



**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 29, 2024**

A. Call to Order

Chairman Donald Nussbaum called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present: 4 - Donald Nussbaum, Chuck Farrey, Ralph Harrison and Tim O'Brien.

Absent: 1 - Billy Halbur

Also Present at the Meeting:

Bob Doemel, Highway Commissioner

Julie Barthels, County Clerk

Ann Dolan, County Clerk's Office

Steven Binder, County Board Supervisor District 13

Sidney Oppermann II, Oshkosh

Helene White, Oshkosh

Harry & Jackie Silva, Oshkosh

Dan Ziegenhagen, Oshkosh

Ron Miller, Oshkosh

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Invocation

Invocation by Supervisor Tim O'Brien.

D. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Steven Binder, County Board Supervisor, District 13, noted that the County needs to fix the County Road E problem and replace the Chip Spreader and the Paver for the Highway Department. Mr. Binder feels that this should be forwarded to the ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission for consideration of payment utilizing Spirit Funds to address these issues.

Sid Oppermann, of Oshkosh, encouraged the committee to consider fixing the County Road E problem. Mr. Oppermann also suggested forwarding this issue/project to the ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission for consideration of utilizing Spirit Funds to address and fix this issue. He noted that the engineering study has already been done and feels that drainage tile should fix the issue at hand.

Chuck Farrey thanked Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel for looking at an issue on County Road G, specifically in the City of Neenah. Mr. Farrey also complemented the commissioner on both the County Road S project and Highway 41. He noted County Road S works well and mentioned how smooth Highway 41 is when traveling to Appleton.

Jackie Silva voiced her concerns regarding the County Road E ditch issue. She mentioned that she spoke with Michael Schraa's representative, Casey Bryant, who stated he had spoken to the Highway Commissioner. Ms. Silva stated she heard there was someone who was going to fix the issue but then pulled out. She asked the commissioner and committee if this was true and where those funds went when the project wasn't completed.

Ron Miller, of Oshkosh, thanked the Highway Commissioner for the good job on the road project by him. Mr. Miller questioned if there would be another study done for the County Road E ditch issue.

Dan Ziegenhagen, of Oshkosh, explained how the water runs on the County Road E ditch issue and how it affects his farm. Mr. Ziegenhagen encouraged the committee to address, and please fix this problem.

Helene White, of Oshkosh, voiced her concerns regarding the County Road E ditch issue. She stated she has lived there for over 40 years and always took care of the property; and there was

never an issue with the drainage until the road was put in. Ms. White stated this has been a problem for the past 15 years.

E. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Harrison, to approve the June 3, 2024, meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

F. Committee Member Comments

Supervisor Farrey addressed the County Road E ditch issue project and how this problem could be solved.

Supervisor Harrison commented on the County Road E ditch issue. He stated the county needs to figure out how this issue can be resolved and who could be charged for the mistake.

G. Highway Commissioner Comments

1. CTH-E Ditches (Town of Algoma)

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel discussed the County Road E ditch issue. He mentioned that he does have a plan to address this, and financially it is the best option for the county and the taxpayers. Mr. Doemel explained some of the findings that the study identified and stated there are two capital projects (2025 & 2026) that he is hopeful will address all the issues associated with the County Road E ditch/drainage issue. Mr. Doemel mentioned some of the work that would be involved with these two projects, which included ditching, pavement, restoration, and drain tiles. Questions were raised about whether this project could be started this year by applying for Spirit Funds. Mr. Doemel stated the Highway Department would continue to mow the ditches.

2. CTH-T/Pioneer Rd. Project Update

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel stated the County Road T/Pioneer Road Project is done. He mentioned they had run into poor soil. The largest poor soil was generally located by high-powered gas lines which were excavated out. There were quite a few residents that had water issues in the ditches. They fixed those drainage issues right away vs down the road. Mr. Doemel stated that a lot of the shoulders were washed out with the 5" of rain that was received, so they had to go back and put them back in. He stated they're putting the final numbers together so they will have that coming up.

