

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Highway Committee
Date of Meeting: Monday, May 16, 2016
Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. Larry Grisen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. David Danzinger (joined the meeting at 4:30 p.m.), Mr. Michael Taylor, Mr. Larry Grisen, Mr. Dennis Bork, and Mr. Bernard Brunkow.

Others Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Mr. Bob Platteter (Highway Commissioner), Mr. Kelly Johnston (Patrol Superintendent), and Mr. Thomas Boguszewski (AECOM).

Public Comment regarding Posted Agenda Items: Mr. Boguszewski described the work his company (AECOM) does. AECOM is the largest consulting firm in the country with 6 offices in Wisconsin. AECOM would like to be the consultant for Buffalo County regarding bridge work.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Vouchers: Vouchers were reviewed by Committee Members. Mr. Platteter explained the purchase of a used F550 truck that is used for crack sealing. Mr. Bork will abstain from approving the vouchers as one of the vouchers is for hearing testing that is provided by his wife. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the vouchers, second by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Staffing of the County Patrolman: Mr. Chris Reinhardt was hired as the new Patrolman and will begin work on Monday, May, 23, 2016 at the Alma Shop. There were 27 applications received and interviews were held Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Staffing with Riverfront Summer Shop Help: Last year Riverfront provided the Highway Department with an intern that was covered 100% by the State. This year if the same individual is used the County would need to pay for 50% of the wages (\$10 per hour) and cover the insurance. Mr. Platteter will look into see if there is another internship available.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding a Resolution to Eliminate County Assistant Patrol Superintendent Position: Mr. Platteter read the Resolution to the Committee and explained the need to eliminate the position. Mr. Grisen made a motion to amend the signature/names on the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the amended Resolution, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Proposal of Salary Steps: Mr. Platteter gave a description of the wage scales that have been put into place for the Courthouse employees. The Highway Union was not certified as a union this year and Mr. Platteter was asked to put together wage scales for the employees. He has been seeing pay issues for the employees not being paid what other equipment operators are being paid. Mr. Platteter reviewed a spreadsheet that he compiled showing classes and steps. Mr. Brunkow made a motion to send this to the HR Committee for further review, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Purchase a Bobcat: The purchase of the bobcat was approved at a prior meeting, but due to the price being over the \$35,000 threshold a Resolution is needed. The cost of the bobcat is \$36,402.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Alma Shop and Sewer: The Alma Shop has now been annexed to the City of Alma and can be hooked up to city sewer. The system is currently being designed by Collins Plumbing and the plans will be reviewed by Davey Engineering for the City of Alma.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Alma Office Renovation: Renovation began last Monday and should take approximately 2 months. Mr. Platteter explained where things would be at the Shop.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Outlying Shops/Field Visits: Mr. Platteter explained the outlying shops and the conditions each of them are in. The Urne shop needs a few minor items to be repaired. The Fountain City Shop will need a new roof. The Waumandee Shop is in need of more repairs than the other shops. The foundation block is moving out and you can place your hand through the hole. Mr. Platteter does feel it is repairable. Buffalo County shares this building with the Town of Waumandee and there is an agreement from 1978 that splits the costs of the building 50/50. The Committee agreed to have the next meeting at the Waumandee Highway Shop to review the building and repairs needed.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Asphalt Bids: Mr. Platteter reviewed the projects and the costs of hot mix and cold mix paving. There will be two hot mix plants in Buffalo County this year due to state road projects. This brought the price of asphalt down slightly. Mr. Platteter would prefer to use the hot mix on the county roads as it will last longer with the ag vehicles using them. There may be enough of a savings to add some additional road repairs. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve doing the additional projects this year (Cty. Rd. J, Cty. Rd. KK, Cty Rd. VV, and two segments on Cty. Rd. EE), seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried. Mr. Taylor made a motion to move the cold mix projects to using hot mix and accept the bid from Mathy Construction, seconded Mr. Bork. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Culvert Bids and Plastic Conversion: Mr. Platteter reviewed the quotes for plastic and metal culverts. He explained the advantages of using plastic culverts and the savings. Mr. Platteter would like to try a

plastic culvert on one of the projects this year. The State has begun using them on their projects. Mr. Brunkow made a motion to accept the bids for culverts and use a plastic culvert on the County Road N project, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding 2016 State Road Construction Projects: Mr. Platteter updated the Committee on the State Road projects. State Road 88 is currently under construction and signs were put up. The road will be completely closed on Wednesday and Thursday of this week and all parties have been notified. There will also be a press release put out by the State. The State will be giving Buffalo County money for 3 additional projects this year as there was money leftover with the light winter. Those projects will be: Highway 10 through the City of Mondovi (crack sealing and filling), Highway 37 (failing culverts replaced), and the last project will be to do roof work and a lean-to off the salt shed in Mondovi. The salt shed was originally constructed by the State and then turned over to the County.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding 2015 Annual Report, May 25, 2016 with Doug Meek, DOT: Mr. Doug Meek works for the DOT and is willing to come to Buffalo County to meet with the Highway Committee and Finance Committee to give a presentation on Highway Accounting. It will take a full day or a day and a half to do the presentation. Some of the dates he has open is May 26th and 27th, May 31st thru June 3rd, and June 17th. June 17th was a date that worked for the majority of the Committee.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Commissioner's Report: Mr. Platteter received the contract for Bridge Inspections. The cost for inspections was reduced by \$3,000.00. Mr. Platteter distributed the Road School information to the Committee.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Committee Member's Report: A discussion was held on the meeting times was held. The next meeting will be held June 13th at 9:30 a.m. at the Waumandee Highway Shop. The Committee toured the Alma Highway Shop and the renovations were described.

Public Comments: None.

Adjournment: Mr. Bork made a motion to adjourn at 5:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk