

**NOT COMMITTEE APPROVED**

Present: Jerry Biller, Lyle Lieftring, Ken Pedersen, Mike Hraban, Robert Stout

Absent: None.

Also Present: Scott Emch, Nanci Mertes, Ted East, Bob Grotzinger, David Wierzba, Oran Clay, Bob Grunseth, David Anderson, James Wittrig, Vern Trindiel, Richard Bob Sr, Harold Flater, Monte Klund, Robert Swanson, Galen Brainerd, Tim Schermetzler, James Edming, Jerilea Hendrich, Tony Hauser.

Call Meeting to Order.

**Highway Chair Jerry Biller called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.**

Approval of Minutes – July 16, 2018.

**A Pedersen/Hraban motion to approve the minutes of July 16, 2018. Motion Carried.**

Public Comment.

Oran Clay spoke to the Committee regarding scheduled Highway Committee meetings being set for 8:00 a.m. on a work day. Mr. Clay feels this is not convenient for people to be able to attend the meeting. Discussion followed. Mr. Clay questioned the Highway Commissioner regarding maintenance costs per lane mile on county highways. Discussion followed.

Tim Schermetzler questioned the Committee regarding the Wheel Tax and where they are going with it.

Robert Grotzinger read a statement that said the Wheel Tax is not for Rusk County.

Rusk County ATV Clubs – Request to Cross the USH 8 Bridge over the Chippewa River.

Monty Klund explained that Rusk County has an excellent ATV Trail system, adding the crossing over the Chippewa River using the USH 8 Bridge will greatly improve the trail system and tourism. Discussion followed.

**A Stout/Lieftring motion to approve the crossing of ATV's over the Chippewa River using the USH 8 Bridge and to create a resolution to bring back to the next Highway Committee meeting for approval and then move the resolution to County Board for final approval. Motion Carried.**

CTH "I" – Weight Limits.

The Committee reviewed the "Town Road Agreement – Edming Road and Range Line Road" between the Towns of Dewey and True, Stewardship Ag LLC, Family Value Ag LLC, and Topigs Norsvin USA. Discussion followed.

**No action taken.**

Continued Discussion – Implementing a Wheel Tax in Rusk County.

Mike Hraban explained why he brought up the idea of a Wheel Tax to the Highway Committee and why he feels this would benefit the county to help fund construction/maintenance of County highways. Discussion followed.

**A Lieftring/Stout motion to postpone this discussion until the next Highway Committee meeting. Motion Carried.**

Appearance by Oran Clay – Presentation of Petition regarding Wheel Tax.

Oran Clay presented a petition to the County titled "We the Undersigned Signify Our Opposition to a Wheel tax in the County of Rusk..." The petition contains a total of 241 signatures.

Out of County Travel – 2018 WisDOT Financial and CHEMSPRO Annual Highway Training.

A Liefkring/Hraban motion to approve attendance by Nanci Mertes, Deb Fetting, and Marlon Parker at the 2018 WisDOT Financial and CHEMSPRO Annual Highway Training in Greenbay, Wisconsin on October 24, 25, and 26 of 2018. Motion Carried.

CLOSED SESSION – announced by Chair.

Corrective Action –

For considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility WI Stats 19.85 (1)(C). Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific person's preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations 19.85 (1)(f)

**A Hraban/Stout motion to enter into closed session. Roll Call – J. Biller – Yes, K. Pedersen – Yes, M. Hraban – Yes, R. Stout – Yes, L. Liefkring – Yes. Motion Carried.**

**Closed Session – 9:45 a.m.**

OPEN SESSION – Possible Motion on Topic of Closed Session.

**A Liefkring/Hraban motion to return to open session. Motion Carried.**

**Open Session – 10:00 a.m.**

HIGHWAY SAFETY REPORT

**Nothing to report.**

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT

The Highway Commissioner reported the following:

- The new Motor Grader was delivered two weeks ago.
- Discussion on the County equipment numbering system.
- The Department is currently waiting for the delivery of the new plow truck that was approved for purchase in March of this year.
- Discussion on county highway projects and bridge projects.

HIGHWAY FINANCIAL REPORT.

This report includes the current status of Highway Cash, Payables, Receivables, Equipment/Blacktop Plant funds and current Year-to-Date Fund Statement.

HIGHWAY OFFICE REPORT.

This report includes the status of workers compensation claims, liability insurance, office personnel activity, crew updates, retirements, unemployment claims and number of Highway FMLA requests.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE- ANNOUNCEMENTS

**None.**

Approve payment of bills.

**A Hraban/Pedersen motion to approve the Highway Payables and the Highway Crew and Administration payrolls as presented. Motion Carried.**

Set date for next highway committee meeting.

**The next regular Highway Committee meeting is set for September 17, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. at the Rusk County Highway Department.**

Motion to adjourn.

**A Lieffring/Stout motion to adjourn. Motion Carried.**

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Nanci Mertes, Highway Financial Administrator and distributed on August 14, 2018