



Vernon County Highway Department

1335 Railroad Avenue
Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone 608-637-5452
vchd@vernoncounty.org

Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, August 13, 2020 via WebEx

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

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, bridge consultants, Lonnie Muller

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 July 9, 2020 meeting

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

4. Audience to visitors – none.

5. Discussion and possible action on Bridge consultant selections

Consultants each took a few moments to introduce themselves; Chris Blum with S.E.H., Aaron Palmer with Westbrook; Greg Jewell & Robert Hanold with Jewell Associates; Josh Sweno with MSA; and Chald Halverson with KL Engineers. The committee discussed the options and arranged their choices as follows:

Vernon County, Warner Creek Bridge: 1. MSA, 2. Westbrook, 3. KL

Town of Coon, Br N Fork Bad Axe River Bridge: 1. Jewell, 2. S.E.H., 3. MSA

Town of Franklin, Hornby Creek Bridge: 1. Westbrook, 2. S.E.H. 3. KL

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Williams to approve consultant selections as shown. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible purchase action on budget request

Discussion on making an additional request in September to the finance committee for additional funds, long-term. The price of salt has gone up \$10/ton and the price of man sand has tripled. Motion by Williams, seconded by Sullivan to request additional funding and provide a resolution to present. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action on 5 year plan

Discussion was combined with the prior item.

8. Review/Approve bills for payment

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



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

- New Hwy Shop
 - Truck wash timing is off, should be fixed soon; fuel island hose issues, roof is repaired, Vernon Manor needed their shelter removed so it was brought to the highway shop, old fill at the county farm can be gotten rid of.
- MLS program update
 - The Supreme Court overturned the MLS program; it started as a \$90 million pot of money, but then was decreased to \$75 million. It has been turned over to the LRIP program as discretionary funding.
- Desoto Hill generator
 - Working with the Sheriff's Dept. for their tower, we now have a generator hooked up.
- Bridge inspections
 - Robert Hanold was doing inspections yesterday and found holes in the deck of a CTH P bridge. The holes had been plated and paved over, but were deteriorating again. Hanold declared "critical finding" this morning and traffic has been limited to one lane, closing the westbound lane. Hanold said it isn't an issue for regular traffic, but doesn't think the 15 ton limit is being followed. Hewitt said he was going to pave on CTH P this year, but with it being questionable still if our large work trucks can haul over the bridge (eastbound lane), he is considering moving to a different project for this year.
- Dairyland Power is renting parking space at the old shop
- Appraisal came back for the old shop at approximately \$510,000. Discussion of selling will be halted.
- CTH SS, past the radio station will probably be paved this year to replace the CTH P project.

10. Set next meeting date

- September 10, 2020

11. Adjourn

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



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Consultant Selection 2020

Project I.D.: 5478-00-07/77

Warner Creek Bridge P-62-0954 (CTH P)

Vernon County

1. MSA
2. Westbrook
3. KL

Project I.D.: 5378-00-02/72

Br N Fork Bad Axe River Bridge P-62-0181

Town of Coon

1. Jewell
2. S.E.H.
3. MSA

Project I.D.: 5385-00-01/71

Hornby Creek Bridge P-62-0912

Town of Franklin

1. Westbrook
2. S.E.H.
3. KL