

**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.