

MINUTES

HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, August 7, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Highway Dept., Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Scott Brehm, Lee Thao, John Hokamp

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. Wood County Rifle & Pistol Club representatives Jack & Cheryl Konkol, described changes they wished to make out at the shooting range to be able to incorporate more pistol shooting. The current set up is basically set up for rifles. They also are going to move a storage shed onto the current footprint. All of the work will be in the existing range and will be at the club's expense. Motion by Hahn/Breu to approve the changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The minutes of the July 9, 2025, were presented. Hawk noted that on item #10, it was to be noted that it is the "proposed" owner looking to make a land donation, not the current owner. Motion by Breu/Hokamp to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed.
6. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
7. Motion by Thao/Brehm to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Commissioner Hawk reported that the DOT has funded their portion of the Dexterville salt shed in fiscal year 2026, so it is possible the county may have to come up with their funding prior to 2027, when it was proposed in the CIP. He is working with the state to be able to carryover the state funding until we have it budgeted.
9. There is a landowner along Griffith Avenue that has 4 parcels that has been subdivided for over 20 years looking for highway access, however under the current rules, this would not be allowed because of the spacing and speed of the road. While no request has been filed, there may be a need for the committee to act on this in the future.
10. Hawk & Accounting Supervisor Peckham reviewed the current status of the 2026 Highway Dept. budget and the variance associated with it. A more finalized version will be presented at the September meeting.
11. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.

12. A land trade proposal in the county forest by Wilderness LLC was presented. Forest Administrator Schubert highlight the issues surrounding the current encroachment as well as the proposal that was submitted by Wilderness LLC. At this point, he does not recommend moving forward with this proposal. Motion by Hahn/Brey to reject the proposal and have the Forest Administrator, along with Corp Counsel, draft a different agreement. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Parks & Forestry Director Schooley reviewed the special use permit for the following entities and locations:
 - a. Jeremiahs Crossing at Dexter Park
 - b. Midwest Independent Living and Nepco ParkMotion by Thao/Hokamp to approve the special use permit as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Schooley gave an update on the status of the Maintenance Shop at Powers Bluff, the status of the shelter house construction at Powers Bluff, and upgrades at CERA Park. He also reviewed the total camping nights, to date, at each of the parks.
15. The committee tentatively scheduled the HIRC Tour for their October 2nd meeting.
16. The Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.
17. Motion by Hokamp/Thao to approve Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion approved unanimously.
18. The committee reviewed the action of the Operations Committee as it relates to the Maintenance Supervisor position upgrade request.
19. The 2026 draft Parks & Forestry budget administration budget was presented. Schooley reviewed some of the variances associated with both revenues and expenditures. A more finalized version will be presented at the next meeting.
20. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4th, at 9:00 AM at the Highway Department Conference Room.
21. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:18 AM.

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

Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee
August 7, 2025

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