



MINUTES

Eau Claire County • Committee on Highway
Thursday, February 1st, 2018 / 6:15 am

Highway Department Meeting Room 101 • 2000 Spooner Avenue, Altoona, WI 54720

Members Present: Chairman Ray Henning, Vice Chairman Steve Chilson, Supervisor Kathy Clark, Supervisor Katy Forsythe, Supervisor Carl Anton
Staff Present: Highway Commissioner Jon Johnson, Operations Manager Brian Spilde, Accountant Michael Donaldson, Engineer Rod Thorson

1. Call meeting to order

Chairman Henning called the meeting to order at 6:18 a.m.

2. Confirmation of meeting notice - Review

Meeting notice confirmed.

3. Past committee meeting minutes (12/7) - Review/Action

Motion: Supervisor Forsythe moved for approval. Motion Approved 5-0

4. Public comment – No public comment

5. New technology in vehicles and how it effects road painting:

At a highway conference in Madison this topic was presented. In summary, some of the key items included:

- Vehicles have 5 different level of assistance with most vehicles classified as a level 2 with lane assist. Level 3 & 4 include steering wheel assist with Level 5 being completely autonomous.
- Vehicle assistance not only uses the road painting but slope of the road as well. Continued improvements are needed concerning temporarily barriers and construction zones.
- Currently Eau Claire highway trucks utilize front and rear cameras for assistance
- Laws and legislature will need to be looked at in the future concerning liability in driver assisted accidents. Amendments of current laws needed to allow auto manufactures to continue to increase this technology.
- At this time and the near future, the effect on road construction to the highway department is minimal.

6. Highway Commissioner report

Highway maintenance and construction update

Highway Commissioner Jon Johnson spoke on the following:

- Map of 2018 Road and Bridge improvement project was handed out. With the decreasing funding in this area, it limits the amount of projects that can be scheduled in the year.
- Meeting with County Administrator to discuss PASER ratings of the county roads
- Committee members addressed concerns of CTH T north of Eau Claire and the level of service. Highway department will look into the traffic count on this stretch and how it's being maintained in the winter.
- Eau Claire county highway department was chosen for National Road Safety project which funds local road safety. If eligible it allows for federal program and funds.
- Salt Brine training event held yesterday at expo center.

Operations Manager Brian Spilde spoke on the following:

- 2018 Summer Maintenance and Capital projects schedule has been completed.

Updated PASER ratings from fall 2017

Highway Engineer Rod Thorson went over a draft of the fall 2017 PACER ratings which were due on February 1st of 2018

- ❖ Supervisor Clark suggested updating the rating map to be color coded by current ratings

Eau Claire's average is a 5.4 which has increased each of the last 8 years. When a road has an overlay completed, it generally increases the rating to a 9, reconstruction of a road increases it to a 10. The last couple years, roads with a 3 to 4 rating were focused on for improvement which increases the PASER rating the most. These ratings are performed every 2 years. Uses of warm mix instead of cold mix and stabilization improvements have decreased cracks in asphalt. Spoke on Perpetual Pavement in which the structure stays intact and a mill and fill is performed.

- ❖ The Highway Committee as a whole agreed that an overall PASER rating of 6 would be a suitable goal.

Legislative AB475, SB386, and AB697 – Discussion

Current draft of AB475 & SB3896 is to county board concerning the lighting requirements for animal drawn vehicles operating on highways. Commissioner Johnson testified at a public hearing in Madison concerning AB 697 which concerns damage to highway maintenance and improvement projects by animal drawn vehicles. The bill was supported and now is being presented to the state senate.

DOT Property Appraisal Update

Commissioner Johnson is meeting with DOT transportation planning today to discuss transition off possible land purchase. Next steps include zoning in the town and city.

How on-call works with the Highway Department operations staff

Operations management and leads rotate on call status from Thursday at the end of the day to Thursday next week. They receive \$40 on call pay for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Called in employees receive their manual rate.

- Vice Chairman Chilson left the meeting

7. Payment vouchers (1/5, 1/12, 1/26)

Vouchers were reviewed

8. Future meeting dates, times and agenda items

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, February 15th

Future Agenda Items:

- Asset Management

9. Adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Donaldson

Michael Donaldson
Eau Claire Highway Department
Approved 2/15/2018