

The Crawford County Highway Committee held their regular meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at the Crawford County Highway Department conference room in Seneca, WI. The meeting was called to order by Tom Cornford at 9:01 a.m. Proof of Publication was verified by Tom Cornford.

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

Gerry Krachey made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for Thursday, April 21, 2022, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Derek Flansburgh made a motion to authorize payment of Invoice Vouchers: #246-267 & 270-318; and Payroll Vouchers: #244, 245, 268 & 269, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

**Recognition of Guests:**

- Jason Schams, Salesman from Brooks Tractor. (Present for Wheeled Excavator bids).

**Citizen Concerns:**

- David Olson discussed a conversation he had with a concerned citizen in regards to reducing the speed limit on CTH C, from STH 35 to the city limits.

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

- **Fund Balances** – The committee reviewed the current fund balances dated 4/29/22. Commissioner Kozelka recommended transferring 2.3 million dollars from the CTH account to the construction/rehabilitation account for projects on CTH H, CTH W and the CTH S bridge rehabilitation project. David Olson made a motion to transfer 2.3 million dollars from CTH account to construction/rehabilitation account for the projects Commissioner Kozelka recommended above, seconded by Derek Flansburgh. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

**State Trunk Highways:**

- **STH Update** – State crews have been washing border bridges and other bridges, fixing potholes and pulling shoulders.
- **STH Update** – Commissioner Kozelka discussed the meeting last week that he and State Highway Superintendent Todd Myers had with personnel from WisDOT. RMAs will not be offset by DMA's, etc. Crawford County was the lowest salt user per lane mile in all 72 Wisconsin counties.

**County Trunk Highways:**

- **CTH Update** – County Highway Superintendent Dave Jones reported the county forces only have 3-4 tubes left to install and one bank to shape on CTH H. Plan to be ready by June 6<sup>th</sup> for milling and pulverizing. They have also been crack sealing, pulling shoulders and washing county bridges. Also, patching and ditching in Prairie du Chien Township and graveling for the Town of Eastman. A lot of additional Town and Village work. Other scheduled work consists of pouring & forming CTH D bridge wall, two box culverts for Wauzeka Township, two for Marietta Township and some tube work for the Town of Clayton.

**Town/Village/City Projects & Issues:**

- **Town of Eastman – Maintenance Contract** – Commissioner Kozelka explained that the Town of Eastman had their annual meeting and approved moving forward with hiring the County to do all of their summer work. Plus, they will have the County provide one full-time patrolman for winter maintenance. Town of Eastman will provide two part-time patrolmen for winter maintenance. The county will have full control of call outs.

**Local Projects & Bridges:**

- **CTH S Bridge Replacement – West Fork Knapp Creek Bridge #P-12-0714, Project ID# 5057-00-02/72** – The PS&E will be in 2024 and construction in 2025.

**Highway Buildings, Facilities and Equipment:**

- **Equipment** – Gerry Krachey made a motion to authorize Commissioner Kozelka and Shop Superintendent Cory Folbrecht to go to Nelson Hardwood Lumber Co. to look at and possibly purchase a logging truck at their auction, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

**County Parks, Public Boat Landing, and Communication Towers & Equipment:**

- **Tower Equipment** – Derek Flansburgh, Kyle Kozelka, Julie Cipra and Jim Hackett had a meeting with Baycom to discuss the towers and upgrades.

**Resolutions, Ordinances and Policies:**

- **Employee Training Policy** – The Committee discussed a training policy for new hires without CDL. Commissioner Kozelka will reach out to other municipalities for drafted policies.

**Bids, Proposals, Sales or Misc.:**

- **Fuel Contracting – Update** - Commissioner Kozelka explained the oil prices are very volatile, going day by day. Received new equipment rates from the state. This will help recoup fuel prices.
- **Superintendent Vehicles Update** – Finally tracked down 2 – 2022 Chevy ¾ ton trucks at Jones Chevrolet in Richland Center. With the \$7,200 municipal discount the cost would be \$45,558 per truck if the 2022 order goes through. Will be higher if the order has to be changed to 2023 trucks. They are ordered and should be here by the end of this year.
- **Wheeled Excavator – RFP Update** – Commissioner Kozelka explained 3 very competitive bids were received from Fabick (CAT excavator), Brooks Tractor (John Deere excavator) and Aring (Volvo excavator). Jason Schams, Salesman from Brooks Tractor was present to explain the excavator bid he presented. He explained the John Deere Excavator bucket has 360 degree rotation and tilting option. He also answered questions and discussed some of the additional options the county is looking at. But after much discussion, Commissioner Kozelka, Shop Superintendent Cory Folbrecht and the committee decided to bid the wheeled excavator with different options. The different options are: Hydraulic tilting ditching bucket and/or rotary tilting ditching bucket (self-contained). The new bids with additional options will be brought to the June meeting.

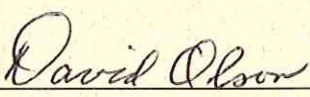
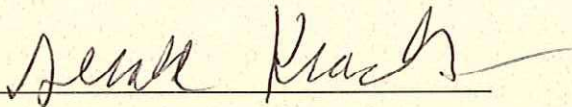
**Bids, Proposals, Sales or Misc.: (continued)**

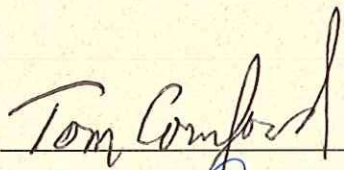
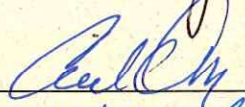

- **Miscellaneous** – Discussed the removal of the box on truck #135, and the installation of tank #408 for spraying. We also hire out and spray for LaCrosse County and the City of LaCrosse. The Fair Board noticed there are oil stains on the floor in the commercial building from the highway departments equipment. Discussed having Highway Department employees use oil removal products and clean the oil drippings off the building floor.

**Variance Requests:**

- **Kevin Murray – STH 131** – Property on STH 131 heading south out of Gays Mills towards the fairgrounds. Gerry Krachey made a motion to approve the variance request for Kevin Murray on STH 131 to add onto the length of his existing garage. The existing structure/garage is 28' from center of road. The county is not liable for any damage to his garage from winter or summer maintenance or construction, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a voice vote.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 9.00 a.m. at the Crawford County Highway Department in Seneca. At 10:05 a.m., with no further business, Gerry Krachey made a motion to adjourn, seconded by David Olson. Motion carried by a voice vote.

  
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