



# Vernon County Highway Department

602 North Main Street  
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## Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, August 8, 2019

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

**Others in attendance:** Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Lonnie Muller, Ole Yttri, Mary Henry, Ben from Enterprise

**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, 2019 meeting**

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

**4. Audience to visitors – none.**

**5. Presentation by Enterprise on fleet vehicle options**

Ben, a representative from Enterprise presented several handouts with information about reducing our current fleet of 20 trucks, ranging from 3 to 21 years old, down to 11 new trucks through a five year leasing rotation. The committee listened and asked questions, but made no decisions on a new fleet.

**6. Discussion and possible action on ATV/UTV ordinance in the Village of Chaseburg**

The DOT will need to approve usage on the state highways that fall into that area. Motion made by Leis, seconded by Williams to approve the ordinance to allow ATV/UTV routes on the county highways within the village.

**7. Discussion and possible action on 2020 equipment purchases**

Hewitt stated that the capital expenditures budget has been lowered in order to increase spending on roads, which in turn will increase our GTA funding. He was looking for input from the committee on whether to purchase a new plow truck, a new boom mower, or a loader/backhoe in the future. No action taken.

**8. Review and approve 2020 budget**

The 2020 budget was presented, members looked it over, asked a few questions, discussed and a motion was made by Goede, seconded by Sullivan to approve the 2020 budget.

**9. Review and approve vouchers for payment**

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



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

- Hewitt wanted to report that he mis-spoke at the last meeting; the welder position will not be “reclassified”, but instead be compensated for education credits, the same as the mechanics.
- The recent flooding caused an estimated \$40-50,000 in damages. Hewitt is doubtful there will be any financial assistance for these costs.
- Hewitt approved an approximate \$11,000 change order for the parking garage at the new shop location.
- The new highway shop is ready for water, waiting on the city.
- Hewitt has bridges suggested for the next cycle of Bridge Aid; they include Town of Coon, Town of Sterling, and two County bridges.
- A new roof will be needed soon at the Coon Valley salt shed.
- There is talk of replacing our hydro-seeder, which is jointly owned by the Highway Dept. and Land & Water.
- The \$500,000 (and then some) that was awarded to us from Ho-Chunk funds has been spent; CTH B to Esofea Road is finished and CTH P in Timber Coulee will be done this week. Hewitt stated they spent an extra approximate \$35,000 to widen the road by the guardrails in Timber Coulee as a safety concern.

## **11. Set next meeting date**

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

## **12. Adjourn**

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