



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

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## MINUTES

Infrastructure Committee  
December 10, 2014

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Charles Awe, Emmett Byrne, Dale Dresel, Jeremy Gronski, Richard Anderson, Bert Lund, Jr. and Christopher Sybers (9:25 a.m.).

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Awe called the December 10, 2014, meeting of the Infrastructure Committee to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 165 of the Burnett County Government Center, Siren, Wisconsin.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** John Conrad, North Memorial Aircare pilot was present to introduce himself and comment on the new service based at the Burnett County Airport.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER** Chairman Awe reported Airport Manager Jeremy Sickler was delayed because a repair to the hydraulic system at Hangar 22 was needed. Airport Department reports would be discussed once Mr. Sickler arrived. Motion to approve the amended agenda order was made by Supervisor Byrne, seconded by Supervisor Lund. Motion carried, voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2014, MEETING** Motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2014, meeting was made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Byrne. Motion carried, voice vote.

### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

**Budget Report** There were no questions on the submitted Year-End and Year-To-Date Budget Summary reports.

**Operational Report** There were no questions on the submitted Operational Report. Maintenance Supervisor Gary Faught updated the committee on the annual elevator inspection. During the inspection it was discovered the second backup battery for the elevator phone had failed and will need to be replaced before the elevator passes inspection. Chairman Awe asked Mr. Faught about the malfunctioning distress alarm system used in the circuit court and the jail. A maintenance contract for the system has ended but maintenance department staff were able to make the alarm system functional. A new alarm system will be part of the dispatch center upgrade.

**Project Reports** There were no questions on the submitted Project Report.

Mr. Sickler arrived at 9:18 a.m.

### **AIRPORT DEPARTMENT**

**Budget Report** Mr. Sickler answered questions on the submitted Year-To-Date Budget Summary Report. Discussion ensued on falling fuel prices. Current policy is to sell fuel based on its purchase price not current market prices.

**Operational Report** Mr. Sickler gave an Operational Report and answered questions from the committee. Repairs were needed this morning to the hydraulic system which operates the door to Hangar 22 (the North Memorial Airlift hangar). Discussion ensued on the need for a backup system and whose responsibility that might be.

**Project Reports** Mr. Sickler submitted a Project Report and answered questions from the committee.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**Budget Report** Highway Commissioner Bob Morehouse submitted a Year-To-Date Budget Summary report.

**Operational Report** Mr. Morehouse reviewed the current operations and answered questions from the committee. In addition to the submitted report, Mr. Morehouse reported an employee was out on medical leave and the delivery of the replacement for #176 Tri-axle truck has been delayed until January.

**Project Reports** Mr. Morehouse reviewed the Open Project Status Report and updated the committee on the progress of ongoing projects.

**Request to Fill Vacancy Due to Retirement** Motion to approve the request to fill a vacancy due to retirement was made by Supervisor Sybers, seconded by Supervisor Lund. Motion carried, voice vote.

### **Clothing Allowance for Highway Department Employees**

Safety Boots: \$35.00/Year (All Personnel)

Single Vision Glasses: \$55.00/Year (All Personnel)

Bi-Focal Vision Glasses: \$65.00/Year (All Personnel)

Tool Allowance: \$75.00/Year (Shop Personnel Only)

Coveralls: \$7.00/Week (Shop Personnel Only)

Mr. Morehouse noted the new Burnett County policy manual requires the governing committee to approve the Highway Department Employee Clothing Allowance. The same items have been allowed at the same amount for the past 20 years. Motion to approve the clothing allowance as shown was made by Supervisor Byrne, seconded by Supervisor Dresel. Discussion ensued on increasing the allowable amounts. County Administrator Nate Ehalt stated the clothing allowance would be easier to administrate if a total amount was determined without itemizing specified items. Chairman Awe noted he had not acknowledged the motion and thus it was not on the table. Supervisor Sybers made a motion to allow \$250.00 for safety boots, single vision glasses and/or bi-focal vision glasses annually for all highway department personnel. The motion did not receive a second. Motion that all highway department personnel receive a \$250.00 clothing allowance to be used on safety boots, single vision glasses and/or bi-focal vision glasses was made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Sybers. Mr. Morehouse noted personnel must submit receipts for reimbursement. It was also noted not all highway department personnel need corrective lenses and that safety glasses are provided by the department to them. Supervisor Anderson amended his motion to state "all highway department personnel required to have these items for their jobs." Motion to amend the motion to specify \$100.00 for safety boots and \$75.00 for glasses, or a maximum allowance of \$175.00 was made by Supervisor Gronski, seconded by Supervisor Dresel. Motion to amend the motion failed due to tie voice vote with

Chairman Awe abstaining. Mr. Ehalt restated his preference for a consolidated allowance because of the administrative issues with tracking allowable items. Chairman Awe asked Supervisor Anderson to withdraw his motion. Supervisor Anderson declined. Motion carried, voice vote. Motion as approved: Motion that all highway department personnel required to have these items for their jobs receive a \$250.00 clothing allowance for safety boots, single vision glasses and/or bi-focal vision glasses. Discussion ensued on the remaining items - tools and coveralls - that are specific to highway shop personnel. Mechanics are required to provide their own tools. Motion that all highway shop personnel receive a \$75.00 tool allowance was made by Supervisor Dresel, seconded by Supervisor Byrne. Motion carried, voice vote. Motion that the coverall allowance for all highway shop personnel be \$7.00 per week was made by Supervisor Dresel, seconded by Supervisor Lund. The county has a contract for coveralls at \$9.00 per week so the employee portion would be \$2.00 per week. Motion carried, voice vote.

**Resolution/Ordinance for Implements of Husbandry (IoH)** Following discussion of the options available to the county concerning ACT 377 and how IoH and Agricultural Commercial Vehicles (AG CMV) operation could be governed on county roads, it was decided to act on a resolution at the January 15, 2015, committee meeting. Mr. Morehouse recommends Option E to opt in and pass an ordinance requiring IoH and AG CMV to apply for permit to exceed 23K/92K/Weight Table. Dan Bahr from the Wisconsin Counties Association Transportation Committee will be invited to speak on this issue at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

**2015 Winter Road School (January 12-14, 2015)** Information on the 2015 Winter Road School, was distributed. Supervisors Anderson and Byrne expressed interest in attending. The January committee meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, January 15, 2015.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Request for Proposal (RFP) Update** Mr. Ehalt reported receiving 14 proposals for the Highway Shop/Forestry facility. He is evaluating them and will narrow down to five for Mr. Morehouse and Forestry and Parks Department Administrator Jason Nichols to consider by next week. Two or three will be brought to the January 15, 2015, committee meeting. Other updates included the State Road 35/70 roundabout which is still scheduled in 2015. S and N was awarded the contract, but the cost to the county is more than expected. In addition, engineering costs were not figured into the budget by the Department of Transportation (DOT). The Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics has indicated there are funds available outside of the county's allotment to cover the extra costs but as the engineering fee oversight is the fault of the DOT it will be covered by them. Regarding the communication towers project, Mr. Ehalt will email a report to all supervisors which details costs that have gone over contractual agreements. The report does not include change orders that were approved by the county. Mr. Ehalt also reported he is working with North Memorial Airlift to help solve their communication issues.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** IoH resolution and RFPs.

**NEXT MEETING DATE** Thursday, January 15, 2015.

**ADJOURN** Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Sybers, seconded by Supervisor Lund. Motion carried, voice vote. Chairman Awe adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m.