

Lincoln County Highway Committee
Minutes from Thursday, August 3, 2023 (4:30 PM – 5:37 PM)
Service Center, 801 N. Sales Street – Room 255

Members Present (in person): Gene Simon, Randy Detert Ken Wickham, Bill Bialecki and Jesse Boyd

Visitors (in person): John Hanz (Highway Commissioner), Karry Johnson (Corp Counsel), Todd Bishop and Heather Marheine

Visitor via internet: Renee Krueger (Admin Coordinator)

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.
2. **Public Comment** – None
3. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)** - M/S Boyd/Wickham to approve the July 6, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote. All ayes.
4. **Set Future Meetings**
Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Rm 255/257/260, Service Center, Merrill
Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Rm 255/257/260, Service Center, Merrill
5. **Claims** – A culvert inquiry was received which is being looked into by the Commissioner and Corp Counsel. This item will be discussed at the September Highway Committee meeting.
6. **Financial Report** – Financial status discussed and placed on file.
7. **Approve and Sign Commissioner’s timesheets and Travel Expenses** – M/S Boyd/Bialecki to approve and sign the timesheets as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote. All ayes.
8. **Adjust Equipment Rates** – Hanz and committee discussed ideas to help fund the building repairs and new equipment.
9. **Tomahawk Highway Department Shop Facility’s Needs** – Hanz and committee discussed the Tomahawk repair needs and funding ideas.
10. **Highway Employees** –
 - a. **Openings and New Hires** – Hanz reported two were hired over the past month, another plans to leave for college next week. Summer help have been great and competent help but will leave by the end of the month leaving 4 openings going into September.
11. **Commissioner’s Report on Highway Operations and Superintendents Monthly Progress Report** –Chip Sealing projects are complete and came in under budget. CTH L has received its first asphalt lift and is ready for the 2nd, CTH S is prepped and ready for asphalt. Both will be complete by October 15, 2023. Hanz has advertised for consulting engineers on the CTH O bridge repair. Town work and seal coating picking up: double seal coat for the Town of Merrill and Town of King plus pipe work including a cost share arch pipe. State Routine Maintenance Agreement (RMA) work to pick back up in fall then hauling County salt. Roads are scheduled to be drivable for the September Fall ride.
12. **Items for Next Meeting Agenda** – Equipment rates and Draft Ordinance to extend ATV/UTV route on CTH D to bridge.
13. **Closed Session** – M/S Detert/Wickham to enter into closed session, to include Corp Counsel & Marheine. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes. Convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1) (g) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, to wit: Discuss strategy/defense of pending claim re: Charter/CTH S and 2 way radios.
14. **Open Session** – M/S Bialecki/Boyd to enter back into open session. Motion carried on a voice vote. All ayes. M/S Bialecki/Boyd to instruct Corp Counsel to deny the claim. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes.
15. **Adjourn** – M/S Bialecki/Detert to adjourn at 5:37 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote. All ayes.

Respectfully written and submitted by: John Hanz and Heather Marheine