

RUSK COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 17, 2023

8:00 A.M.

Highway Committee Present: Biller, Kalepp, Hraban and Stout. Meyer absent.

Employees Present: C. Meyer, A. Heath, S. Schuelke and S. Jones.

Others Present: J. Votasek and E. Webster.

CALL TO ORDER – Call to order by Chair Biller at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Hraban to approve the March 15, 2023 Highway Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hraban, seconded by Kalepp to approve the March 20, 2023 Highway Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Summer Help Hiring Update

Discussed Summer help for 2023 and the age limit and interview date.

Part-Time Position

Highway Commissioner Jones is requesting a part-time position for an employee that has been working with the Highway Department for six years. Discussed the current position and job description.

Motion by Stout, seconded by Hraban to create a Part-Time position and forward to Personnel and County Board. Motion carried.

Patching Equipment Quotes

Discussed new patching equipment to replace a 2021.

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Stout to purchase the Vortex patch equipment from Highway Equipment Funds at Chairman Billers discretion on the availability of the equipment. Motion carried.

Equipment for Auction

The Commissioner would like to list the following equipment for Auction; Tractor 6' mower #177, semi-truck #21, pickup truck #3, pickup truck #2, pickup truck #30, pavement profiler #404, 1984 cat grader with 19,000 hours #64, Wing #764 and plow #654.

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Hraban to approve the listed of equipment as presented for auction. Motion carried.

Universal Truck Update

Commissioner Jones reported on the Universal truck update and would like to make some changes due to concern of the underbody of the truck.

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Hraban not to purchase the underbody and move the wing to the front on the 2nd truck purchased by the Rusk County Highway Department. Motion carried.

Mailbox Policy

Discussed the mailbox policy and switching to the policy presented by the Commissioner.

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Stout to approve the mailbox policy as presented. Motion carried.

Shorten Probationary Period for Highway Worker I

Commissioner Jones is requesting to shorten the probationary period for Highway worker I from 2 years to 1 year.

Motion by Stout, seconded by Kalepp to approve shortening the probationary period for Highway worker I from 2 years to 1 year and bump the employee up to a Highway worker II. Kalepp rescinded his motion. Motion failed.

Summer Road School

A request for Commissioner Jones to attend the June WCHA 2023 Summer Road School in Wisconsin Dells.

Motion by Hraban, seconded by Stout to approve the out of County travel to Wisconsin Dells for the June WCHA 2023 Summer Road School. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT: (Report will include asphalt plant update, gravel pit updates, BIL update, construction projects update and bridge inspections.)

Bridge Inspections

Commissioner Jones reported on the Bridge Inspection qualification/experience, will discuss in May.

CTH “D” Project

A mile of County D will have to be ground and repaved if the natural springs have sealed up sometime mid-summer.

Commissioner’s Meeting

Commissioner Jones will travel next week Thursday to Polk County for a Commissioners meeting.

HIGHWAY SAFETY REPORT:

The Commissioner reported on the following: damage to a front wing from RR Crossing, Blacktop plant needs a shut off on all belt feeders (on inspection report), scale shack roof has collapsed and needs to be replaced, pre-heater is not firing up and testing the blacktop product produced to pass inspection from Meigs. Discussion held on contacting the RR of any incident that happens on the tracks.

HIGHWAY FINANCIAL REPORT:

Skye gave the Highway Financial report for 2022 and 2023. Discussed the appraisal for the Blacktop plant.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE – ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

APPROVE PAYMENT OF HIGHWAY INVOICES

Motion by Hraban, seconded by Kalepp to approve the Highway Invoices for April. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be May 15, 2023 in the LEC at 8:00 a.m.

Motion by Hraban, seconded by Stout to enter into Closed Session at 9:41 a.m. All responded yes.

CLOSED SESSION – announced by Chair

Discussion of personnel issue pursuant to: Wis. Stat § 19.85(1)(f) for preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person involved in such personnel problems.

OPEN SESSION – at 10:08 a.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Stout to adjourn at 10:13 a.m. Motion carried.