



ROCK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highways & Parks

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Public Works Committee Meeting – Highway

June 24, 2025 – 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, 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:

Chuck Flynn	Citizen (attended in person and on Zoom)
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Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Pennycook moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Homan. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes Dated May 27, 2025: Supervisor Homan moved approval of the minutes from May 27, 2025, as presented, seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Mr. Jorgenson shared that Public Works would have a booth at the Rock County 4-H Fair this year (July 22-27, 2025).

Mr. Jorgenson added that he will be out of the office July 11-20, 2025.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion and Possible Action – Bridge Aid Petitions – Town of Porter: Mr. Elmer explained that the Town of Porter has requested county bridge aid funding for culvert replacement projects on Wilder Rd and Gibbs Lake Rd. The cost for each culvert replacement came to \$5,043, for a total of \$10,086. Per State Statute, the county is required to reimburse the

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Town of Porter for half of the cost of each, totaling \$5,043. Supervisor Pennycook moved the Bridge Aid Petitions, seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED.

Discussion – Project Update: Mr. Elmer gave an update on 2025 projects for the state, county, and towns, highlighting completed, ongoing, and upcoming projects. Completed state projects include brushing on STH 11 and STH 81 bridges, shouldering on STH 81 and USH 14, growth inhibitor application, and signing on STH 138. One-pass mowing is half completed, the first round of interstate beam sweeping is complete, and the STH 140 and I-43 construction projects are in process.

Recently completed county projects include brushing on CTH X, CTH T, CTH B, and CTH N, shouldering on CTH T and CTH X, wedging on CTH A and CTH H, culvert replacements on CTH B, CTH T, and CTH X, growth inhibitor application, ATV signing in Magnolia on CTH A, CTH B, and CTH M, and the construction on CTH X. Spring mowing is almost complete, and construction projects are ongoing on CTH B and CTH T.

Completed town work includes brushing in Bradford and Milton, crackfilling in Avon and part of Janesville, grader patching in Lima and Milton, and paver patching in Lima. Town paving is scheduled to start mid-July, and sealcoating is slated for early August. The first pass of mowing is almost complete, ATV signing is started in Fulton and Milton, and gravel road grading in Spring Valley and Avon is almost complete.

The paving projects at the Rock County Fairgrounds and Rock River Heritage Park are complete.

Mr. Jorgenson provided an update about the O’Riley Rd bridge replacement federal aid project, which is a three-span structure over the Turtle Creek in Bradford that is currently closed. Every six months, the state is required to update their endangered/threatened species list, and as a result, the area must be evaluated for the presence of the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, the Queen Snake, and two other fish species. The state will have to hire a company to mediate the site and obtain approval from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which will delay the timeframe for the project and could impact construction costs.

Mr. Jorgenson added that 19 town short-span structures will need to be repaired or replaced. Some structures have load ratings posted or are using a timber mat, while others have had to be closed completely. After meeting with the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) about water hydraulics, some of the structures can be replaced quickly, while others will have a more complicated design process.

Discussion – CTH H Project Update: Mr. Jorgenson explained that after a lot of accidents, near-miss accidents, and complaints about the intersection of CTH H and CTH A, it was

changed to a four-way stop to enhance safety. Additional signage, signs with flashing lights, and flags were installed to alert motorists to the recent change.

Mr. Jorgenson displayed the CTH H project design plans and explained the changes planned to improve the safety of the highway. All affected property owners were invited to a meeting at the Janesville Town Hall on June 23, 2025.

Discussion – Staff Update: Mr. Elmer provided a brief update, noting that after a recent resignation, there are six vacant highway positions. There are three candidates from the last recruitment in various stages of the hiring process, and recruitment is ongoing to fill the remaining vacancies. Of the current three candidates, one has a Class B CDL and the other two do not have a CDL.

REVIEW OF PAYMENTS

May 2025 Payments: Mr. Jorgenson answered a question that the Committee had at the previous meeting (May 27, 2025).

Next Meeting Date and Time:

Parks Meeting: Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Works.

Highway Meeting: Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Works.

Adjournment: Supervisor Homan moved adjournment at 8:53 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Woodman. ADOPTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda McElroy, Administrative Professional III