

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 8, 2010

Administrative Center – Room 3220

4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Spiker, Arlene Benrud, Jim Berns, Ralph Geary, Jai Johnson (4:03), Leon Pfaff

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jeff Schroeder

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Dennis Osgood, Jim Speropulos, Hank Koch, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Keith Back, Randy Nedrelo, Charlie Handy, Tom Faella, Maureen Freedland, Gary Ingvalson, Sharon Hampson, Bob Haines, Patti Abraham

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Charles Spiker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2010, COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION by Benrud/Berns to approve the Minutes of June 3, 2010, Committee Meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson, Schroeder excused.

CONSENT AGENDA (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Minutes of Economic Development Fund Committee meeting of June 9, 2010
- b. Minutes of Law Enforcement Center Construction Committee meeting of June 8, 2010
- c. Check Requisitions over \$20,000 (handout)
- d. Memo re Review of HHM Intergovernmental Agreement
- e. Table on Solid Waste Saturday hours revenue

MOTION by Pfaff/Benrud to receive and file the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

Supervisor Benrud reported on the Wisconsin Counties Highway Association summer conference. She is now chair of WCHA.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF SALE OF VACANT LOTS IN MEADOW PARK ESTATES

Charlie Handy reported that the Meadow Park Estate development was acquired by the County due to tax delinquency. All 55 lots in the development are served by sewer, water and roads. Handy reported that the resolution is to approve the sale of 11 lots through the statutory bid process. The lots have been appraised at \$17,000 per lot. The total average amount owed on each lot for taxes, interest, penalties, and special assessments is \$16,467.70. Bids must meet or exceed the appraised value. Discussion was held regarding negotiations, the status of the remaining lots, and special assessments. **MOTION** by Pfaff/Benrud to approve the Resolution Re: Approval of Sale of Vacant Lots in Meadow Park Estates. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

ACT ON STATE/MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR CTH B URBAN PROJECT

Dennis Osgood provided copies of a proposed agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation regarding improvements to County Trunk Highway B, which is scheduled for construction in 2011. The total project cost is \$510,000, of which Federal/State Funds will cover approximately 61% with the County share coming to \$202,000. Osgood stated he has applied for more Federal/State Funds to hopefully get the project 80% Federal/State funded. **MOTION** by Berns/Johnson to

approve the State/Municipal Agreement for County Trunk Highway B. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

DISCUSS OWNERSHIP OF PROPOSED SIGNALS AT CTH HD & SUNSET DRIVE – SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT

Dennis Osgood introduced Bob Haines, Holmen Director of Public Works, who spoke about the intersection of CTH HD and Sunset Drive. Haines reported on the proposal that the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Committee made. The Village of Holmen has proposed they will pay for installation of signal lights, but request that La Crosse County maintain the lights. Haines introduced Patti Abraham from the SRTS Committee, who stated that Bob Haines conducted a signal warrants analysis which showed the intersection met the need for signals. She stated that both citizens and students will use the intersection to access several locations. Osgood pointed out that if the grant is not awarded there would be pressure for the County to provide signal lights. Lengthy discussion followed regarding maintenance costs, ownership of the equipment, and crosswalks, turn lanes, and other improvements. Further discussion was held regarding transferring ownership of county roads to municipal ownership as areas become more urbanized.

MOTION by Berns/Johnson to approve La Crosse County taking ownership of signal lights at County Trunk Highway HD and Sunset Drive if a Safe Routes to School Grant is awarded.

The motion was twice amended as follows:

MOTION by Johnson/Geary to amend to approve adding “contingent upon the Village of Holmen paying utilities.” **MOTION** by Pfaff/Johnson to amend to approve adding “and contingent upon the Village of Holmen taking operation, and that any amount above the amount of the grant is the responsibility of the Village of Holmen for installation.”

Committee consensus was not to take individual votes on the amendments, and a vote was then taken on the **MOTION** to approve La Crosse County taking ownership of signal lights at County Trunk Highway HD and Sunset Drive if a Safe Routes to School Grant is awarded, as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

RESOLUTION RE: PLACING ADVISORY REFERENDUM QUESTION ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

Dennis Osgood reported that the Resolution addresses the transfer of approximately \$1.2 billion from the state’s segregated transportation fund to the state’s general fund and replacing with approximately \$800 million in General Obligation bonds. This has resulted in a reduction of approximately \$400 million for transportation purposes. The Resolution calls for an advisory referendum stating the question, “Should the Wisconsin Constitution be amended to prohibit any further transfers or lapses from the segregated transportation fund?”, to be placed on the ballot for the November, 2010, election to keep “user fees” that are paid through the gasoline tax and vehicle registration fees for their intended purpose. Supervisor Benrud stated that the WCHA decided the issue should go to all the counties. Supervisor Hampson reported on the Executive Committee failing to pass the resolution. She stated that state lawmakers’ raiding of funds is a systemic problem, and legislation by referendum was not the best way to write law. Lengthy discussion was held regarding taxpayer expectations of where their tax money goes, millions of dollars in unfunded capital improvement projects, and the opportunity to educate the public regarding the problem. Chair Spiker stated the Resolution will require a 2/3 vote by the County Board. **MOTION** by Geary/Johnson to approve the Resolution Re: Placing Advisory Referendum Question on November Ballot. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

