

RUSK COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 1st, 2023

6:00 P.M.

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

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

Others Present: K. Webster, E. Webster, C. Forde, D. McKittrick, J. McKittrick, D. Zimmer, S. Piekarski, A. Dearhamer, R. Hultman and V. Seltun, Rusk County Counsel

CALL TO ORDER – Call to order by Chair Biller at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Meyer, seconded by Kalepp to enter into closed session at 6:02 p.m. Motion carried. All responded yes.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair of Highway Committee

Motion to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(b) for considering dismissal, demotion, licensing or discipline of any public employee or person licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against such person, and the taking of formal action on any such matter; provided that the public employee is given actual notice of any evidentiary hearing which may be held prior to final action being taken and of any meeting at which final action may be taken. The notice shall contain a statement that the person has the right to demand that the evidentiary hearing or meeting be held in open session; and under Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) for conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning the strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

OPEN SESSION – at 6:18 p.m.

Open session evidentiary hearing on the matter in above closed session if demanded by the public employee. Summary of Deputy Wojcik report was given taken from 3 passengers riding with Mr. Webster to a job, texting and driving, swerving on Highway F. He was cited for operating a vehicle with visible electronic device and reckless driving. Question was asked by Board members and Mr. Webster.

Commissioner Jones gave a summary of June 19, 2023, from 3 employees about Mr. Webster texting and driving, swerving on Highway F and dropping trees on equipment, road and employees.

Kurt Webster gave a defense of complaints brought against him.

Motion by Hraban, seconded by Kalepp to enter into Closed Session at 7:32 p.m. All Responded yes.

CLOSED SESSION announced by Chair of Personnel Committee

I hereby move to adjourn into closed session for the purpose of deliberating regarding the proposed discipline as permitted by Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(a) and for the purpose of conferring with the Committee's legal counsel as permitted by Wis. Stats. Sec. 1985(1)(g).

OPEN SESSION at 8:21 p.m.

Discuss Appointment of Interim Operations Manager – Possible Motion

Highway Commissioner Jones is requesting Andy Mautner as Interim Operations Manager, Tim Meyer the current Operations Manager retired.

Motion by Stout, second by Kalepp to approve Andy Mautner as Interim Operations Manager. Discussion held. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Kalepp, seconded by Meyer to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried.