



Vernon County Highway Department

602 North Main Street
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Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone 608-637-5452
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vchd@vernoncounty.org

Highway Committee Minutes Tuesday August 10, 2017

Members Present: JoAnn Nickelatti, Glenda Sullivan, Sherman Erlandson, Michael Leis and Dave Williams

Members Absent: none

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Lonnie Muller, Dan Colton

1. Call to order, JoAnn Nickelatti, Chair, presiding

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairperson Nickelatti.

2. Affirmation of proper public notice of meeting

The meeting was properly noticed.

3. Review and approve minutes of the July 11, 2017 meeting

Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Audience to visitors - none

5. Review and approve D.O.T. Discretionary Maintenance Agreement – Flood Damage Repair

Hewitt presented a Discretionary Maintenance Agreement from the State for flood damage repair from the July flood event. Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan, to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible action on CTH JJ Bridge – Hydraulic Study

Hewitt informed the committee that a hydraulic study is now needed for the repair of the CTH JJ bridge. The DNR is requiring the study because there will be some narrowing of the channel. The survey will cost approximately \$37,000. Hewitt does not know if FEMA or the DOT will help with the cost of the study. Motion by Erlandson, seconded by Williams, to approve the hydraulic study to be performed by MSA for a cost of approximately \$37,000. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action on Request for Proposal-Construction Manager for Highway Shop –

Hewitt informed the committee that he sent out a Request for Proposal for Construction Manager for a new highway shop to several firms. The proposals are due August 18th. The committee scheduled a special meeting for Monday, August 28th at 9:00 a.m. to review the proposals and select a firm.

8. Discussion and possible action on request to take bids for new plow truck and attachments

Motion by Williams, seconded by Sullivan, to take bids at the September meeting for a new plow truck and attachments to be paid for in 2018. Motion carried.



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9. Discussion and possible action on revised ATV Ordinance

Hewitt presented a revised ATV Ordinance. See attached. After some discussion, motion by Sullivan, seconded by Williams, to approve the revisions. Motion carried.

10. Review and approve vouchers for payment

Motion by Leis, seconded by Erlandson, to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

11. Commissioner's Report – Phil Hewitt – Non-action item

Hewitt updated the committee on the following: He has been talking with an Amish horseshoe farrier who is trying to design a shoe that will cause less damage on the roads; chip sealing on county roads will begin next week; paving is scheduled for the third week of September; he will have information on a brine maker at the next meeting; he discussed his plan to sell some older heavy equipment and purchase a new excavator and used grader.

12. Set next meeting date

Next regular meeting schedule for September 13, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

13. Adjourn

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

Minutes submitted by Sue Conaway – Vernon County Highway Department

All-Terrain and Off-road Utility Terrain Vehicle Route Ordinance Vernon County

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE AND OFF-ROAD UTILITY VEHICLE ROUTES AND REGULATING THE OPERATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND OFF-ROAD UTILITY VEHICLES

****REVISIONS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW****

Section I – Intent

Vernon County adopts the following all-terrain and off-road utility vehicle routes for the operation of all-terrain vehicles (hereinafter “ATV” or “ATVs”) and off-road utility vehicles (hereinafter “UTV” or “UTVs”) upon the roadways listed in Section III.

Following due consideration of the recreational and economic value to connect trail opportunities and weighed against possible dangers, public health, liability, terrain involved, traffic density and history of automobile traffic, these route have been created.

Section II – Statutory Authority

This route is created pursuant to county authority under Wisconsin Statute §59.02, as authorized by Wisconsin Statute §23.33.

The applicable provisions of Wisconsin Statute §23.33 regulating ATV and UTV operations pursuant to routes are adopted by reference.



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Section III – Routes

The following roads are designated as routes;

- A. _____
- _____
- B. _____
- _____

County trunk highways designated as ATV/UTV routes shall be established and approved by the Vernon County Highway Committee, the Sheriff’s Committee and the Highway Safety Committee. The Highway Committee shall develop policies and procedures for the designation of ATV/UTV routes. Any modification to a designated ATV/UTV route shall be approved by the Highway Committee. The Vernon County Highway Department has the authority to close or terminate any ATV/UTV route on the Vernon County Trunk Highway System, subject to approval by the Vernon County Highway Committee. The Vernon County Highway Department shall maintain a map wherein said routes are further described and identified.

Section IV – Conditions

As a condition for the use of these routes, the following conditions shall apply to all operators (and passengers where applicable);

- A. All ATV/UTV operators must carry liability insurance coverage.
- B. All ATVs/UTVs must be property registered with the Department of Natural Resources prior to operating on any routes.
- C. All ATV/UTV operators shall observe posted speed limits.
- D. All ATV/UTV operators shall slow the vehicle to 10-mph or less when operating within 150 feet of a dwelling.
- E. All ATV/UTV operators shall operate on paved portions of the roadway only. Operation on gravel shoulders, grassy in-slopes, ditches, or other highway right-of-ways is prohibited.
- F. All ATV/UTV operators shall ride in single file on the right hand side of the paved portion of the highway.
- G. All ATV/UTV operators shall have their headlight illuminated, and taillight, if the vehicle was originally manufactured with a taillight, while operating on a county highway.
- H. All ATV\UTV operators without tail lights shall be equipped with reflectors or SMV sign.
- I. ATV/UTV operators who are born after January 1, 1988 and operating on a county highway are required to have an ATV Safety Certificate provided by the Department of Natural Resources.
- J. ATV/UTV operators shall be 16 years of age or older.
- K. ATV/UTV operators under 18 years of age shall wear protective headgear of the type required by Wisconsin Statute §347.485(1)(a).
- L. ATV/UTV operators shall engage in recreational use of the routes between 7:004:00 AM and 10:00 PM only.

Section V – Signage

Routes must be signed in accordance with Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 64.12.

The Vernon County Highway Department has sole responsibility and authority to post signs on ATV/UTV routes.



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Section VI – Enforcement

This ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer of the Vernon County Sheriff’s Department, or any other law enforcement official as set forth in Wisconsin Statute §23.33(12).

Section VII – Penalties

The Wisconsin ATV penalties as found in Wisconsin Statute §23.33(13) are adopted by reference.

Section VIII – Severability

The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that Vernon County would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons circumstances shall not be deemed affected.

Section IX – Maintenance

Designation of segments of the Vernon County Highway System as ATV/UTV routes does not impose upon the Vernon County Highway Department a greater duty of care or responsibility for maintenance of those segments than for any other segment of county highway. Operators of ATVs/UTVs on county highways assume the usual and normal risks of ATV/UTV operation.

Section X – Effective Date

This ordinance becomes effective upon passage by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors and publication.

Passed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

_____, Vernon County Clerk