SCHEDULE TOUR OF COUNTY PARKS

MOTION by Benrud/Berns to tour county parks on Thursday, August 26, 2010, beginning at 1:30 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused. It was agreed to meet at the County highway shop on Highway 16.

GAS TO ENERGY PROJECT UPDATE—DIRECTION FROM COMMITTEE

Hank Koch stated that a presentation was given to the County Board at its Planning Meeting on July 7, 2010, and asked for any follow-up questions or comments regarding the Gas to Energy Project with Gundersen/Lutheran. **MOTION** by Pfaff/Johnson to go forward with a resolution on the Gas to Energy Project to authorize the project and enter a contract, and have the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee provide oversight of the operation of the system, for the August 9, 2010, meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused. Discussion followed regarding the life of the project and results of the feasibility study, which indicated there would be sufficient methane for 30 years. Koch presented an analysis of risks and mitigating factors.

APPROVE BIDS FOR DEMOLITION OF SOLID WASTE OLD SHOP

Hank Koch presented bids as follows for demolition of the old shop at Solid Waste:

Ellefson Excavating	\$48,916
St. Joseph Construction	\$70,900
Veit & Company, Inc.	\$129,730
Azar, LLC	\$133,885

He explained that Foth reviewed qualifications and found that Ellefson Excavating was qualified to perform the work. **MOTION** by Benrud/Geary to approve Ellefson Excavating for demolition of the Solid Waste old shop at \$48,916. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

APPROVE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR SOLID WASTE CONSULTANT

Hank Koch provided a draft of the Request for Qualifications for potential engineering consultants, and reviewed the selection process. He stated they hope to get six to 10 responses to the Request for Qualifications, and will follow with an evaluation process to narrow the field to three consultants to be interviewed and scored by a panel of approximately 12 people. Koch will excuse himself from the evaluation scoring.

UPDATE ON PHARMACEUTICAL PROGRAM

Randy Nedrelo gave an update on the Pharmaceutical Collection Program, and presented options for continuing the program, as follows:

1. Continue existing program
2. Discontinue all pharmaceutical collections
3. Continue the program, but do not collect controlled substances
4. Continue the program, but add four special collection events per year for controlled substances
5. Collect only non-controlled substances at HHM; collect controlled substances at the sheriff and/or police departments
6. Collect only non-prescription medications at HHM; collect all prescriptions and controlled or uncontrolled substances at the sheriff and/or police departments
7. Discontinue collection at HHM and collect only at collection events

He spoke about restrictions placed by the Drug Enforcement Administration, and recommended option #4. The HHM program would use press releases, advertising, and print material to educate the public. **MOTION** by Berns/Johnson to accept Option 4, to continue the program but add four special collection events per year for controlled substances. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

APPROVE SOLID WASTE STUMP DISPOSAL POLICY

Hank Koch proposed a policy of accepting stumps less than 18 inches diameter and less than six feet in length, with no metal and a minimum amount of soil attached to the root ball, at the current rate of \$27/ton. There will be a charge of \$50/ton for stumps exceeding the 18 inch diameter or with metal or excessive amounts of soil. The charge will be reviewed annually. Stumps will be stored at the wood waste processing pad and buried at the landfill. **MOTION** by Pfaff/Benrud to approve the Solid Waste stump disposal policy and bring a resolution to the County Board.

Motion carried unanimously. Schroeder excused.

APPROVE SOLID WASTE CLEAN SOIL POLICY

Hank Koch proposed a clean soil policy that allows for a fee of \$1 per ton for quantities up to 5,000 tons per project. A 48-hour notification would be required. If projects exceed 5,000 tons, they would be considered case-by-case. The policy also addresses identification of soil type and source, placement of soil in a designated area, annual review of the fee, and waiving of the fee depending on construction needs. **MOTION** by Johnson/Geary to approve the Solid Waste clean soil policy and bring a resolution to the County Board. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder excused.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: AUGUST 9, 2010

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

HHM advisory committee
Road transfer with Village of Holmen

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Benrud/Spiker to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Schroeder, Johnson excused. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Approved, August 9, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder