

**Lincoln County Highway Committee**  
**Minutes of Thursday, May 8, 2008 – 7:30 a.m.**  
**Commissioner's Office - Merrill**

Members Present: Bob Lee, Graham Rankin, Arlene Meyer, Wayne Plant and Richard Berndt

Member Absent:

Visitors: Randy Scholz, Sarah Olson, Al Fox, Jeff Janik, Jason Lemmer, Jerry Jagmin, Scott Gabrich and Linda Rhinehart

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**  
Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Vice Chairman Lee
2. **Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary**  
Chairman - Bob Lee  
Vice Chair - Richard Berndt  
Secretary - Wayne Plant
3. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):**  
Motion by Rankin, seconded by Lee to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed.  
All ayes. Motion carried.
4. **Set Future Meetings:**  
June 5, 2008, Thursday, 7:30 a.m., Tomahawk City Hall – Tomahawk  
July 3, 2008, Thursday, 7:30 a.m., Commissioner's Office – Merrill
5. **Claims:**  
None.
6. **Public Comment:**  
None
7. **Retirement of Office Staff and Staffing of Office:**  
Randy stated that Linda Rhinehart would be retiring and would not be replaced. The plan is for the remaining employee to work 40 hr/wk which is currently 35 hours. It may be necessary to get part time help. Randy will be working with John Mulder regarding Union issues, etc.
8. **Financial Report:**  
Sarah Olson updated the Committee with more detailed reports, also explaining MUNIS and CHEMS accounting software. The most detailed report the Committee would like semi-annually.
9. **Winter Maintenance and Budgetary Options for 2008:**  
The remaining winter maintenance budget was discussed and how we should plan for November and December. Sarah compiled actual cost information for the last 5 years to get some basis to use and presented 3 scenarios for estimating the projected need. The Commissioner stated that there were several areas that money could be regained helping considerably with the estimated amount that may be needed. Should projects scheduled be cut back or continue as scheduled because any estimate for anticipated winter maintenance is speculation. The consensus of the Committee was not to cut back on scheduled projects.
10. **Attendance at Summer Conference:**  
Motion by Lee, seconded by Plant to approve per diem and attendance at the Summer Highway Conference for any member attending. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. **Blade Bids:**  
The Commissioner stated two bids were received and would like to split the bid in order to get the best prices from each and both companies were agreeable. Motion by Plant, seconded by Berndt to split blade order to get the best price. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. **Presentation by Highway Commissioner on Status of Roads:**  
The Committee viewed a Power Point showing the status of our roads and their life expectancy with different levels of maintenance being done. The Committee will take the three options under advisement in the future. Randy will continue to update the Committee on the status of the road conditions. The Committee would like Randy to present the Power Point to the County Board in a few months.
13. **Direction for the 2009 Budget:**  
The Commissioner wanted to get direction from the Committee on how to budget for 2009. Should he budget for a 2% increase or budget what would actually be needed. The Committee felt he should use a 2% increase but could also show a budget with what is needed.
14. **Sign TMA from DOT:**  
The Committee signed the agreements with DOT.
15. **Report of Highway Superintendents:**  
Jason stated they are tarring cracks, grading shoulders, crushing in Theis Pit and generally getting ready for summer.  
Jerry explained the State budget and discussed road replacement. Jason and Jerry attended Work Zone Safety.  
AI will be centerline painting soon.
16. **Commissioner's Report on Highway Operations:**
  - a. Safety Report – No reportables. Work Zone Safety posters are out, getting responses. Lee suggested Randy also talk to service organizations and distribute them also. Also show the DVD at the next meeting.
17. **Adjourn:**  
Motion by Plant, seconded by Rankin to adjourn at 9:00 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.