

## BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Buffalo County Highway Committee

Date of the Meeting: Monday, October 18, 2021

Chairman Mr. Don Hillert called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. in the conference room of the Buffalo County Highway Department, Alma, Wisconsin.

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Don Hillert, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. John Sendelbach. Mr. Dwight Ruff & Mr. Max Weiss excused absence.

**Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting:** Ms. Sonya Hansen, Mr. Bob Platteter, Kelly Johnston, John DeWitt, Jim Palkowski and Ms. Janet LaDuke.

**Public Comments regarding Agenda Items:** None

**Review/Discussion/Action - Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** A motion was made by Mr. Danzinger, seconded by Mr. Sendelbach to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as sent. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action - Monthly Vouchers #27902 through # 28031 totaling \$888,850.65 were reviewed.** A motion was made by Mr. Sendelbach seconded by Mr. Danzinger to approve the monthly vouchers as presented. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action– Staffing:**

- a. Patrol Position – Jeff Tieg from Mondovi has accepted the Patrolman’s position and will be starting on October 25, 2021.
- b. Parts/Inventory Specialist – Still being advertised. Position still open.
- c. Staff Work Schedule – Discussion of work schedule hours. Went through responses to the surveys about changing hours. Discussion after surveys were read. No action taken.

**Review/Discussion/Action - Equipment:**

- a. Bids on ½ ton Crew Cab Pickup – One bid received from Fountain City Ford for \$40,385.00 with no trade as Zoning will be purchasing the Highway Department’s 2016 Ford ½ ton with over 100,000 miles. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to accept the bid. Mr. Sendelbach second. Carried.
- b. Status of Equipment Ordered – Discussion of what equipment is left to be delivered for the year that has been ordered.

**Review/Discussion/Action – Buildings & Grounds:**

- a. Purchase of Neighboring Property - Waiting on information from John Seifert who did the original lease.
- b. Sale of County Owned Property (status) – Mr. Danzinger made a motion to not sell the County owned property at the present time as we might need at some time for wetland mitigation. Seconded by John Sendelbach. Carried.
- c. Fuel System Upgrade – Still working on getting information and pricing.

**Review/Discussion/Action – Roads and Bridges:**

- a. Construction Schedule – 2021 construction schedule is finishing up and has went very well this year.
- b. Town Projects – Town projects for 2021 are about completed.
- c. ATV/UTV Routes (status) – Roads are open and calls are starting to calm down.

**Parking Lot on CTH P** – Mr. Danzinger made a motion to contact Ducks Unlimited and the DNR to discuss the parking lot actually being built on County owned property and not DNR owned property. A contract will have to be made with the County, Ducks Unlimited and the DNR to remove liability and maintenance of the parking lot from the County and if any issues develop the County can shut down the parking lot. Seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

**Town Bridge Aid Resolution (Joint 50/50)** – Total cost \$225,043.77. County share is \$112,521.88. Township share is \$112,521.89. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to accept. Seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

**Adjusted Budget** – Adjust for the Town Bridge Aid Resolution and GTA’s reduced by \$3,500.00. GTA’s for Buffalo County went down for 2022.

**Financial Update** - \$2.885 million through July. Revenues are higher than expenditures through July.

**Employee Evaluation** – Mr. Hillert made a motion to go into closed session at 9:50 a.m. Seconded by Mr. Sendelbach. Mr. Danzinger (Yes), Mr. Sendelbach (Yes) and Mr. Hillert (Yes).

**Return to Open Session** – Mr. Hillert made a motion to return to open session. Seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Mr. Hillert (Yes), Mr. Danzinger (Yes), Mr. Sendelbach (Yes). Mr. Danzinger made a motion for a step increase for Mr. Platteter. Seconded by Mr. Sendelbach. Carried. Effective starting 10/18/21.

**RT Vision Demo** – Table & send link to the Board Members to view.

**Commissioners Report-**

- Mr. Platteter, Mr. Johnston and Mr. DeWitt will be attending a Bridge Preservation & Invasive Species Training in Barron County on Tuesday, 10/19/2021.
- Ms. LaDuke will be attending a CHEMS Training in Eau Claire on Wed.-Fri. 10/20/21 – 10/22/21. Ms. Schmidtknecht and Mr. Platteter will be attending the CHEMS Training on Thursday, 10/21/21.
- It is important to get equipment off the side of roads and in areas that can be watched as we found damage to a pickup that was parked at a jobsite during the day. Someone tried to cut the catalytic converter off during working hours.
- Winter Road School is 1/17 – 1/19/2022 in Wisconsin Dells. Mr. Platteter will not be attending, but Committee Members to think about.
- Mr. Sendelbach mentioned mowing doing a good job/excellent job, but some signs knocked down.

**Chair Report:** None.

**Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Mr. Danzinger will be absent.

**Public Comments-** Recycling add to next agenda.

**Adjournment-** Mr. Hillert made a motion to adjourn at 10:21 a.m., seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Secretary  
Kelly Johnston