



# Vernon County Highway Department

602 North Main Street  
PO Box 232  
Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone 608-637-5452  
Fax 608-637-5461  
vchd@vernoncounty.org

## Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, June 13, 2019

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

**Others in attendance:** Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Roger Call, Lonnie Muller, Ole Yttri

**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 May 8, 2019 meeting**

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Leis, to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2019 meeting.  
Motion carried.

**4. Audience to visitors – N/A**

**5. Discussion and possible action on Village of Ontario ATV ordinance**

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Goede, to approve the ATV ordinance for the Village of Ontario, as requested. Motion carried.

**6. Discussion and possible action on resolution to exceed budget by \$500,000 for five years**

Motion made by Leis, seconded by Williams, to adopt a resolution as presented (see attached) for full County Board consideration for increasing the highway budget by \$500,000 each year for five years, specifically for road work in order to increase our General Transportation Aid. Motion carried.

**7. Discussion and possible action on equipment sales/purchases**

Hewitt stated that Spring auction of old equipment brought about \$40,000 and would like permission to reinvest that money on new equipment purchase(s). Motion made by Sullivan, seconded by Goede, to approve the spending the funds on equipment. Motion carried.



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## **8. Closed session to discuss patrol supervisor status update**

*The Chair may entertain a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to Wis. Statutes, Section 19.85 (1) (c) "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility."*

### **a. Roll call vote on the above motion, and if approved, enter into closed session.**

Motion made by Goede, seconded by Sullivan to enter into closed session. Roll call vote, 5 "yay", 0 "nay"

### **b. Reconvene in open session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (2). Roll call vote if motion is not unanimous.**

Motion made by Leis, seconded by Goede to enter back into open session.

## **9. Hire County Supervisor**

Interviews will be held June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## **10. Review and approve vouchers for payment**

Motion by Leis, seconded by Williams to pay vouchers as presented.

## **11. Commissioner's Report – Phil Hewitt – Non-action items**

### **a. Shop update**

Currently about 5 weeks behind; parking lot will need to be redone due to damage from heavy equipment; November 15<sup>th</sup> tentative move-in date if nothing goes wrong; Suggested to run a water main to the new highway shop and then run a lateral to hook up water in the shop so that we have access to a more convenient main down the road.

### **b. JJ bridge funding**

Hewitt reported that instead of \$96,000 we should be receiving \$116,000 in financial assistance.

### **c. Bridge projects 2019 additional funding**

It's time to start thinking about what bridges would be candidates for the bridge aid program. Hewitt stated that the average is between three and five.

### **d. Enterprise lease**

Enterprise would like to give another presentation on why the county should agree to fleet leasing through their company. Board would like to keep business local but will listen to the presentation.



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**e. Base 1 vs 1½ gravel**

Base 1 is a product that acts like a glue and when added to gravel is equivalent to 1½ gravel without needing to raise the depth on new construction base. Base 1 also acts as a holding agent on hills and slopes, preventing some runoff like you would see from gravel alone.

**f. Stepp Lawsuit**

Lawsuit is still pending.

**g. Ordinance banning the shining of deer**

Town of Liberty passed an ordinance banning the shining of deer in their township. Permission was given for them to post said ordinance on existing road signs.

**12. Set next meeting date**

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

**13. Adjourn**

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



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### DOT and GTA Resolution

WHEREAS, Transportation funding continues to decrease; and

WHEREAS, the increasing cost of material and equipment has hampered the highway department's ability to maintain Vernon County's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Vernon County highways have sustained \$1,000,000 in flood damage the last three years; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the 2018/2019 winter has already exceeded winter maintenance budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon County Highway Department request to exceed its budget by \$500,000 for 2019 with funds coming from the Ho-Chunk Infrastructure Fund or General Fund.

Recommended for consideration by the full County Board  
June 13, 2019  
Highway Committee

  
JoAnn Nickelatti, Chair

VOTE 5 0 0  
Yes No Absent/Abstain

Adopted by Vernon County Board of Supervisors  
Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Hoff, Vernon County Clerk

Date \_\_\_\_\_