

**Lincoln County Highway Committee**  
**Minutes of Thursday, August 6, 2009 – 7:30 a.m.**  
**City of Tomahawk City Hall**

Members Present: Bob Lee, John Bailey, Graham Rankin, Richard Berndt, and Arlene Meyer  
Visitors: Randy Scholz, Tim Meehan, Joe Kitchen, Phil Rausch, Donna Jahn, and Scott Gabrich

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Lee.

2. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):**

Motion by Berndt, seconded by Meyer to approve the minutes from July 2, 2009 meeting minutes as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. **Set Future Meetings:**

September 3, 2009, Thursday 7:30 a.m., Commissioner's Office- Merrill  
October 1, 2009, Thursday 7:30 a.m., City Hall - Tomahawk

4. **Claims:**

None

5. **Public Comment:**

No one was present for public comment.

6. **Financial Report**

Scholz distributed the financial reports to the Committee for their review. Scholz reported that everything is within budget and looks good. Motion by Rankin, seconded by Berndt to place the financial reports on file. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. **Request for an ATV Route on CTH O** – Scholz received a letter from the Spirit Valley Riders ATV Club requesting an ATV Route on CTH O. Joe Kitchen, President of Spirit Valley Riders ATV Club, explained they would like an ATV route on CTH O to allow some current members of the club to access the existing trails. Scholz showed a video of the requested route which is located in the Town of Tomahawk. Kitchen indicated that there are a few town roads that are not ATV routes along CTH O, and he is on the next Town of Tomahawk agenda to request ATV routes on those roads. Scholz explained that the section from East Bilby Road to Eagle Waters would be connecting a route to a facility. If we allow the route to go beyond East Bilby Road and Eagle Waters then it wouldn't follow our current policy. The policy does not allow trails or routes from residences. When the policy was written it was according to State Statute 895.52 (2). So, if this is approved it would be against our current policy and we would have to amend the policy or make an exception to the policy. Kevin Kleinschmidt's (County Forester) report basically says the same thing. Motion by Bailey, seconded by Rankin to approve the ATV route on CTH O between East Bilby Road and Eagle Waters. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. **Request for an ATV Route on CTH T** – Scholz explained that the request is to open the trail for a couple of residences. The route is approximately .3 or .4 miles. Donna Jahn was present and explained that her son lives down the road from them on CTH T and he rides the road to help them with plowing their driveway in the winter and help with firewood, etc. since they are elderly. He currently is riding on the road illegally. She doesn't want the road open to hook up to a trail but for her son to get to her house. The Committee explained it wouldn't be right to approve one request and not another. Motion by Meyer, seconded by Berndt to deny the request for an ATV route on CTH T since it wouldn't follow the current policy. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed item #15 and #16 after item #8. Lee left the meeting after Item #15 and #16 were finished and Berndt took over the meeting.

9. **Resolution to Support Applying for a TIGER Grant** – The resolution would be to support applying for the TIGER grant. The TIGER grant is stimulus money for projects over 20 million dollars. The proposed project is estimated at 25 – 28 million dollars for reconstruction of County Road C from Highway 51 to the Langlade County line. Scholz sent out letters to our legislators for support of the TIGER grant and he has received letters of support from them. He is also working on getting Dave Obey to support the grant as well. The intersection of Highway 51 and County Road C is marked as in the top 5% hazardous intersections in the region. It has always been the plan to install an overpass at that intersection so if it isn't constructed with this TIGER grant it will be installed in the future. This would also help open up the corridor to the east and west for snowmobiles since right now they are not allowed to cross Highway 51. A bike trail will also be constructed along there. This grant is very competitive since this grant is open nationwide. There is only one other request from a highway department in Wisconsin that Scholz is aware of and that is in the Wisconsin Dells area. Langlade County has already built their portion of the road to these same standards. It will also be good for the economy, since that road will not be posted. If this project is approved it will create 450 – 500 jobs and will have to be completed in one construction season. Scholz has been working with Economic development and UW Extension to get this grant approved. We now need County Board support. Motion by Bailey, seconded by Meyer to forward a resolution to the County Board to support the TIGER grant. All ayes. Motion carried.
10. **Contract for TIGER Grant** – Scholz explained that he needs technical support for this Tiger Grant. He has been working with Economic Development and UW Extension but they need expertise on fly ash. Scholz would like to sign a contract with Central WI Engineers for \$2,500. Motion by Bailey, seconded by Rankin to approve the contract with Central WI Engineers for \$2,500 for the TIGER grant. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. **Posting CTH C from CTH K to STH 17** – CTH C from STH 17 to CTH K is in the same shape as the portion from STH 17 to Langlade County line. Scholz indicated that he has only received one concern about the posting on CTH C between STH 17 and Langlade County. Scholz recommended the road be posted for 40 tons. Motion by Meyer, seconded by Rankin to post CTH C from CTH K to STH 17 for 40 tons as recommended by Scholz. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. **Blade Bids** – Scholz indicated that we received 6 blade bids which are the most we have ever received. Scholz narrowed the bids down to 4 bids since 2 of the bidders didn't bid on all the blades that were quoted. Aring Equipment is the lowest bidder but they are not able to provide 160 blades that would meet specifications. Scholz recommended awarding the bid to the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest bidder which is Mid-State Blade and Chain as they will meet all the specifications. Motion by Rankin, seconded by Bailey to award the blade bid to Mid-State Blade and Chain. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. **Report by Superintendents** – Scholz explained that Jagmin is at a pre-conference in Wisconsin Rapids and Lemmer is on a much needed vacation. Gabrich indicated that they are getting ready for winter and working on cutting shop operations. They received the new quad truck and the guys just love it.
14. **Commissioner's Report on Highway Operations**
  - a. 2009 Projects – Scholz indicated that we are done with all our summer projects of chip sealing and paving. We are working on general maintenance things such as grading shoulders, etc. They will be doing a lot of the things they do in the spring of the year now. The DOT is doing a lot of sandblasting on many of the bridges in Lincoln County which could run into November.

b. 2010 Projects – The Finance Committee approved \$250,000 for CIP money for 2010. We will be using the money for CTH L. We may do 60 miles of ditching and culvert replacement as well and 30 miles of chip sealing. In 2011, there may be more CHIP money available for paving. They did place traffic counters on CTH Y for the bridge project and it showed 2,000 cars per day that travel that road. The chip sealing went very well this year with borrowing Adams County chip sealer. Scholz will do a cost analysis and compare it to last year. He was extremely happy with how the chip sealing turned out.

c. Update on Providing Supervision for City of Merrill Street Department – The City of Merrill has decided not to get rid of their street commissioner.

15. **Closed Session – Convene into Closed Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85 (1) (e) Wis. Stats.**

**For conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – Workforce Reduction Strategies** – Motion by Lee,

seconded by Rankin to go into closed session with the Committee, Scholz, and Meehan. All ayes by roll call vote. Motion carried.

16. **Open Session – Take any necessary action on Items Discussed in Closed Session** – Motion by Bailey, seconded by Rankin to go forward. All ayes. Motion carried.

17. **Adjourn** - Motion by Rankin, seconded by Bailey to adjourn at 9:00 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.