

Regular Meeting of the Vernon County Highway Committee October 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Chairperson Nickelatti. Members present were Nickelatti, Sullivan, Erlandson, Leis and Skemp. Also present was Commissioner Hewitt.

Motion by Leis, seconded by Erlandson, to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

A representative from Jewell Associates Engineers was present to discuss the High Risk Rural Roads Safety Project on CTH K. The project will upgrade and increase signage, replace and increase beam guard and move power poles located in the clear zone. The cost is estimated at about \$260,000 with the HRRR Grant covering ninety percent of the cost. The project is currently scheduled for a May 9, 2017 let date.

Commissioner Hewitt informed the committee he would like to purchase a hydraulic thumb for an excavator at a cost of \$20,000. Motion by Leis, seconded by Skemp, to approve the purchase. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hewitt informed the committee he was looking at a used one-ton truck that was sold before he could buy it. It was \$29,000. He presented quotes for new one-ton trucks as follows: Dodge \$35,000, Ford \$30,000 and Chevy \$29,995. After some discussion, it was decided to purchase new instead of used. Hewitt said he preferred the motor in the Ford to the Chevy. Motion by Erlandson, seconded by Sullivan, to purchase the Ford for \$30,000. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hewitt updated the committee on purchasing a used roller. He has not found a good deal and will be waiting until spring to start looking again.

Commissioner Hewitt presented a Discretionary Maintenance Agreement from the D.O.T. for flood repairs. Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan, to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hewitt presented the bills. Motion by Leis, seconded by Erlandson, to approve the bills. Motion carried.

The commissioner updated the committee on the following: it is going to cost approximately \$266,000 to have the paint truck refurbished and he would like to take the money out of the restricted reserve – a resolution will need to be presented at the County Board meeting for approval; he is waiting for a survey on the DeSoto property; he pulled one of the stop signs at the CTH FF intersection for the winter months; the CTH JJ bridge damaged in the flooding is closed and will need to be replaced – may get FEMA or Emergency Repair money; he commended the crew for their hard work during the recent flooding.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2016 at 9:30 A.M.

Motion by Leis, seconded by Erlandson, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by
Sue Conaway – Vernon County Highway Department