



Vernon County Highway Department

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Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, July 11, 2019

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

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Dennis Brault, Roger Call, Gail Muller, Lonnie Muller, Tim Hunt, Carol Ward, Serena Inman

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 June 13, 2019 meeting and June 19, 2019 meeting

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Leis, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

4. Audience to visitors – Carol Ward and several others had driven through wet road paint while driving through Wildcat State Park. Quotes of thousands of dollars for repair had been reported and Hewitt said he would investigate. Knowing the geography of Wildcat and its twisty roads, it was neither the Highway Department's fault, nor the drivers' fault that they didn't see the signs following the trucks. Hewitt updated Ward that he recommended to Ron Hoff and would also recommend to the county's insurance company that the claims be paid for the damages.

5. Discussion and possible action on re-class of welder position

Our current welder is also a mechanic so Hewitt would like to reclassify the position to keep him in the shop, taking away lesser duties and paying him a small amount more than he is currently earning. Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Williams, to adjust welder classification. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible action on water line size to highway shop

No action needed; the plan is in place for the city to run water to the township/shop and a 6" lateral will be put in that the county will connect to the city's line.

7. Discussion and possible action on amount of paved area at new shop

Damage was done in front of the new shop where heavy equipment was stacked; Hewitt knew it would need to be replaced at the beginning of the project. Hewitt would like to pave anything they put gravel on and make the parking lot smaller, turning the rest of the area into a yard. Motion made by Goede, seconded by Sullivan, to change the square footage of paved area as budget will allow. Motion carried.

--Motion made by Sullivan, seconded by Goede to move to agenda item #9 and come back to item #8 at the end of the meeting. Motion carried. --



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8. Closed session to discuss personnel issue

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

9. Review and approve vouchers for payment

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

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

- Shop is way behind schedule
- Eric Vold, new supervisor started yesterday
- Started hot mix, mechanical issues caused delays that will have the crews working, possibly, for the next three Fridays
- Hewitt is going to finance next week to compete for money to catch up on road maintenance. Currently Hewitt said he would classify about 12 miles of road in the county as "Emergency fix". Thin overlay is a viable solution for future road repairs/maintenance
- River Road and South Elk Run bridges are completed

11. Set next meeting date

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

12. Adjourn

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