

**Minutes of the Public Works Committee
February 14, 2008**

Chair Herro called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Committee Members Present: County Board Supervisors Ken Herro (Chair), Karl Nilson, Dave Swan, Dennis Farrell (arrived at 8:37 a.m.), Fritz Ruf, Joe Marchese (arrived at 8:50 a.m) and Peter Wolff.

Also Present: County Board Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Budget Management Specialist Linda Witkowski, Director of Public Works Rich Bolte and Legislative Associate Karen Phillips.

Correspondence

- Letter from WisDOT regarding the Final Calculation for 2008 General Transportation Aids

Approve Minutes of January 31, 2008

MOTION: Swan moved, Ruf second, to approve the minutes of January 31, 2008. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Committee Report

Herro highlighted the items discussed at the February 4, 2008, meeting.

- State legislators Gunderson, Jeskewitz, and Zipperer spoke to the Committee about legislative issues.
- The Salt Shed Ordinance, which was tabled by the Committee.

Farrell arrived at 8:37 a.m.

Future Agenda Items

- Discussion of the RTA with SEWRPC (Herro)
- Discussion of MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) (Swan)
- Discuss/Define what the Committee is in charge of regarding transit issues (Esler)
- Update from Bob Johnson and Andrew Johnson of Waukesha Metro Transit (Herro)

Status Update on Public Works Department Capital Projects

CTH Y – I 43 to I: Bolte explained this project is in design, and will be delayed because of State road construction in the area. He stated this would be a major project with many detours and considerable inconveniences to motorists. Bolte said they would start posting signs about a year in advance to give people a chance to make alternate plans.

CTH E/Oconomowoc River: Bolte stated this project is in design.

CTH X/59 Harris Highlands: Bolte updated the Committee on this project, stating the City of Waukesha and the Town of Waukesha are on board but an agreement has not been reached with the DOT. He stated it is currently on hold until there some resolution on the bypass.

Marchese arrived at 8:50 a.m.

CTH Q/175 – Colgate Phase II: Bolte stated this project is done except for punch list items.

CTH SR Bridge: This projection is in design for 2008 construction.

Springdale / K / Weyer Study: Bolte stated the study has been completed. He talked about the extension of Springdale Road, and the conclusion that Highway K could be built to go over the railroad tracks.

CTH/Fox River Bridge: Bolte stated this project is in design for 2008 construction.

CTH I / Sunnyslope Signal: This project has been completed.

CTH L / Pilak Creek Bridge: This project has been completed.

CTH P / CTH Z Intersection: This project has been completed.

CTH VV / Marcy – Bette Drive: This project is currently in design.

CTH Y/Kelsey: Bolte stated this project is in the planning stage.

CTH SR/M: Bolte stated this project is in planning and will probably include a roundabout.

CTH Y/M: This project is in planning for 2008-2009 construction.

L/Janesville Road: Bolte stated this project is currently in the preliminary design stage.

CTH P Bark River: Bolte stated this project is currently in the preliminary design stage

CTH P / DR: Bolte stated this project is basically on hold as far as the County is concerned. Herro stated that it is not on hold with the City of Oconomowoc, and Pabst Farms would like the County to vote on it as soon as possible. The proposed mall development was discussed, as well as what types of stores would be required to attract shoppers from outside the region. Esler commented that after reading material sent to him by Herro from Dale Shaver, that the definition of the plan documents that are proposed for the mall best fits the description of a “power town,” an area where you can walk to restaurants within the nucleus store areas, surrounded by several discount stores. Esler stated, in jest, that it is nice to see that the oldest city in Waukesha County would reinvent itself as a “power town.”

CTH TT: Bolte stated this project is on hold pending the bypass. Herro stated the Board had decided this project should move forward, regardless of what the State was going to do. Bolte stated his recommendation is a delay because he would to take the money and do the required environmental study for the entire corridor, because that is a precursor to moving forward with the bypass project. Bolte explained the hold up is that they waiting for the DOT to get on board and agree to take over the road once it is built.

