

POLK COUNTY HIGHWAY MEETING
Polk County Government Center, Balsam Lake, WI
December 7, 2005

Chairman Marvin Caspersen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., in the East Conference Room, Polk County Government Center, Balsam Lake, WI.

Members present: Marvin Caspersen, Art Gamache, Carl Holmgren, Bill Hughes, Jay Luke
Others present: Steve Warndahl, Kathy Bohn
Press present: Gregg Westigard, Linda Berg

Motion by Hughes and seconded by Luke to amend the agenda by moving Item 6a to the first item of business. Motion carried. Motion by Hughes and seconded by Gamache to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Gamache and seconded by Luke to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2006 Highway meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was opened to public comment.

Under public comment, Caspersen presented a first place award to Rod McGee, in recognition of his ranking at the APWA Rodeo in Green Bay in September, 2006.

Motor Pool Concept/Fleet Maintenance: Jeff Peterson, Property Committee, informed the committee that the Property Committee has been discussing a fleet management concept for Polk County and felt the two committees should work together. The intent is to have centralized control of all county vehicles, possibly managed by Highway. Peterson felt the next step might be to bring a resolution to County Board. Warndahl felt that Highway should be able to handle routine maintenance.

Discussion followed on cost of services and saving money on purchases, repairs, etc., with the Highway committee supporting the concept.

Motion by Gamache and seconded by Holmgren to direct the Highway Commissioner to look into the potential of a fleet management program for all county vehicles, proceeding with centralized maintenance as the first step. Motion carried.

Purchase Authorizations:

- A. Due to the condition of both patching trailers, Warndahl requested permission to spec and advertise for bids to replace one hot patch trailer in 2007.

Motion by Luke and seconded by Gamache to authorize the department to proceed with the bidding process in 2007 for a patch trailer. Motion carried.

- B. Highway would like to purchase a used 2005 Volvo low boy truck for \$75,000, with trade on #16. The truck currently being used by Highway is a safety issue as it has no engine brake or anti-lock brakes. Recycling drives it to the Twin Cities metro area, relying on old brake technology in heavy traffic conditions. ***Motion by Holmgren and seconded by Hughes to proceed with the purchase of the 2005 Volvo truck from Eau Claire Mack for \$75,000 with trade. Motion carried unanimously.***
- C. Land Information has offered to buy the Dodge Durango, currently being driven by the commissioner, for the current book value of \$16,463. The department would then like to replace the Durango with a ½-ton, 4-door short box pickup truck, a more practical vehicle for the commissioner. Discussion was held on replacement vehicle being E85 compatible. The department will include this as an option in all vehicle bid specs, allowing the department to make comparisons in regards to price, operation costs, etc. ***Motion by Holmgren and seconded by Hughes to move forward with the sale of the Durango to Land Information and to replace it with a pick up truck. Motion carried unanimously.***

County Road Ratings: Moe Norby, Highway Tech Support Manager, joined the meeting at this time. Norby has re-evaluated all the roads in Polk County and updated the Cartegraph data to reflect these evaluations. He shared informational charts with the committee, explaining that a significant percentage of highway roads have a rating of less than 50. The ratings will be used to determine road projects for 2007.

Caspersen asked for copies of the handouts to distribute to County Board for the December 12th meeting.

Sign Grant Update: Norby informed the committee that the installation of the curves and chevrons for Phase 2 of the Sign grant is 75-80% complete. Because the material bids came in lower than expected, the department has grant monies left that can be used for road name and speed advisory signs. It would be in the best interest of the County to use all available grant funds.

Road Improvement Costs: Warndahl distributed Highway's reconstruction and repair strategies policy, explaining the levels of repair and the costs associated with the repair. This information can be used by the committee to determine funding needs for future highway construction.

Highway Facility: Warndahl suggested a possible need for a facility site assessment, which would evaluate the current Highway facility, and asked for direction from the

committee on how to proceed. Discussion followed and Caspersen will present the idea to the Property Committee, with the possibility of sharing the cost of the assessment.

Salt Sand Storage Shed: Final payment of the 10% retainer has not been made to S.D. Ellenberger as work completed by the department will affect the amount due. Gamache mentioned a possible continuing problem with height placement of the entrance door and Warndahl will check it out.

Motion by Luke and seconded by Gamache to approve the vouchers paid in November. Motion carried unanimously.

Project Update/Administrative Report: Warndahl informed the committee that construction on CTH F is in the final stages, with the department waiting for an environmental OK from the State. The department kicked off the winter season with a snow and ice control meeting, finishing up with a waffle breakfast for all employees. WisDOT attended the meeting to update the crew on state road issues and the Sheriff's Department talked about issues affecting their department.

Motion by Luke and seconded by Gamache to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The Highway meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.