



COUNTY OF BURNETT  
**INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**  
Burnett County Government Center

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## MINUTES

Infrastructure Committee

July 20, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Awe called the July 20, 2011, meeting of the Infrastructure Committee to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 165 of the Burnett County Government Center.

### NOTICE POSTED IN ACCORDANCE TO WIS. STAT. 19.84 OPEN MEETING LAW

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Charles Awe, Bert Lund, Jr., Donald Taylor, Eldon Freese, Christopher Sybers and Richard Anderson.

**MEMBERS EXCUSED** Jim Sundquist.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** Roger Nelson, Business Development Specialist with Ayers Associates, expressed his appreciation for past business from Burnett County and requested to be contacted for any new projects.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER** Motion to approve the agenda order was made by Supervisor Lund, seconded by Supervisor Taylor. Motion carried, voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2011, MEETING** Motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2011, Infrastructure Committee meeting with a correction on page 2, paragraph 6, line 5, to read *Russ Road* rather than *Rush Road* was made by Supervisor Taylor, seconded by Supervisor Freese. Motion carried, voice vote.

**STORM UPDATES** Maintenance Supervisor Gary Faught stated the generator, which had just been serviced, broke when needed but is fixed now, a tree was lost on the eastern end of the building but there was no building damage and a large amount of rocks shifted on the ballasted roof and were moved back in place. The emergency operations center worked well despite some phone issues at the time which Mr. Faught was able to fix.

Airport Manager Jeremy Sickler informed the committee some trees located behind the hangars are leaning eastward with shifted root systems and he is concerned the trees could fall toward hangars with a strong south wind. Mr. Sickler would like to have the Forestry Department look at the situation and probably take the trees down to assure they will not fall on the hangars in the future. Two hangars did have slight damage from the storm.

Highway Commissioner Bob Morehouse reported to date, on county roads, the Highway Department has done \$25,000.00 in repairs and \$3,600.00 in sign replacement. They have done \$11,000.00 in state road sign replacement. The largest cost will be getting a truck with a jammer on it, as they are not properly equipped for tree removal from the road. Hopkins Sand and Gravel is going to buy a truck with a jammer. The charge for use of a truck like this can range from \$300.00 to \$500.00 per hour. Hopkins may charge less. Weakened trees from the July 1, 2011, storm will cause more problems in the future. Mr. Morehouse asked for and received the support of the committee for spending the necessary funds over his budget for storm damage cleanup. The cost could total \$400,000.00 without any state funding, and not much state funding is expected, if any. Damages to equipment were: a broken side window on a loader, a broken front window on a loader and a pickup crushed by a tree, totaling \$7,500.00 in damages. These claims have been turned in to insurance. Discussion ensued regarding the option of raising the levy to cover emergency expenses.

### **AIRPORT DEPARTMENT**

**Year to Date Budget Summary** There were no questions from the committee on the year to date budget summary.

**Operations Report** Airport Manager Jeremy Sickler reviewed the submitted operations report. He noted they just finished painting the exterior of the airport terminal building this morning. Plans are complete for the fly-in breakfast this weekend. On August 13, 2011, the airport will be hosting an Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) "Young Eagles" day. At this event, children between the ages of 8 and 17 can take free flights with EAA member pilots. Chairman Awe noted the hangar owners have a Hangar Association meeting and party this Friday July 22, 2011, at hangar 22 by the DNR hangar. Committee members were invited to attend. Mr. Sickler will provide an annual report to the full board next month.

**Project Reports** There were no questions on the submitted report. Chairman Awe informed the committee of a teleconference regarding the roundabout project at which the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA) wanted the county to sign an agreement. Burnett County Administrator Candace Fitzgerald was not comfortable with signing the agreement, as federal funding seemed somewhat uncertain. The DOT and BOA said they would develop more assurances within the next month of federal funding being provided through the BOA. The three year roundabout project could use up a lot of entitlement funds if there is not apportionment money provided. The BOA is trying to get the Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) to commit to providing apportionment funding for all phases of the project. Mr. Sickler states there is very likely to be a presentation at the August 2011, Board of Supervisors meeting if everything is in place.

### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

**Year to Date Budget Summary** There were no questions from the committee on the year to date budget summary.

**Operations Report** Maintenance Supervisor Gary Faught reviewed the report and answered questions from the committee. Phone upgrades were completed July 13, 2011, changing from analog lines to a digital circuit and reducing the number of trunk lines coming into the building. 23 trunk lines are now shared and 78 lines have been eliminated at a cost savings of \$800.00 to \$900.00 per month. After some technical difficulties and reprogramming, things are going better. The Highway Department phones will be upgraded at a later time.

**Project Reports** Mr. Faught reviewed the submitted report and answered questions from the committee. A bid from Hopkins Sand and Gravel for demolition of the airport terminal annex building was provided to the Administration Committee along with the request for

recommendation of funding for the air terminal annex renovation. At this point, the Administration Committee feels the building is salvageable and they want more detail on the scope of work and cost of the renovation. An asbestos assessment will be necessary to move forward. The committee discussed getting an asbestos assessment and writing a request for proposals (RFP) for the work. Roger Nelson of Ayres Associates offered to send some sample RFPs for Mr. Faught to use to develop the RFP. Motion to get an asbestos assessment, develop an RFP, and submit it for bids was made by Supervisor Freese, seconded by Supervisor Taylor. Motion carried, voice vote.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**Year to Date Budget Summary** Highway Commissioner Bob Morehouse reviewed the Highway Department year-to-date budget summary and answered questions from the committee. Mr. Morehouse is adjusting down the planned Highway Department work to fit within the budget. However, one item that cannot be adjusted out is winter maintenance. So far this year \$266,000.00 out of \$415,000.00 has been expended. Chairman Awe stated the levy has increased over \$2 million in the last ten years and the Highway Department has received only \$13,000.00 of that increase.

**Operations Report** There were no questions on the submitted report.

**Project Reports** Mr. Morehouse estimated County Road B road repair will begin the first week after Labor Day. Two large projects have been added since the report was created. Forestry received a grant for additional all terrain vehicle (ATV) trails in the north part of the county and a storm damage grant for trail repairs. In Siren Township, four more roads will get 8,000 tons of gravel. The State Highway 48 project will involve five weeks of work putting in new culverts and liners. Project work is going quite well with help from the hired college students, but they will be losing one of the four student workers the first week in August. Mr. Morehouse will include the college student helpers in the budget for next year. Motion to approve replacement of the position vacated by Jack Erickson's retirement was made by Supervisor Taylor, seconded by Supervisor Lund. Motion carried, voice vote.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** Storage and budgets.

**NEXT MEETING DATE** August 3, 2011, for budget reviews and August 17, 2011, if needed.

**ADJOURN** Motion to adjourn the July 20, 2011, meeting of the Infrastructure Committee was made by Supervisor Taylor, seconded by Supervisor Lund. Motion carried, voice vote. Chairman Awe adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.