Wolff asked why the County is paying for the environmental study. Bolte said because that is the fastest way to proceed, and it is one of the State’s conditions that the environmental study be done. Bolte stated that most of the bypass replaces a County highway, so we are feeling a responsibility to take this on as the alternate to TT.

Wolff asked if this should be brought up on the Board floor, or should the Committee discuss what should be done. Bolte suggested Herro speak to County Board Chairman Dwyer, and afterwards let him know how to proceed. Wolff added that something definitive needs to be done.

Courthouse AHU: Bolte stated this project is in the planning stage, with some preliminary work done by Harwood Engineering.

Medical Examiner Remodel: Bolte stated this project is in design with a bid date for spring of 2009. Herro stated he would like to see the design on paper next time.

Highway/Sheriff Storage Bolte stated the building is under construction.

Court / Prisoner Movement Study: Bolte stated this project has been completed. He stated there is ongoing discussion by the CJCC committee on this and issues are trying to be resolved, but at this point, there is no capital project anymore.

Court House Boiler: Bolte stated the boiler replacement is moving forward this year at a cost of \$648,000.

Radio Services Building: The present status of this project is in the RFP process.

Energy Conservation: This project is in the planning process.

Law Enforcement Center HVAC: This project is in the planning process and a consultant will be on board shortly.

Discuss Traffic Issues Concerning CTH "K" at Maple Avenue

Swan had questions about the road construction in the area of Highway K and Maple Avenue. Bolte stated it is a new entrance/exit from the quarry operations at Halquist. Swan asked if permits were obtained, since that area was previously a residential driveway. Bolte stated they did, and made the improvements at the intersection, widening it and putting in bypass lanes. Bolte stated they would review it, but is confident this has all been done properly under permit.

Herro asked why this issue was on the agenda. Esler stated the reason is that Swan brought it up at the last Public Works Committee meeting, so it was put on the agenda for discussion. Esler further explained that when supervisors are out and about, they see development/construction going on and want to know the details because it was never discussed as a capital project. He stated that issuing access permits and the alterations to highways are administrative issues dealt with within the Public Works Department, and these types of issues do not come before the Public Works Committee to review. Swan added that perhaps Bolte could inform the Committee of such projects.

Discuss Parking Regulations Relative to the Village of Chenequa Request

Herro asked Bolte if he could send a staff member to Highway K to see if there are any sharp turns that would justify the parking restrictions to be imposed. Ruf stated that philosophically he has a problem with the fact that the Village wants to decide parking restrictions on State and County highways. Bolte stated he does not feel turns are the problem; the issue is whether you can safely park according to the Statues, which require you to have your vehicle off the traveled roadway. There are no shoulders on Highway K, and it is left to the power of the police department to ticket a vehicle because it is parked

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unsafely, rather than through prescriptive signing. Lining County highways with no-parking signs is not the way the County operates, because there would be thousands of signs along County highways if this

were so. Bolte stated he feels this is not a valid request in that this does not provide any justifiable reason for it.

MOTION: Ruf moved, second by Farrell, to deny the request by the Village of Chenequa. Motion carried 7-0.

Discuss Activities and Projects of the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission

Nilson, Chairman, Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission, presented an update to the Committee. He highlighted items discussed at the February 8, 2008, meeting. Nilson stated that the crossing at CW has been repaired by Union Pacific. He informed the Committee that Canadian National is buying a small, Class 2 railroad in the Chicago area to improve the fluidity of their rail operations in the Chicago region. He read excerpts from a letter he sent as Chairman of the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission to the Chairman Nottingham of the Surface Transportation Board in Washington D.C. Nilson said he has statement of the proposed merger and will make it available to the Committee for review, as well as a copy of his letter to the Surface Transportation Board.

MOTION: Herro moved, second by Farrell, to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 a.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe C. Marchese
Secretary