

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Monday, October 11, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Spiker, Arlene Benrud, Jim Berns, Ralph Geary, Jai Johnson, Jeff Schroeder

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Leon Pfaff

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Dennis Osgood, Jim Speropulos, Hank Koch, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Keith Back, Randy Nedrelo, Bryan Jostad, Nick Nichols, Mary Powell, Gary Ingvalson

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 SEPTEMBER 2, 2010, COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION by Benrud/Johnson to approve the Minutes of September 2, 2010, Committee Meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pfaff excused.

CONSENT AGENDA (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Minutes of Economic Development Fund Committee meeting of September 2, 2010
- b. Check Requisitions over \$20,000 (handout)
- c. Notice of WisDOT Southwest Region Fall Meeting
- d. Solid Waste Director's Report

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

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

None reported.

APPROVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dennis Osgood reported that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has purchased land from Mathy Construction on Brice Prairie, and plans to build a tourist information center. The access to CTH Z will require a bypass lane and turning lanes. The Fish and Wildlife Service has offered a grant for \$64,570.00 to the County for the cost of milling and removing approximately 800 feet of existing pavement on CTH Z, construction of a northbound bypass lane, and repaving. **MOTION** by Schroeder/Benrud to approve the grant agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to construct turning and acceleration/deceleration lanes on County Trunk Highway Z. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pfaff excused.

APPROVE COST AGREEMENT WITH WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dennis Osgood reported on a cost agreement with the Wisconsin DOT that would provide reimbursement for the purchase of AVL-GPS equipment, sensors, communications, and installation that La Crosse County will then own, operate, and maintain in 20 county trucks. The total cost of the equipment is \$104,780.00. The equipment will include real-time weather forecasting, which will provide better winter storm prediction and help the Highway Department to more accurately determine manpower and salt use. The GPS equipment could also be used in the summer for projects such as sign placement. It is a pilot project that goes to June 30, 2011, and will then be reassessed. Osgood will bring back a copy of the final report. **MOTION**

by Johnson/Benrud to approve the Cost Agreement for Automatic Vehicle Location-Global Positioning System (AVL-GPS) equipment, sensors, communications, and installation for La Crosse County Highway Department for the purpose of research on state maintained roads. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pfaff excused.

APPROVE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 2011 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

Dennis Osgood presented a breakdown of capital equipment requests for new equipment, replacements and upgrades, including the following: Computers, salt shed repairs, message board, portable signs, trucks, trailers, machinery, cold storage building, and holding tank. The requests will come out of the machinery fund. **MOTION** by Berns/Johnson to approve the 2011 Budget Request List – Capital Equipment. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pfaff excused.

2011 BUDGET REVIEW FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT REPORT TO THIS COMMITTEE

Steve O'Malley provided a budget review for individual departments. He stated that each department worked hard to present a budget with 0% levy increase.

- Highway: In 2010, the department utilized short-term borrowing and supplemented with the old landfill balance, and can do the same in 2011. Debt service will be paid out of highway fund balance, which is in a positive position. Under capital improvement, O'Malley spoke about \$35 million in unmet road needs. Highway staff has prioritized projects and is pursuing grant funds. O'Malley reported that state funding is based on a formula, but depends on whether the Governor's budget siphons money away from transportation to other needs.
- Facilities: The total funding requirement equals the 2010 levy of \$2.59 million. The department has taken on the additional maintenance of the LEC building. A security staff position has been transferred to maintenance. Probation and Parole revenue will help offset costs of operating the LEC. Discussion was held regarding parking revenue and cost sharing Lake Neshonoc improvements with the Lake District. Capital improvements have been kept to a minimum, and include some campground buildings. The department does not plan any major projects in the Administrative Center and Health and Human Service building at this time.
- Solid Waste: The department is doing all it can to maximize tonnage, including the rebate program and blended rate. Fees and charges will be covered at the County Board meeting.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2010

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None request.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Schroeder/Benrud to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pfaff excused. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Approved, November 1, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder