudmeier stated that the DOT was taking away weekly patrol surveillance. So, section staff are not on their respective routes on a daily basis anymore. He would mention to staff to pick up if otherwise seen though. Parman questioned the ability for STH 191 in the village of Hollandale to become an ATV route. Hardy commented other state highway atv route requests have been made in the county, which all have been denied unless a bridge is involved. The ATV route in Hollandale proposed to utilize CTH K would have to utilize 5 th Avenue in the village to STH 191 at the park, then across the bridge as the village and county can adopt that route by statute.
6	2018 Budget request and Departmental updates: All budgets were presented to Administration for review. Administrator will present to Executive Committee. Standing committees to review departmental budgets for information and discussion. A: Tri-County Airport page 7 - 8 A \$4,400 increase is proposed for 2018 due to capital projects. Discussion of the Tri-County airport with regards to a 5 year capital plan, a long range plan and a business model. Committee requested the Tri County Manager to talk with the committee about their plans and provide more information as well. The committee talked about the following: Is there an economic value to the County, what is the amount? Discussion of County versus Tri-county operations including fuel sales, local traffic, and the restaurant. Committee questioned plans for improvements (\$157,895) and formula to build up the funds. Discussion of Sauk County holding the funds for the Tri County airport. Discussion of airport such as : Do we need to be involved in this airport? What's our advantage? Do Iowa County residents use Tri County? Would there be ramifications to withdraw from the Tri-county and focus on the County airport? Discussion of source for additional fund requests. Bierke commented he felt Richland County would turn down this request at this time. Gollon motioned to direct the administrator to not fund the additional request, second by Benish. Motion approved unanimously. B: Southwest Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission page 9 - 10 Page 10 is an email summary. Discussion and questions from the committee include: Demolition of the Sauk bridge cost \$200,000. The loan is being paid back quarterly. Do we need to be involved? May be

some requirements to pay back the Fed & State dollars utilized for improvements. Gollon questioned Iowa County's involvement. Bierke asked if they were over funded previously based on the reports being reviewed? Hardy commented it appears the commission has accepted debt from WisDOT without the counties approval. Discussion of users and stops in the county, how often the tracks are utilized?, what is the benefit to the county as a whole?, how is the disbursal request for funding distributed by mileage or county?, and other concerns. Benish commented rail is important, there is a benefit by reducing the truck traffic on the roads, and we need to support it but is it worth \$28,000; what is the value? The infra-structure is owned by the commission, WisDOT retains ownership of the right of way, the Wisconsin Southern is the primary user of the system. Some discussion and questions about the charter, the amount/location of rail being east of Arena to the river in Spring Green, what options the county has with regards to the charter, mileage distribution of rail. Parman requested to have Bierke & Hardy review the charter, if an increase is justified then the committee will go along with that decision, and review the approval process of the commission for incurring debt. Saying no could impact the county. Second by Gollon; motion approved unanimously.

C: Land Conservation Department page 11 – 14

Department was requesting a \$46,458 increase over 2017 budget. The following comments and questions were brought up: state budget includes an increase of \$10,863 from the dept. of Ag., health care costs for staff are up by \$22,000 for the change from a single to a family plan, the department planner's position is requested to change from part time to full time, and if need be the department will cut back on the department assistant's hours to help pay for the changes. Gollon commented that we need to find the money and tools to meet her budget. Farmers are excited about potential of the conservation program again. Gollon motioned to advise the administrator the committee supports the department request. Bunker seconded, motion carried unanimously.

The Conservationist provided a department update such as: discussing staffing options, the Birch lake dam study project is on hold for the save the lake group, discussion of department activities related to the farm land preservation program, developing policies, researching grant opportunities, being on budget with 2017, and the department has their new truck.

D: GIS / Land Records Department page 15 -16 plus a hand out

E: Planning and Zoning Department page 17 – 18

GIS department requests an increase of \$4,250 which is in labor. Planning & Development department is requesting an increase of \$2593 for a combined amount of \$6843. Scott stated there's not much to cut other than staffing. Health insurance is budgeted at 2017 levels, labor costs are slightly up due to step increases in the comp-classification plan, and there aren't a lot of revenue options for GIS. Discussion of fire number signage which has a cost of \$75, but there is no incentive except fire and EMT response, the amount of staff in the departments being 3 positions, and farmers upset about the \$26 sanitation recording fee which offsets the state mandate on septic beds and tanks. Gollon motioned for the committee to recommend to the administrator to approve the department budget request. Benish seconded, motion carried unanimously.

F: Airport Operations page 19 – 22 plus capital plan passed out

Hardy commented on the 2018 budget request by stating the budget includes salary and benefits for a manager position, however; the airport commission asked that we send an RFP for a contractor to provide the service. Discussion of management and maintenance through the existing contractor through April of 2018. The anticipation is the management contract may be less than what is budgeted. Discussion of hangars being rented out, with exception of one, and one hangar in the process of being taken over by the county. Discussion of improvements and projects at the airport; the fuel farm 100LL tank replacement for 2018, crack filling to be done in 2017 for \$12,000, and review of the 5-year capital plan which includes \$110,000 for the runway reconstruction scheduled in 3 years. At the current requests, \$20,000 per year is being put away for capital projects at the airport. Benish commented he would like to see more put away to be able to take advantage of cost sharing and completing the projects as scheduled. Discussion of revenue sources for the airport, opportunities to promote the airport more to

increase revenues, making the county airport a higher priority than others, fuel sales, and daily traffic and usage. Benish motioned for the committee to recommend approval of the budget request to administration with changes discussed with an increase to capital projects to \$25,000. Bunker seconded, motion carried unanimously.