3. CTH-I (Oregon St) Project Update

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel stated the contractor was supposed to start this project before EAA but ran into some permitting issues and material delays. The project will now start on August 5, 2024, and is a 75-day project. The project on W. Waukau Ave to 35th Avenue will be a diamond grind; and the project on 35th Avenue to Ripple Avenue will be reconstructed, and the city will finish the storm sewer after.

4. CTH-S Project Update

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel provided an update on the County Road S project. He mentioned they did have some areas that had some drainage issues, but those have been addressed. One of those issues was having a telephone pole removed that was in the middle of a ditch and that has finally been moved. They have some minor ditching to finish, and the center lining needs to be completed, and then the project will be closed out.

5. CTH-II Project Update

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel provided an update on the County Road II project, which is from County Road CB to Clayton Avenue. This project was from 4 to 5 years ago and had a sunset date. That sunset date means that any bills that are associated with that project have to be submitted, paid, and all the receipts have to be sent in, so you're eligible to get that funding. If there is nothing submitted, you won't get the funding. The project was pushed back due to the Neenah High School Project and the Town of Clayton water project, and it didn't make sense for the Highway Department to pave a new road and have it ripped up multiple times. The project is now done and completed. They have submitted everything, and now they're just waiting for the funding for that.

6. **CTH-MM Project Update**

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel provided an update on the County Road MM project, which is from County Road II to Richter Lane. They're going to be pulverizing and paving that. The total cost of that project is \$1.7 million. They were eligible for just under \$450,000 of funding for this project. Part of the project is to be coordinated with the Parks Department. The Highway Department is going to pulverize and pave the Boom Bay boat landing at the same time. They're saving a lot of money by doing both those projects at the same time. The project is set to start August 5, 2024. There are two or three residents in that same area that have had drainage issues which will also be addressed with this project. This project will take them into September and will be the last capital project this year. Mr. Doemel explained about Paser Ratings and how projects are brought forward.

7. **Highway Committee approval to request the County Board and ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission to allocate \$700,000 of Spirit Funds to purchase an Asphalt Paver.**

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel asked the Highway Committee for their approval to send a request to the ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission to allocate \$700,000 in Spirit Funds to purchase an Asphalt Paver. The current paver they have is a 2013 Volvo-PF6160 and that broke down last year on one of their projects. The parts for this machine are obsolete and becoming impossible to find, and the electrical part is crucial. If anything goes down, it's done. The cost to repair the asphalt paver was \$100,000 and they had to rent a paver while the old one was being fixed. They use the paver on state, county and town roads, and anything they can do to benefit our infrastructure. The paver and the chip spreader are one of their biggest revenue generators. They have used the paver in multiple counties and lay roughly 60,000 tons of material each year.

8. **Highway Committee approval to request the County Board and ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission to allocate \$505,000 of Spirit Funds for the purchase of a Road Maintenance Chip Spreader.**

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel asked the Highway Committee for their approval to send a request to the ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission to allocate \$505,000 in Spirit Funds to purchase a Road Maintenance Chip Spreader. A Chip Spreader is used to extend the life of asphalt surfaces by applying a chip seal that reseals the road and puts a new wear service down to protect and provide longevity to the road. The current chip spreader is a 2002 and is 22 years old, and they are starting to see more maintenance repairs. Those parts/repairs are becoming more and more costly. Mr. Doemel thinks this piece of equipment has exceeded its time.

H. **Business Items**

There were no business items addressed.

I. **Next Meeting Date**

Chairman Nussbaum mentioned that there were some possible conflicts with the Highway Committee meeting on the fourth Monday of each month.

*Monday, September 23, 2024?? (Possible Conflict - WCA Annual Conference taking place 9/22/2024-09/24/2024)

*Monday, October 28, 2024?? (Possible Conflict - County Board Budget)

*Monday, November 25, 2024?? (Possible Conflict - Thanksgiving week)

*Monday, December 23, 2024?? (Possible Conflict - Christmas week)

Chairman Nussbaum asked the committee members if they would consider changing the standard meeting schedule to a different day/time of the week. The Highway Committee re-determined their standard meeting date and time. The meetings will now occur on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the James P. Coughlin Center.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, August 19, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at the James P. Coughlin Center.

J. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Harrison, to adjourn at 5:46 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Submitted by:

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Deputy Clerk