

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 11, 2016

The Grant County Highway Committee held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at the Highway Office in Lancaster, Wisconsin. Chairman Donald Splinter called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M..

Members present besides the Chairman were John Patcle, Vern Lewison, Grant Loy, Mark Stead, and Highway Commissioner David Lambert. Also present was Grant County Board Chairman Robert Keeney, Larry Kirschbaum, Jeff Pluemer, Steve Pluemer, Tom Weigel, Jim Lory, Dave Vaassen, Lon Holze, Myron Tranel, and Grant County Corporation Counsel Ben Wood. Terri Abing joined the meeting at 9:09 A.M..

Notice of the meeting was sent to the radio station and newspaper and the agenda was posted at the Administration Building and Highway Office.

John Patcle, seconded by Grant Loy, moved to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Mark Stead, seconded by Vern Lewison, moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2016 and January 21, 2016 meetings as printed. Motion carried.

John Patcle, seconded by Grant Loy, moved to pay Vouchers #1093 thru #1184 for 2015, and Vouchers #1 thru 4 for 2016. Motion carried.

For the year 2015, Grant County is under budget by \$44,612.00 for the maintenance work that we provide on the State Highway System. Through the RMA Budget, \$2,216,771.00 was spent on State Highways in Grant County in 2015.

Donald Splinter, seconded by John Patcle, moved to approve and recommend to the full County Board, a request for a ATV - UTV Route on CTH "Z" from Sinsinawa Road to Murphy Road all within the Town of Hazel Green pending approval by the Traffic Safety Committee. Motion carried.

David began the discussion on the sale of the old shop and salt shed property in Platteville. Options in disposing of the property included; using a Realtor, direct sale, auction, and sealed bids. Corporation Counsel Ben Wood told the Committee it was his opinion that authority in disposing of the property rested with the Highway Committee. He also said that the Committee could sell the property any way they wanted to whoever they wanted as long as they acted in a prudent manner and keeping in the best interest of the taxpayers in mind regarding price. Myron Tranel told the Committee that he had a client interested in purchasing the property and the Platteville Township property in the same block to build a 16 - 18 apartment complex. His research showed that both the County and Township parcels together consist of about 2 plus acres with an estimated value of \$250,000. - \$275,000. with a ceiling of \$300,000. if the current buildings were removed. He put a value on the Township property of \$115,000. - \$135,000..

Jeff Pluemer, owner of Jeff's Mini Mart located just to the east of the County property, requested that the Committee consider selling him Lots 2,3, and 12 to give him the opportunity to expand his business.

Lon Holze stated that he was interested in the property and would build storage units similar to the ones he currently owns across the street.

In the past, the Highway Commissioner had conducted a poll of the neighbors to the County and Township property regarding what they would like to see the land used for or not used for. They had indicated that they would be in favor of the Convenience Store expanding, storage units, single family housing, or duplex housing. However, they did not want multi family housing on the property.

John Patcle, seconded by Mark Stead, moved to sell Lots 2,3,and 12 in Block C of the Mitchell Addition to the City of Platteville to Jeff Pluemer pending an agreed upon price within the next 60 days. Motion carried.

Mark Stead, seconded by Grant Loy, moved to approve the offering value for the Rita Suthers land to be used for the Belmont Mound Trail Project. The land price will be \$10,900./acre for 3.51 acres. Lafayette County will purchase the land and fund the purchase of the land through a fund they have established with the Wisconsin DNR for this purpose. Motion carried.

County and State road crews have been busy plowing snow and filling sheds with salt and chips.

David said that drainage issues at the new Platteville site will have to be addressed in the spring as the ground is now frozen. He will also be meeting with Char Martin with the Department of Safety and Public Service at the new Platteville site next Wednesday.

David handed out a copy of the 2015 Grant County Highway Department Annual Report to each Committee member for review and make changes as necessary.

Due to a recent retirement, a General Laborer Position is open at the Highway Department.

John Patcle, seconded by Grant Loy, moved to offer the open General Laborer Position to Candidate 2 from the January 14, 2016 interviews. Motion carried.

Mark Stead, seconded by Vern Lewison, moved to adjourn at 10:50 A.M. to Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark A. Stead, Secretary