



Vernon County Highway Department

602 North Main Street
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Highway Committee Minutes Thursday, January 9, 2020

Members Present: JoAnn Nickelatti, Glenda Sullivan, Mike Leis

Others in attendance: Commissioner Phil Hewitt, Roger Call

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 December 10, 2019 meeting

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

4. Audience to visitors – none.

5. Discussion and possible action on CHI-D Grant

Hewitt announced that the County was awarded funds for the CHI-D grant that we applied for. The award is \$340,000 for CTH S between River Road and Avalanche Road.

6. Discussion and possible action on Pickup Lease

Hewitt has been speaking with several parties about leasing a vehicle for himself to use. He presented some numbers for a Dodge Durango that would allow him to drive 20,000 miles each year for a cost of approximately \$34,000 that includes a maintenance plan and option to purchase at the end of the term. Motion by Leis, seconded by Sullivan to lease a vehicle for Phil to drive.

7. Discussion and possible action on Stepp Lawsuit

Mediation will begin in February.

8. Highway Commissioner Performance Evaluation

Tabled until next month.

9. Review and approve vouchers for payment.

Motion made by Leis, seconded by Sullivan to pay the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

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

- New shop – The quote from Cintas for cleaning went from \$6,000 to \$15,000. Hewitt said we will take our own cleaning supplies and dispensers and hire a student worker to clean after school a few hours each week.
- The DOT wants the county to maintain the wayside by CTH JJ
- Hewitt stated that the new highway building will meet budget; anything left over will go back into concrete and blacktop around the building/parking in the spring.
- Next month's meeting will be in the new shop.
- In the absence of the parts manager, Hewitt expects to split duties among other employees.



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- Emergency Management will be moving into the downstairs of the old highway building, the Sheriff department will utilize the tire shop, and Hewitt has hopes that other departments will use some of the office space for storage.
- There is still fuel in the current fuel pumps, but will transition to the new tank when that is gone and then work on abandoning the fuel pumps properly.

11. Set next meeting date

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

12. Adjourn

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