

**Jackson County Highway Department
Committee Meeting
May 21, 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, May 21, 2025.

2. Roll Call

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

Kevin Kamrowski, Highway Commissioner
Joe Rowekamp, Operations Manager/Patrol Superintendent
Shane Peterson, Patrol Superintendent
Ann Klieforth, Accountant/Office Manager
Jeff Amo, County Board Chairman
Cindy Altman, County Clerk
Tom Cooper, County Board Member
Jason Plante, Market & Johnson
Norman Barrientos, Barrientos Design

3. Approve Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on April 16, 2025, were reviewed.

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

4. Equipment Update

- ▶ #0024 – 2014 Ford F250: Picked up from Osseo Ford. Cost: \$2,707.97, less a \$700.00 credit from Conrad's. We will be selling the truck on auction, as is and keep the core transmission, spare wire harness and PCM for use in the future on similar trucks in the fleet. We will keep truck #0019, a 2010 Chevrolet 2500 to replace it.
- ▶ #0071 – 2016 Mack Tandem Axle: Sent to Nuss Truck for DPF recall/replacement. The pan below the DPF deteriorated and holes in it caused an engine light for efficiency. Cost: \$687.50 (for the part with no labor). In order to meet trade-in specifications, there can not be an engine light active, the tires must be at 50% life or greater and the truck must be driven to the dealer lot. Currently, it is being prepared for auction.
- ▶ #0028 – 2019 Dodge 1500: Sent to Gross Motors to change a rotted oil pan. Unit is back in service. Cost: \$1,257.67
- ▶ #0087 – 2013 Mack Tri-Axle: Hauled to Nuss Truck for a bad ECM, and a rotted A/C line was replaced while it was disassembled. Unit is back in service. Cost: \$1,257.67
- ▶ #5610 – 2008 CAT AP1000 Paver: Fabick CAT came to diagnose the auto control, and found that the left control junction box was bad, which was recalibrated for its intermittent steering issue. New left and right junction boxes were ordered and installed in-house. Unit is back in service. Cost: \$3,392.69

5. Update on Highway Operations (County and State)

Joe Rowekamp reported on County operations:

- ▶ Hauled 1 1/4" base, hauled 3/8" chips for the sealcoat project, started construction on CTH N, finished repairs on salt sheds and reclaimed shoulders.

Projection for next month:

- ▶ Replace culverts on CTH N, wedging on CTH N & CTH X, chipseal CTH N and CTH X (06/07/25), Mastic/patch various county roads and guardrail work on CTH N & CTH H.

Shane Peterson reported on State Operations:

- ▶ Completed reclaiming shoulders, repaired guardrail on USH 10, I-94 and the Hixton ramp, bridge washing, sprayed growth inhibitor, chips and oil on STH 95 and patched in various locations.

Projection for next month:

- ▶ Bridge deck sealing, guardrail repair on I-94, rubber bridge approaches, chips and oil on STH 12 and crackfill on STH 54 west.

6. Discuss/Act on Prices for Sand Blasting Trucks, Wings and Plows

Commissioner Kamrowski discussed the need for some sandblasting to be done for some of the trucks and components to maintain the integrity of the metal on our equipment and reviewed quotes that were obtained.

M/S Higgins/Holen to split the two types of equipment between two low bids from local shops. Carried unanimously.

7. Discuss/Act on Employee Recruitment and CDL School

Commissioner Kamrowski discussed the need to potentially change the way hiring considerations are handled for Highway Department operators. Due to the change in the field of available candidates with a CDL, there may be a need for either sending a candidate to CDL school or potentially sending a current employee to a Train-the-Trainer course and do the training in-house. The Commissioner was instructed to investigate each possibility, and the Committee would revisit the topic at a subsequent meeting. No action taken.

8. Discuss/Act on LRIP Pilot Program

Commissioner Kamrowski discussed the status of the LRIP Pilot Program in which our County is included, and that there have been some concerns with performance in some other areas of the State but noted that it was not a problem in Jackson County.

M/S Higgins/Beck to stay with the program for another cycle. Carried unanimously.

9. Discuss/Act on ATV/UTV Resolution

M/S Kunes/Beck to approve a resolution for non-opposition section of STH 54, from North Bend to Sandburg Road being used for ATV/UTV trail connection. Carried unanimously.

10. Discuss/Act on Facility 10% Design Presentation/Proposal

Addressed later in the meeting, scheduled at 10:00 a.m.

11. Approve Vouchers

M/S Chamberlain/Higgins to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$353,462.83. Carried unanimously.

12. Office Manager's Report

The 2025 year-to-date Financial Operation Analysis was presented by Ann Klieforth.

13. Highway Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Kamrowski updated on:

- ▶ A resolution honoring Jay Borek is planned to be presented at the WCHA Summer Road School.
- ▶ Discussed recent arrival of new equipment.

10. Discuss/Act on Facility 10% Design Presentation/Proposal

(Taken later in the agenda due to 10:00am scheduled time.)

Norman Barrientos (Barrientos Design) and Jason Plante (Market & Johnson) presented the 10% Design proposal to the Highway Committee and other attendees and answered questions as needed. The Committee inquired about the next step and how to get the most accurate price to allow for an idea of the potential borrowing possibility. The current design team agreed that moving to a 40% design would allow a very solid financial estimate, to which a better decision could be made.

M/S Kunes/Beck to proceed to develop a resolution to develop a 40% Design of a Future Highway Department Facility. Carried unanimously.

14. Employee Conferences, Training and/or Seminars

Commissioner Kamrowski will be attending Summer Road School in June.

15. Set/Confirm Future Highway Committee Dates

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 @ 8:30 A.M

16. Adjournment

M/S Beck/Holen to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.