

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

**DATE:** Thursday, September 7, 2023  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**PLACE:** Highway Dept. – Conference Room

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jake Hahn, Dave LaFontaine, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Al Breu (via WebEx)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Trent Miner, County Clerk, see attached sign-in sheet

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment
3. The minutes of the August 3, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Motion by LaFontaine/Breu to accept them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.
5. The South Park Storm Shelter Building bids were opened and after review, the entire project is over by \$286,531. Schooley is looking for option on how to reduce costs. There might need to be a meeting before county board to reject all of the bids and start the design process over. Motion by LaFontaine/Thao to postpone this issue until more information is gathered. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Schooley provided a Powers Bluff project update. The trail contractor should be on site yet this month, however work continues on some of the trail with county staffing. Initial approval of a stewardship grant for the shelter building has been received, however this is not the official approval.
7. Schooley proposed moving \$100K of ARPA funds allocated to the Dexter Swim Area to the new Powers Bluff Maintenance Shop project. Motion by LaFontaine/Breu to approve the request, pending Corp Counsel opinion of procedure needed. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.
9. Motion by LaFontaine/Hokamp to approve the Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
10. The fall Parks & Forestry/Highway Tour will be held in conjunction with the next regular meeting, scheduled for Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will begin at 8:00 AM at the Powers Bluff Shelter Building, with the tour commencing afterwards.

11. The Highway Dept. staff report was reviewed. Hawk introduced the new Highway Dept. Engineer, Brandon Whipple.
12. Motion by LaFontaine/Hokamp to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Hawk discussed the federal grant proposal for CTH A. After discussions, it was determined not to move forward with the proposal this year since no engineering has been done on the project as of yet and obtaining the grant would probably not be successful. Hawk suggested moving forward with the engineering portion to put the county in a better position for the next grant funding cycle. Motion by LaFontaine/Breu to move forward with the engineering. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Hawk reported that a number of municipalities when requesting winter maintenance from the Highway Dept. want to have the graders used, however the state charge for graders does not cover the cost of that equipment since they are not used much any other time of the year. He proposed moving the rate from \$95.00/hour to \$120.00/hour in order to recoup the county's actual costs. Motion by Hahn/LaFontaine to approve moving the rate of the grader for winter maintenance from \$90.00/hour to \$120.00/hour. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Hawk updated the committee on the new Mack patrol trucks that have been budgeted for. One of them is due to be delivered next week. The other will not be received until next year and will cost an additional \$30K. After review, it was decided to move forward with the Mack truck as quoted with the increase, as the other comparable trucks all had a similar increase in cost.
16. The Wisconsin County Highway Legislative breakfast will be on October 6th in Stevens Point. Interested committee members will need to let Hawk know if they wish to attend. Motion by LaFontaine/Hokamp to approve committee attendance at this conference. Motion carried unanimously.
17. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6th at 8:00 AM at the Powers Bluff Shelter Building, with the fall tour to follow.
18. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

**Highway Infrastructure and Recreation Committee  
September 7, 2023**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Genderson Jeff Penzko	WC Board #15 WCB #11
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
Brandon Whipple Roland Hawk	WC Highway Dept. WC Highway
CHAD SCHOOB	PEF
John Hokamp	WCB #13
DAVE LA FONTAINE	WCB #1
Fritz Schwbert	PEF
Katie DeKleg Web Ex	County Clerk
Lance Pliml Web Ex	CB Chair
Sarah Christensen Web Ex	Em Hgmt