



Vernon County Highway Department

1335 Railroad Avenue
Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone 608-637-5452
vchd@vernoncounty.org

Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, July 9, 2020 via WebEx

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

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Ole Yttri

1. Call to order

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

2. Affirmation of proper public notice of meeting

The meeting was properly noticed.

3. Review and approve minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting

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

4. Audience to visitors – none.

5. Discussion and possible 1 ton pickup lease

Hewitt had investigated leasing a crew cab, dually with dump box from Enterprise and thought that leasing was the best option for the county's budget. Five years of payments would amount to approximately \$54,660 and be able to purchase at the end of the lease for around \$14,000 or use the equity toward a new lease. Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan to lease one pickup from Enterprise. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible purchase new plow truck chassis

Discussion on bids received from La Crosse Truck Center (Mack), Debauche (Navistar), and IState (Western Star). See attached bid table. Discussion included talk of receiving money from Debauche from a class-action lawsuit for three trucks that had been previously purchased, but fell short on emissions compliance. Hewitt said it was his understanding that we should be able to expect \$10,000 to use towards the purchase of a new truck from Debauche, along with another \$5,000. Motion made by Williams, seconded by Goede to purchase the Navistar tandem truck. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action on sale of old highway property

An appraisal is currently being done on three parcels at the old highway property. No action taken.

8. Review and approve 2021 budget

Hewitt said with increasing flood damage and winter maintenance, there just isn't funds for road maintenance and we're falling behind. He hopes to try to get the tax levy back up to where it was. Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Goede to approve the budget as presented.

9. Review/Approve bills for payment

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Sullivan to pay the bills. Motion carried.



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

- CTH P & CTH NN
 - USH 14 South will be done late September/October, we'll share Kraemer's plant so these county projects will be pushed back
- CTH FF Bridge
 - Design is done, the bids came in under estimate. Construction should begin in August with Larson Construction
- CTH JJ Bridge
 - Done, way ahead of schedule
- Post CTH K & CTH O for damage concerns
 - 8 ton limit was posted to try to keep traffic down and limit damage. The STH 35 detour should have been directed from USH 14 to STH 162 and now from USH 14 to STH 56.
- New shop
 - Condensation problem
 - Old shop needs to be cleaned out and move all final inventory stuff

11. Set next meeting date

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

12. Adjourn

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