

The Crawford County Highway Committee held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Crawford County Highway Department conference room in Seneca, WI. The meeting was called to order by Tom Cornford at 9:34 a.m. Proof of Publication was verified by Tom Cornford.

Members present were: Tom Cornford, Derek Flansburgh, David Olson and Carl Orr. Gerry Krachey was excused. Also present were Commissioner Kyle Kozelka, State Highway Superintendent Todd Myers, County Highway Superintendent Dave Jones and Shop Superintendent Cory Folbrecht. Julie Check recorded the meeting minutes.

David Olson made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for Thursday, February 17, 2022, seconded by Derek Flansburgh. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Carl Orr made a motion to authorize payment of Invoice Vouchers: #79-83, 86-133 & 136-149; and Payroll Vouchers: #84, 85, 134 & 135, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Recognition of Guests/Presentations:

- **Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc - Presentation** – Ellery Schaffer and Robert Hanold of Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc gave a presentation on their firm's qualification and services.

Fund Balances, Transfer of Funds, Invoice Adjustments – Past due Accounts:

- **Fund Balances** – The committee reviewed the current fund balances dated 3/4/22.

State Trunk Highways:

- **Discretionary Maintenance Agreement (DMA)** – Still waiting on possible contracts for 2022 for riprapping bridges and skinny mix/paving.
- **STH Update** – State crews have been doing winter maintenance, brushing, etc. Once frost is out they will start bridge washing and other spring maintenance projects.
- **STH Issues & Projects** -
 - The STH 179 bridge project will be an April let. Anticipated start this June/July. This will be a total road closure.
 - The STH 35 road project from CTH N to Lynxville has been changed to 2023.

County Trunk Highways:

- **CTH Update** – County Highway Superintendent Dave Jones reported the county forces have been crack sealing and just finished up brushing for the Town of Haney. Currently they are hauling sand. All sheds should be full today. Next the crews will start on CTH H.

Local Projects & Bridges:

- **Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc** –
 - **Bridge Inspection Contract** – Carl Orr made a motion to approve the bridge inspection contract with Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc. for the amount of \$1,425.00, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Local Projects & Bridges: (continued)

- **CTH S Bridge Replacement** – Still waiting for STP Rural project approval from WisDOT.
- **Town of Clayton, Norwegian Hollow Rd., Branch Johnson Valley Creek Bridge #P-12-0940, Project ID: 5325-00-03/73 and Town of Wauzeka, Gran Grae Bridge #P-12-0124, Project ID: 5339-00-02/72** – Commissioner Kozelka informed the committee that these projects will be re-let in June. Construction of Gran Grae Bridge will likely occur in 2023, and Norwegian Hollow will still likely be constructed during the 2022 construction season.

Highway Buildings, Facilities and Equipment:

- **Wauzeka Facility** – Commissioner Kozelka explained back in 2019 when the addition was added to the Wauzeka shop it was graveled between the buildings. The crews will concrete between the buildings.
- **Equipment** – Commissioner Kozelka discussed the skid loader issue with the committee. They decided to have companies bring in demo machines and get bids for the committee meeting in April or May.

Personnel & Personnel Issues:

- **Performance Based Pay & Wages - Update** – Commissioner Kozelka handed out a spreadsheet with wages from four local County Highway Departments plus Crawford County Highway. He took the wages from Crawford County plus the four area counties for each job position within the highway departments then came up with an average wage for each position. These average wages were the wages presented to the committee for wage increases. Commissioner Kozelka will take this to personnel/finance next week.
- **Vacation Usage** – Commissioner Kozelka and Superintendent Todd Myers spoke highly of Brandon Eick. They both commented that Brandon is doing a very good job. He is great at following directions and he fit into his role very well. They discussed the approval of Brandon Eick's vacation prior to his being hired and discussed the option of using vacation up front, prior to earning. The committee discussed the need for all employers to be more flexible to retain employees. The committee agreed to allow Brandon Eick to use vacation for his current time off, up front, prior to earning the vacation. Carl Orr made a motion to allow Brandon Eick to use 27.25 hours of vacation the week of March 14 thru March 18, 2022, prior to earning, seconded by Derek. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Bids, Proposals, Sales or Misc.:

- **Fuel Contracting – Update** - Commissioner Kozelka explained the fuel prices have gone down and he will continue to monitor the prices.
- **Material & Oil Bids – 2022 Proposal Requests – Update** - Commissioner Kozelka is still waiting for notification from WisDOT regarding what projects have been approved for 2022. Once project verification is received, he will send out material and oil bids and run ad. Bids will be due at the highway meeting following ad posting.
- **Culvert Bids** - Shop Superintendent Folbrecht received culvert bids, there was a difference of \$605 on initial bid. The county went with the low bid. David Olson made a motion to approve bids from both companies: Contech and Metal Culverts and to purchase from company most advantageous to Crawford County, seconded by Carl Orr. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Bids, Proposals, Sales or Misc.:

- **Superintendent Vehicles** – Spec sheets will get sent out for two superintendent pickup truck bids, 1/2 ton(s) and 3/4 ton(s). Bids will be brought to the April meeting.
- **Excavator** – Discussed the issues with the current wheeled excavator. Priced a new replacement machine thru Fabick. The cost is approximately \$274,000 with warranty. If purchasing a used one, there is no warranty or no municipal discount. The plan is to replace this wheeled excavator. Will bid out for April meeting.

Variance Requests:

- **Donnie Lenzendorf – STH 27** – Donnie Lenzendorf is putting up a grain bin off STH 27. The grain bid is off the right of way. This grain bin will not set any closer than the last variance structure that was approved. David Olson made a motion to approve the variance request for Donnie Lenzendorf to put up a grain bin off STH 27, seconded by Carl Orr. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Sales, Road Supplies, Junk, etc:

- **Sales** – The total from the last Wisconsin Surplus Auction was \$25,218.00 for misc. junk sold.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 9.00 a.m. at the Crawford County Highway Department in Seneca. At 10:35 a.m., with no further business, Derek Flansburgh made a motion to adjourn, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Tom Cornford

David Prady

David Olson
Committee

Derek Flansburgh

Carl Orr

Vik Kopp
Commissioner