

Public Works Committee Minutes  
Thursday, July 12, 2012– 8:00 a.m.  
Department of Public Works Committee Room  
3715 Newville Road - Janesville, WI

Call to Order. Chair Yankee called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 8:05 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Arnold, Brown, Bussie, and Yankee

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Fox

Staff Members Present: Ben Coopman, Public Works Director  
Deb Lawton, Secretary

Others Present: Sandra Kraft, Rock County Board Vice-Chair  
Margaret Pulera, Interested Citizen

Approval of Agenda. Supervisors Arnold and Bussie moved today's agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. Margaret Pulera spoke to the Committee about her concerns on the CTH M and Countyline Road intersection portion of the project. She feels the design creates a major hazard. She cited accident statistics for the location and discussed her reasons for keeping the intersection the same as it is. Ben Coopman informed the Committee of a letter from County Board Supervisor Mawhinney on this project. Each Committee member was given a copy of the letter.

Ben reported he will be testifying at the Transportation and Finance Commission in Madison this afternoon.

## **HIGHWAY BUSINESS**

Consider Resolution to Stop the New Design of the Curve on Rock County M and Rock-Walworth County Line Road Intersection in the Town of Johnstown. Supervisors Brown and Bussie moved to forward the resolution with a negative recommendation. Discussion took place. Mr. Coopman suggested an amendment adding "*the project's opponents believe*" to line 15 following the word "*whereas*". Discussion on suggested amendment took place. Supervisor Brown requested to do a presentation showing photos of the project. Chair Yankee initially denied his request.

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Following discussion, Supervisor Brown was allowed to show the photos to the Committee. Mr. Coopman pointed out the many tire tracks on the road shoulder in one photo, proving traffic leaves the road to be able to see better. Margaret Pulera stated that would be more of a concern at CTH M and MM. Ben stated the intersection of CTH M and MM is still under design and is not finalized. Margaret Pulera stated those tracks are from county trucks hauling. Ben stated that proves his contention that trucks cannot see to the west at the current location and must cut the corner. There were a number of local people seen driving on the shoulder and not only our trucks. Margaret Pulera stated the farm buildings are an obstruction twelve months of the year and the corn will be an obstruction five months of the year. Supervisor Brown finished his presentation.

Mr. Coopman discussed suggested amendment. Supervisors Bussie and Brown moved to amend the resolution by adding "*the project's opponents believe*" to line 15 following the word "*whereas*". MOTION CARRIED.

A vote was taken on the original motion to forward the resolution with a negative recommendation. MOTION CARRIED.

Consider Reallocation of County Road Construction Projects. Supervisors Arnold and Brown moved Ben's recommendation to authorize reallocation of \$240,600 from the CTH A (Britt Rd. to Janesville City Limits) reconditioning project to the local match of Federal Aid for the design of CTH G (STH 11-West to Huebbe Parkway) and further authorize that if construction staging on CTH A is timely and sufficient savings is realized on the reconstruction of CTH M (East), funding may be reallocated back to the CTH A project to complete the two miles previously approved in 2012. MOTION CARRIED.

Consider Creation of a Rock County Adopt-A-Highway Program. Discussion on liability issues took place. Supervisors Arnold and Brown moved to consider creation of a county adopt-a-highway program. Motion failed on a 4-0 vote.

Discuss Process to Evaluate Alternative Routes for a Connector Road Between CTH G and I-39/90. Ben reported on meetings with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and City of Beloit to discuss the process. He stated the County Board will now make the selection of a preferred alternative, not the Public Works Committee as was the past practice of the Board. The alternative will go to WisDOT and they have to agree and the Federal Highway Administration has to

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agree. There will be a Public Information Meeting the first part of September. This Committee will have to approve a resolution recommending a preferred alternative to take to the County Board. This resolution will go to the full County Board the end of September. Ben stated there will be three options: Inman Parkway, Philhower Road or reconstructing along the original alignment. Discussion.

Commissioner's Report. Ben reported our Public Works Superintendent, Kirby Jones, resigned effective July 5.

Ben reported the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services cited Rock County 42 times for workplace violations during their recent visit. Some of these occurred at DPW and will be addressed as soon as possible.

Next Meeting Date. Thursday, August 9 starting at 8:00 a.m.

Cancel Vouchers #667 - #793 and Approve Bills, Encumbrances, Pre-Approved Encumbrances, Amendments and Transfers. Supervisors Bussie and Arnold moved the vouchers, bills, encumbrances, pre-approved encumbrances, amendments and transfers. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment. Supervisors Arnold and Brown moved to adjourn at 10:05 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Lawton  
Secretary II