



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 Thursday, August 9, 2018

Members Present: JoAnn Nickelatti, Glenda Sullivan, Michael Leis, Dave Williams,
Lorn Goede

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Ole Yttri, Gail Muller, Lonnie Muller,

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 12, 2018 meeting

Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan, to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting.
Motion carried.

4. Audience to visitors

Representatives from Cedar Corp., S.E.H., Strand Associates, Jewell Associates, Westbrook, and KL Engineering were present to discuss the upcoming bridge replacement projects and ask for consideration as design consultants.

5. Discussion and possible action on funding for bridge projects – Jeff Melville, KL Engineering

Jeff Melville was present to discuss bridge projects that may be underfunded in the current bridge aid cycle. He discussed with the committee options they may have – dropping a project to fund another or contacting DOT central office, project managers, or local representatives. The committee instructed Hewitt to look into these options.

The committee moved to “Review and approve 2019 Budget” on the agenda.

6. Review and approve 2019 Budget

Hewitt presented the 2019 Highway Budget for approval. The budget was prepared with a 0% increase as requested by the Finance Committee. Mike Leis left the meeting during discussion on the budget. Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Goede, to approve the budget. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action on time card/time clock – RT Vision

Hewitt informed the committee a representative from RT Vision has contacted him about a timekeeping system. He said the initial cost is about \$40,000 and the company would like to make a presentation to the committee. After some discussion, it was decided not to pursue the timekeeping system at this time. No action.



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8. Discussion and possible action on salt shed electricity

Hewitt informed the committee that electricity will be needed at the new salt shed site for a lights and to plug in equipment. Hewitt did not have a cost estimate. No action.

9. Discussion and possible action on Wheel Tax Ordinance

Hewitt presented a Wheel Tax Ordinance for consideration. See attached. After discussion, it was decided that a better option would be a sales tax designated for highway construction. The committee instructed Hewitt to research. No action.

10. Discussion and possible action on purchasing truck from Emergency Government

Hewitt informed the committee that Emergency Government may have a used pickup truck that he would like to purchase. He said he would like to offer \$16,000. Motion by Goede, seconded by Williams, to purchase the pickup if it is available. Motion carried.

11. Review and approve vouchers for payment

Motion by Williams, seconded by Goede, to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

12. Commissioner's Report – Phil Hewitt – Non-action items

Hewitt updated the committee on the following: He should have cost estimates for the new shop in September; the CTH S bridge project required pre-borings that increased the cost of the project; he is still waiting for a decision from FEMA on the CTH JJ bridge; he may retro-fit one truck to do a brine-only route for the DOT this winter.

13. Set next meeting date

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

14. Adjourn

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

Minutes submitted by Sue Conaway – Vernon County Highway Department



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Ordinance No. ANNUAL COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE VERNON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES Vernon County, Wisconsin

The Board of Supervisors of Vernon County does ordain as follows:

WHEREAS, building and maintaining highways and bridges are essential to sustaining the quality of Wisconsin’s highway infrastructure, which is vital to the state, counties and municipalities to support commerce, tourism and the safe transportation of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon County property tax appropriation and other revenues have declined over the last 15 years while increases in the cost of materials needed to maintain the county highway maintenance goals and programs have more than doubled; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes § 341.35 gives a county the authority to enact an ordinance imposing an annual flat registration fee on all motor vehicles registered in this state which are customarily kept in the county; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. § 341.35 defines “motor vehicle” as an automobile, or motor truck registered under Wis. Stats. § 341.25(1)(c) at a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds; and

WHEREAS, a \$25.00 annual county vehicle registration fee would become a designated revenue source for the core service of highway construction improvements in Vernon County that comes directly from the users of highways; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation collects the fee and remits the moneys collected to the county less an administrative fee, currently \$0.10 per motor vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon County Board of Supervisors directs these annual fees to be in addition to other fund sources currently being utilized by the Vernon County Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT).

THEREFORE, the Vernon County Board of Supervisors hereby creates an Annual County Vehicle Registration Fee.

Offered by the Highway Committee on August 9, 2018.

Adopted by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors this _____ day of _____, 201__.

Vernon County Board Chair

Attested to by the County Clerk
