

**Jackson County Highway Department
Committee Meeting
November 5, 2025**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. in the Conference Room at the Jackson County Highway Department, 119 Harrison Street, Black River Falls, WI on Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

2. Roll Call

The following Highway Committee members were present: Ed Chamberlain, Mike Kunes, John Higgins, Mike Beck and David Holen.

Others present:

Kevin Kamrowski, Highway Commissioner
Joe Rowekamp, Operations Manager/Patrol Superintendent
Ann Klieforth, Accountant/Office Manager
Jeff Amo, County Board Chairman
Cindy Altman, County Clerk
Rick Poff, Jackson County Facilities

3. Approve Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on October 15, 2025, were reviewed.

M/S Higgins/Kunes to approve the Highway Committee minutes as presented. Carried unanimously.

4. Equipment Update

- ▶ #0043 – 2009 Mack Tri-Axle: Previously sent to Ascendance Truck Center, and remained for a new remanufactured Allison transmission. Additionally, the clutch pack #5 went out. Cost = \$13,780.97
Unit is back in service.
- ▶ #0057 - 2019 Western Star Tandem Axle: Sent to Premier Truck after losing the carrier bearing on I-94.
Cost = \$2,724.57 for the tow and repair. Unit is back in service.
- ▶ #0017 – 2025 GMC 2500: Sent to Gross Motors for first free oil change and oil cooler line leak at radiator. Cost = Under warranty. Unit is back in service.
- ▶ #0080 – 2025 Freightliner Tandem Axle: Sent to Murphy’s for the added 1800# leaf springs to handle The 14-foot plow. Unit is back in service. Cost = \$1,617.35

5. Update on Highway Operations (County and State)

Joe Rowekamp reported on County operations:

- ▶ Jetted lines at the landfill, replaced culverts and paved over them, started fall mowing, crackfilled on CTH H and did chips and oil on CTH H & CTH O.

Projection for next month:

- ▶ Haul sand for salt/sand mix, set up trucks for the winter season, install snow fence, shoulder work and brush cutting on various county roads.

Joe Rowekamp reported on State Operations for Shane Peterson:

- ▶ Received 2,000 tons of salt, fixed guard rail on I-94, patched with mastic on I-94, shouldered on I-94 and other state roads, worked on getting trucks set up for snow removal, did chips and oil on STH 12.

Projection for next month:

- ▶ Continue shouldering until it freezes up, install snow fence, grind bumps on I-94 and STH 12, chips and oil on STH 12 and cut brush/trees in various locations.

6. Discuss/Act on Election of Commissioner State Statute 83.01(2)

M/S Higgins/Kunes to approve a two-year term for Commissioner Kamrowski and forward to the County Board for action. Carried unanimously.

7. Discuss/Act on Reappointing Highway Commissioner

Covered in item #6.

8. Discuss/Act on Resolution for a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

Commissioner Kamrowski asked County Board Chairman Amo to discuss specifics of the resolution for the Committee. Discussion took place.

M/S Higgins/Kunes to move forward with the Resolution for a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Market & Johnson and forward to the County Board for consideration. Carried unanimously.

9. Discuss/Act on 40% Design Presentation

Representatives from both Barrientos Design & Consulting and Market & Johnson worked together to present the 40% design for a Future Highway Facility.

10. Discuss/Act on Tree Removal at Highway Facility

Commissioner Kamrowski discussed options for tree removal at the lower shop property. Committee discussed options.

M/S Beck/Holen to hire Jelinek Trucking, Inc to clear timber for the sole cost of keeping the timber product. Carried unanimously.

11. Discuss/Act on Rural Broadband Permit Fees

Commissioner Kamrowski discussed the potential of waving the utility permit fees for the companies who are directly working on the rural broadband installation process in the county.

M/S Beck/Higgins to wave the utility fees for BEAD BOB awarded broadband contracting companies. Carried unanimously.

12. Discuss/Act on 2026 Landfill Agreement

Commissioner Kamrowski presented an annual Landfill Agreement with Short, Elliot & Hendrickson.

M/S Higgins/Beck to move forward with the 2026 Landfill Agreement and have Commissioner Kamrowski sign the agreement and return it to SEH. Carried unanimously.

13. Approve Vouchers

M/S Holen/Higgins to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$453,648.25. Carried unanimously.

14. Office Manager's Report

The 2025 year-to-date financial analysis was presented by Ann Klieforth, Accountant/Office Manager.

15. Highway Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Kamrowski updated on:

- ▶ Updates on the 40% Facility Design included a recent tour of the Barron County facility and an additional re-visit of Eau Claire county's shop, as there were shop personnel along with the intention of finalizing design need details for correct information for Barrientos.
- ▶ Recent LRIP submittal for reimbursements on three current projects.
- ▶ Reviewed current plans for future construction.
- ▶ Local road R/W issue with a gate installed by the WDNR.
- ▶ Information on a ribbon cutting ceremony on November 12, 2025, at 12:00 P.M. for the completed ARIP project on West Indies Rd.

16. Employee Conferences, Training and/or Seminars

Winter Highway Conference is scheduled for January 13-15, 2026, in La Crosse.

M/S Higgins/Beck to approve attendance by Commissioner Kamrowski. Carried unanimously.

17. Set/Confirm Future Highway Committee Dates

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 @ 8:30 A.M

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 @ 8:30 A.M

18. Adjournment

M/S Higgins/Holen to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.