



ROCK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highways & Parks

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Public Works Committee Meeting – Highway
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.
Public Works Department – Committee Room
3715 Newville Road
Janesville, WI 53545

Call to Order: Chair Mawhinney called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 8:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Homan, Mawhinney, Pennycook, Rashkin, and Woodman

Committee Members Absent: None

<u>Staff Members:</u>	Duane Jorgenson	Director of Public Works
	Nick Elmer	Assistant Director of Public Works
	Scott Brady	Engineering Technician
	Amanda McElroy	Secretary II

<u>Others Present:</u>	Chuck Flynn	Citizen
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Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Woodman moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Homan. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes Dated August 22, 2023: Supervisor Woodman moved approval of the minutes from August 22, 2023, as presented, seconded by Supervisor Pennycook. ADOPTED.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION

Election of Public Works Committee Vice Chair: Supervisor Pennycook nominated Supervisor Woodman as Public Works Committee Vice Chair, seconded by Supervisor Homan. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Supervisor Mawhinney welcomed Supervisor Homan to the Public Works Committee.

Mr. Jorgenson shared that Mr. Elmer and himself will be attending the upcoming WCHA Fall Commissioner Training Conference in Eau Claire on October 9th and 10th.

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REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

Recognizing Dale Rockett: Supervisor Woodman moved the Resolution, seconded by Supervisor Pennycook. ADOPTED.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion and Possible Action – Bridge Aid Petition – Fulton Cemetery Rd – Town of Porter: Mr. Elmer explained the Bridge Aid Petition from the Town of Porter is for the replacement of the culvert on Fulton Cemetery Rd, with costs to be split 50/50 between the Town of Porter and the Department of Public Works. Mr. Elmer shared a map with the location of the culvert replacement. Supervisor Woodman moved the Bridge Aid Petition, seconded by Supervisor Pennycook. ADOPTED.

Discussion and Possible Action – Bridge Aid Petition – Gibbs Lake Rd – Town of Porter: Supervisor Woodman moved the Bridge Aid Petition, seconded by Supervisor Pennycook. Mr. Elmer noted that this is for the replacement of two 36-inch culverts on Gibbs Lake Rd in the Town of Porter and shared the location on a map. ADOPTED.

Discussion and Possible Action – Bridge Aid Petition – Wilder Rd – Town of Porter: Supervisor Pennycook moved the Bridge Aid Petition, seconded by Supervisor Homan. Mr. Elmer shared that this is for the replacement of two 36-inch culverts on Wilder Rd in the Town of Porter and shared the location on a map. ADOPTED.

Discussion – Equipment Pick-Up Acquisitions: Mr. Jorgenson explained that the 2023 budget authorized the purchase of six pick-up trucks to replace six aging pick-up trucks in the fleet. Initially, six Ford pick-up trucks were ordered through Ewald. Notification was later received from Ford Manufacturing that we would only be getting one pick-up truck. Documentation was sent to Ewald to cancel the remaining order and was acknowledged. Five pick-up trucks were then ordered through Chevrolet off a newly opened state contract.

Ewald recently notified the Department that the five Ford pick-up trucks were in. In addition, the five Chevrolet trucks are in the build process. Due to the dealership mishap, the Department has the option to take the five Ford pick-up trucks from Ewald but are not obligated to.

There are seven new pick-ups proposed in the 2024 budget. The issue is the five Ford trucks from Ewald would likely be delivered before January 1, 2024, creating implications related to the 2024 budget. Mr. Jorgenson noted the difficulty getting equipment, that the prices are competitive and will not increase, and that County Administrator Josh Smith is comfortable moving forward with Committee approval.

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Mr. Jorgenson answered questions from the committee and shared that the five Ford pick-up trucks are \$48,872/each and the five Chevrolet pick-up trucks are \$46,236/each. Supervisors Woodman, Pennycook, Homan, Mawhinney, and Rashkin expressed their support to purchase the five Ford pick-up trucks from Ewald, which will save the county money and provide our staff with the best equipment.

Discussion – WCHA – Federal Weight Limit Opposition: Mr. Jorgenson shared a letter written by the WCHA opposing legislation to increase the weight limit of semi-trucks to 91,000 pounds. Local infrastructure and bridges may not be able to accommodate loads of that size/weight. Mr. Jorgenson explained the process the county uses to evaluate oversize/overweight loads to determine the safest route and noted that the county has reduced liability if a company failed to obtain the proper permits.

Discussion – Name-A-Truck Contest: Mr. Jorgenson stated after that numerous entries were submitted at the Rock County Fair and Family Fun Night, staff voted for their favorites, and two trucks will be named. The four highest scoring names from Family Fun Night were Buzz Ice-Clear, Big Brutus, Breaking Ice Ice Baby, and Snowball. The top names from the Rock County Fair were Mailbox Murderer, CTRL SALT DELETE, Wisconsin Thaw Enforcement, Mr. Salty Pants, Rhinestone Plowboy, and Ka-Plow!

Staff who are interested in naming their truck can pick from the list, and the individual that submitted that name will be given an opportunity to ride in the plow truck. The Sign Shop will create the stickers that will be placed on the side of the hood. The truck “No More Mr. Ice Guy” receives a lot of positive feedback from the public. It was ultimately determined that “Mailbox Murderer”, while humorous, is not appropriate to be placed on a county vehicle.

REVIEW OF PAYMENTS

August 2023 Payments: Mr. Jorgenson answered questions from the committee.

Next Meeting Date and Time: Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Works.

Adjournment: Supervisor Pennycook moved adjournment at 8:44 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Rashkin. ADOPTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda McElroy, Secretary II

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