

**MINUTES OF THE  
HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**DAY AND DATE:** Thursday, March 2, 2023  
**PLACE:** Hwy. Dept., 555 17<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
**MEETING TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**ADJOURNMENT TIME:** 9:45 a.m.  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Jake Hahn, Supervisor Dave LaFontaine, Supervisor Lee Thao, Supervisor John Hokamp, Supervisor Al Breu (WebEx).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Peckham, Highway Dept.; Fritz Schubert, Forest Administrator; Supervisor Bill Clendenning, Supervisor Dennis Polach, Supervisor Jeff Penzkover; Ruben VanTassel, Courthouse Maintenance; Sandra Green, Parks and Forestry Office Supervisor; Chad Schooley, Parks & Forestry Director

**OTHERS PRESENT VIA WEBEX:** County Board Chair Lance Pliml; Ed Newton, Finance Director;

1. Call meeting to order. Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.
2. Declaration of quorum. Declared.
3. Public comments. None
4. Correspondence. None
5. Approve minutes from previous committee meetings. **Motion by D. LaFontaine, second by L. Thao. Motion carried.**
6. ATV Trail/Route system update
  - a. Route Updates. Chairman Hahn: City of Marshfield will possibly open some roads to local businesses.
7. **HIGHWAY**
  - a. Highway staff reports.
  - b. Highway revenue report.
  - c. Highway vouchers. **Motion to approve revenue reports and vouchers by D. LaFontaine, second by A. Breu. Motion carried.**
  - d. STH 73/80/CTH A, Intersection. Supervisor Hahn: DOT has decided to place a round-a-bout just N. of Pittsville. There is a public comment session scheduled.
  - e. CTH W Access. (RE: CTH Z/Griffith Ave). B. Clendenning and L. Pliml provided some background information regarding the location this round-a-bout would be located in and the reason the Hwy. Dept. feel this is needed. There is not a public session scheduled at this time. It would be in the best interest to schedule and hold a public comment session. The justification for this and the design is in question. J. Peckham will speak with R. Hawk in regards to providing the consultant agreement with project timelines.
  - f. Space Needs Study. *Tabled for next month.*
  - g. Bituminous Bids.
  - h. Milling and Pulverizing Quotes. **Motion to approve the bituminous bids and the milling/pulverizing quotes which are most advantageous to Wood County by D. LaFontaine and second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
  - i. WCHA Utilities Accommodation Policy. *Tabled for next month.*

## 8. PARKS AND FORESTRY

- a. Parks & Forestry staff reports. Forestry update from F. Schubert. Has not been a great winter, but doing OK considering the conditions. Revenue has picked up and should continue into the next month. One crew working hard on a white pine final harvest, trying to get as much wood hauled as possible before road postings come on. C. Schooley; at Powers Bluff, they are continuing construction on the Multi-Use trail. We were able to open up the tube/ski hill and this weekend will be open as well. We are hoping to get a couple more weekends of tubing but the weather will be the deciding factor obviously. L. Pliml stated that ARPA funding meetings will be scheduled soon but the County has until the end of 2024 to designate allocations accordingly regarding the Powers Bluff Development project. C. Schooley stated we were awarded the DNR stewardship grant to construct the trailhead entrance road/parking lot at Powers Bluff, but will need the cost share from the County, which will hopefully come from additional ARPA funds.
- b. Special Use permits.
  - (1) Requests for Disc Golf Tournaments at NWCP. Jacob Ford to host five one-day tournaments. Charge is a \$50 fee and each pass at \$2/participant.
  - (2) Don Kempen, member of the Consolidated Musky Club. Request for shelter reservation fee reduction for 2 upcoming events at Nepco in 2023. The club has donated money several times over the past 15 years to go towards musky stocking in Nepco Lake and the Wisconsin River. They have two shelter reservations 5/2/23, Nepco shelter for an awards banquet and 9/14 for a fundraiser for the organization. Events will be held on a weekday and are open to the public. Chad is in favor of a fee reduction for both of these events. **Motion by D. LaFontaine to reduce the reservation fee by 50% and second by J. Hokamp. Motion carried.**
  - (3) Port Edwards Lions Club fisheree January 2, 2024. Nepco Lake County Park.
- c. Resolution for exceeding 2022 budgeted operating expenses. **Motion by J. Hokamp and second by L. Thao. Motion carried.**
- d. Parks and Forestry revenue reports. F. Schubert added that the Hwy property timber cutting contract is completed. Revenues received are double that of those estimated on the contract (Total = \$67K+).
- e. Parks & Forestry vouchers. **Motion to approve by D. LaFontaine and second by L. Thao. Motion carried.**

9. Attendance at Meetings. None.

## 10. Future Agenda Items

- a. Marshfield Shared Campus (Hwy.)
- b. Space Needs Study (Hwy.)
- c. WCHA Utilities Accommodation Policy (Hwy.)
- d. Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter Project building plans & cost estimate. (Parks)
- e. South Park campground expansion. There are a few potential funding sources and C. Schooley will continue putting this information together. F. Schubert will bring an estimate of timber removal if it is ready. (Parks)
- f. Northern Long Eared Bat. USFWS will be listing as an endangered species on March 31, 2023. This will have management implications for our forest. Will likely bring more info and possible resolution next month (Forestry).

11. Set next regular meeting date: May 4, 2023 at 9:00 am at Wood County Highway Department, 555 17<sup>th</sup> Ave North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

12. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 am.