G: Highway Department page 23 – 32

The department is illustrating a budget decrease of \$666,745; primarily due to reductions in transfers of 165,000 from fund balance for the CTH Q box culvert which will be complete this year and the balance from the general fund for the completion of one phase of the CTH K resurfacing project at +/- 5.0 miles. The other phase of CTH K resurfacing at +/- 2.0 miles is scheduled for 2018. Hardy went through the anticipated revenues and expenses for each account of the budget; and also provided a breakdown of the expense accounts by expense type labor-fringe-equipment-materials-services and cost recoveries. Benish asked if Hardy would explain the cost recoveries for administration rate, small field tools rate, and fringe rate. Hardy distributed a summary of county data statewide which included amount of road mileage maintained and ranking versus maintenance dollar per mile and ranking. Gollon asked what the county needed to do to move up on the list for funding as Iowa County was listed as 11th with total miles of highway maintained; but from 2011 to 2015, the County fell from 58th to 65th with regards to expenses per mile for maintenance. Hardy explained the chart was a summary of GTA factors which are based on 6 year averages of all costs for all counties, so the opportunity to move in rankings is partially dependent on the other counties. Since this is 2011 versus 2015 data; the county should begin climbing back in 2017 and 2019 as a result of borrowing for equipment and the vehicle registration fees, but that also is hinging on what other counties may be doing. In 2009 through 2012 we scaled back expenses at the highway department with staff attrition, which was completed in 2014 as well. Hardy summarized anticipated new or additional revenues as a result of state budget action potentially amounting to a 30% increase to the state maintenance agreement, \$200,000 increase in general transportation aids, and increases to the local road improvement program and local bridge funds. Hardy updated the committee on capital projects that the CTH Y bridge will be moved from 2018 to 2020 in the state program, CTH HH bridge will also be done in 2020, the CTH G bridge is planned for 2019, and part of the reason for the CTH Y delay is due to increased costs for CTH G and local funding of all projects. Hardy commented on capital equipment with regards to plow truck purchases as Truck Country committed to holding 2016 pricing plus providing a \$1500/truck rebate for the tandem/tri-axle issues this year. Motion by Benish and Second by Bunker to recommend acceptance of the budget proposed.

Consider Albrecht property donation along CTH I page 33-40.

Staff provided a summary of the intention to donate property to the county and covered benefits and disadvantages of ownership by the county. The committee discussed pros and cons to being gifted this property and benefit to the public.

Cons: Too many restrictions on use of the parcel accompany the donation; would be an added burden and expense with keeping up fences; most of the property is wetland, water, or floodplain; no funding is available or accompanies the property for future maintenance; parcel is too wet to till so no opportunity for farm rent revenues; the County doesn't have a parks department to develop as such and other than waterfowl opportunity isn't unique; doesn't not seem to be a lot of benefits for the public with the conditions given.

Pros: good place for waterfowl wildlife habitat; could roll the property if we had a buyer like Ducks Unlimited, 501C, DNR or a nonprofit to maintain in conservancy but due to size is not a high priority parcel and those funding opportunities aren't what they were a few years ago; are some opportunities for hiking trail development and etc., but not a great place for access or parking lot development would be a cost to the county; only benefit would be hiking or observation as hunting is listed as a restriction; would be a cost to develop the parcel for recreation; otherwise to leave as it is would be a cost for fence maintenance with little usage other than hiking. Majority of parcel is wetland or floodplain so hiking is also limited.

7

	Benish motioned to send a thank you note but to reject the donation of the Albrecht property and for the Administrator to respond to their offer. Second by Gollon with additional comments to thank the Albrecht's for their consideration of donation to the county, but with the anticipated maintenance costs and no funding to support it along with the amount and types of restrictions accompanying the donation it is cost prohibitive for the county to accept, motion carried unanimously.
8	Moved to 9/11/17 meeting. Employee Alternative Compensation and Benefits Discussion
9	Moved to 9/11/17 meeting. Airport topics.
10	Moved to 9/11/17 meeting. WisDOT request for taking over maintenance of the STH 23 bike trail Hillside School Road to Taliesin Visitor's Center.
11	Moved to 9/11/17 meeting. Paint program and paint truck replacement discussion.
12	Moved to 9/11/17 meeting. Highway Commissioner's Report
13	Discussion of the time of night and other items remaining on the agenda for discussion. Motion by Bunker to postpone the remainder of the agenda after item #7 and for the approval of the next committee meeting date and time which will be September 11 th , 2017 at 6:00 pm. Benish seconded, motion carried unanimously. Hardy commented to committee members to bring the agenda packet from this meeting. We will have a new agenda starting with agenda item #8 from this packet and adding CTH Y discussion as well.
14	Motion to adjourn by Bunker. Benish seconded at 7:59 pm, motion carried unanimously.
Minutes by: Rachelle Schutt	