

Prior to this meeting, notice was given to the public by posting at the appropriate place in the Courthouse, Eagle River City Hall, Olson Memorial Library and in addition, copies of the notice of the meeting were forwarded to the news media: Vilas County News Review, Lakeland Times, Rhinelander Daily News, Northwoods River News, FYI Northwoods News, News of the North and Radio Stations WERL, WHDG, WLSL-FM, Coyote 93.7 in compliance with the open meeting law.

Present: Charles Rayala, Jr., Ron De Bruyne, Al Bauman, Vernon Wiggenhauser and Willy Otterpohl. Also Present: Jarred Maney – Highway Commissioner/Patrol Superintendent, Louise A. Krus – Highway Committee Secretary, Jeff Hess – DOT, Dale White – Manitowish Waters Bike Trail, Dave Gayle – OMNI, Nick Scholtes – CORRE, and Jason Hilger – Finance Director.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Rayala.

Motion by Bauman, second by De Bruyne to approve the agenda to be discussed in any order, for the December 12, 2014 meeting – all voted aye. Wiggenhauser would like some additional items to be on future agendas every month. The items are: Pacer rating, Cross training of office staff, Five year road repair and maintenance plan and Five year Hwy. equipment plan.

Wiggenhauser said that the above mentioned agenda items should also have been in the November 13th minutes. Motion by Otterpohl, second by Bauman to approve the minutes for the November 13, 2014 meeting, as amended – all voted aye.

Budget 2015 – Jeff Hess from the Wisconsin DOT office in Rhinelander presented the RMA (Routine Maintenance Agreement) for Vilas County Highway Department for 2015. He thanked the Vilas County highway crew for doing a good job on the DOT roads in the county. He told the committee that the 2013 winter funds had to be increased because of the severe winter. He also told the committee that there is a 6% state wide increase in the RMA budget for 2015. Motion by Bauman, second by Wiggenhauser to approve and sign the 2015 DOT RMA - all voted aye.

Manitowish Waters Bike Trail – Dale White talked to the committee about the proposed trail from the intersection of CTH “W” and Hwy 51 to the intersection with Tower Road. They would need permission to use the Right of Way on “W” for this part of the bike trail. Motion by De Bruyne, second by Bauman to draft a Land Use Agreement between the Highway Department and the Bike Club for the use of the right of way on “W” – all voted aye. This could then be approved at the January meeting.

Overtime Payment on Weekends – Jarred told the committee that we consistently over recover the cost of overtime on county roads because of the amount that we are reimbursed from the DOT and the towns. He provided the committee members with sheets showing the amounts that we over recovered for the months of January, February, March and April, 2014. Motion by Bauman, second by Otterpohl to approve overtime payment on weekends and forward the recommendation to Personnel Committee – all voted aye.

Communication Project – Jarred told the committee that this project is very near to completion.

Propane Tanks at Eagle River shop for Sheriff's Department – Wiggenhauser told the committee that Sheriff Joe Fath and Jason Hilger have been working on this. Jason told the committee that they will try to put together a cost analysis for the pumping station for the propane that would be installed.

Discuss/Update staff performance reviews – Changes for 2015 (Wiggenhauser) – No discussion at this time.

Update on Roads, Equipment and Building and Grounds – Roads – Jarred told the committee that we are almost done mixing winter sand for our county roads. Al Bauman mentioned that the intersection of Hwy 47 and “D” and Little Pines near the Community Center had an accident involving a school bus but that no one was injured. **Equipment** – Jarred told the committee that we had one truck in the shop for some repairs. **Building and Grounds** – nothing new to report.

Approve Payroll Reports & Hwy Committee vouchers – Motion by Bauman, second by Wiggenhauser to approve as presented – all voted aye.

Budget 2014 – Jarred told the committee that overall the budget for 2014 looks quite good. Jason Hilger also said that generally the 2014 Budget should be okay. Wiggenhauser had some questions regarding budget items that were answered by Jason and Tom Numrich.

Letters and Communications – Ron De Bruyne mentioned to the committee that they need to have a joint meeting with Public Property Committee regarding a new building for the Forestry Department and possibly shared with Highway. Dave Gayle and Nick Scholtes talked to the committee about professional services that they could offer to the Highway Department on future road projects.

Public Comments on Agenda Items – No comments from the general public.

Winter Road School – De Bruyne, Rayala and Otterpohl will be attending – Jarred will make the reservations for everyone.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 20th at 10:00 am.

Motion by Bauman, second by Otterpohl to adjourn – all voted aye.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise A. Krus, Secretary