



ROCK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highways & Parks

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Public Works Committee Meeting – Highway

June 23, 2026 – 7:30 a.m.

Public Works Department – Committee Room

3715 Newville Road

Janesville, WI 53545

Call to Order: Chair Woodman called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 7:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Brown, Fleming, and Woodman.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Sutter

Staff Members:

Duane Jorgenson	Public Works Director
Nick Elmer	Assistant Director Public Works
Amanda McElroy	Administrative Professional III

Others Present:

Kevin Wernet	Emergency Management
Rick Ellis	Public Works
Karl Fenrick	Public Works
Greg Holcomb	Public Works

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Fleming moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Brown. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes Dated May 26, 2026, June 16, 2026, and June 18, 2026: Supervisor Brown moved approval of the minutes from May 26, 2026, June 16, 2026, and June 18, 2026, as presented, seconded by Supervisor Fleming. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Mr. Holcomb asked if employees could be provided with health insurance options and cost comparisons. Supervisor Woodman noted he would pass the request on to Supervisor Tillman.

Mr. Ellis asked the Public Works Committee to support an upcoming Resolution that mandates the funds in the Health Insurance Trust Account only be used for employee benefits. He questioned if it was possible to reimburse the funds that were previously removed from the account for other purposes. Copies of the resolution were provided to the Committee (see attachment).

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Mr. Wernet thanked everyone involved in the preparation of disaster aid applications for FEMA and the Wisconsin Disaster Fund. Recovery and repairs are ongoing.

Supervisor Woodman thanked Public Works and Emergency Management for their efforts with the storm recovery.

Mr. Jorgenson thanked Mr. Elmer for his coordination in organizing and documenting the storm damage.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

Recognizing Michael Landis: Supervisor Brown moved the Resolution, seconded by Supervisor Fleming. Mr. Jorgenson added that he was thankful to work with Mr. Landis and wished him well. ADOPTED.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion and Possible Action – Issue Paper – DPW 2026-01 HMA Revised: Mr. Jorgenson explained how asphalt bids are evaluated based on the cost of materials in addition to the trucking costs from the plant to the project location. Payne & Dolan (Darien Plant) was originally selected for the CTH M project, but the plant will not be available during the project timeframe. The next lowest bidder, Rock Road (Townline Plant), is approximately \$2,200 more. Supervisor Fleming moved the Issue Paper, seconded by Supervisor Brown. ADOPTED.

Discussion and Possible Action – Issue Paper – WisDOT Disaster Damage Aids Petition: Mr. Elmer explained the governor submitted a federal disaster aid request that is still pending. Rock County could be eligible for WisDOT's Disaster Damage Aids (DDA) program if the federal request is denied. The DDA program would reimburse 75% of the replacement costs and 50% of the increased costs of improvements. To be eligible, roads or bridges must have been damaged by a severe weather event that resulted in their closure. A DDA petition will be submitted for both CTH A and CTH H. Additionally, the county will also apply for the Wisconsin Disaster Fund. Supervisor Brown moved the Issue Paper, seconded by Supervisor Fleming. ADOPTED.

Discussion and Possible Action – Bridge Aid Petitions – Towns of Bradford, Janesville, LaPrairie, Milton, Newark, and Plymouth: Mr. Elmer explained that the bridge aid petitions are for the culverts that had to be replaced after the short span bridge inspections. There is \$273,072 available in Bridge Aid, \$200,000 was budgeted for in 2026, and \$73,072 was carried over from 2025. Per State Statute, the county is required to reimburse the townships for half of the cost. Supervisor Brown moved the Bridge Aid Petitions, seconded by Supervisor Fleming. ADOPTED.

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Discussion – WCHA Update: Mr. Jorgenson and Mr. Elmer gave a summary of the sessions, courses, and meetings they attended at the WCHA 2026 Summer Highway Conference that was held in Wisconsin Dells on June 8-10, 2026. Mr. Jorgenson and Mr. Elmer are registered professional engineers and are required to obtain continuing education credits every two years to maintain their licenses. Mr. Jorgenson attended sessions covering WCHA information and changes, highway infrastructure observations, and internship programs. Mr. Elmer's sessions included updates to the Wisconsin Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, real estate acquisition, creating a Highway Safety Plan, current challenges impacting highway commissioners, LSSIP program, and transportation budget shortfalls. Mr. Elmer also attended the WCHA Business Meeting.

REVIEW OF PAYMENTS

May 2026 Payments: The Committee had no questions. Mr. Jorgenson noted that the report can only show one line from an invoice, which can be misleading.

Next Meeting Date and Time:

Parks Meeting: Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the Department of Public Works

Highway Meeting: Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the Department of Public Works

Adjournment: Supervisor Fleming moved adjournment at 8:03 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Brown. ADOPTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda McElroy, Administrative Professional III

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Barrington
INITIATOR

Supervisor Boehlke
SPONSOR



6/17/2026
DATE SUBMITTED

Restricting Use of Fund for Employee Benefits

1 **WHEREAS**, Rock County is committed to offering employees access to a comprehensive and
2 competitive benefits program; and,

3
4 **WHEREAS**, Rock County currently has a Health Insurance Trust Account that is used to fund its
5 benefits programs; and,

6
7 **WHEREAS**, Rock County recognizes the importance of ensuring that such funds are used solely for the
8 payment of employee benefit premiums, contributions, and related coverage costs; and,

9
10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
11 assembled on this ____ day of _____, 2026, designate that any and all funds designated for
12 employee benefits shall be used exclusively for the payment of employee benefit premiums, insurance
13 coverage costs, and other directly related employee benefit expenses on behalf of eligible employees;
14 and,

15
16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such funds shall not be used for any other operational,
17 administrative, or non-benefit-related purpose unless otherwise authorized by a subsequent resolution
18 duly adopted by the County Board of Supervisors; and,

19
20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the County Administrator is directed to administer and monitor the
21 use of such funds in accordance with this resolution.

FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution directs that the usage of the Health Insurance Fund assigned fund balance to be exclusively used for employee benefit premiums, insurance coverage costs, and other directly related employee benefit expenses.

Kristin Vander Kooi
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.51. Pursuant to Rule IV.C.(j)vi. any resolution that makes a Future Allocation of monies in any budget year that is not the current budget year shall be adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the members-elect.

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE: