

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

HELD ON: JULY 28th, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: HOFFMAN, WOLK, PASZAK, HOLEWINSKI, SHARON

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: SCHOLTES/HWY COMMISSIONER, COOPER/SECRETARY,
BENNETT/PATROL SUPT, NOEL/SERWE IMPLEMENT CO, LEMKE,
SORENSEN, CLARK/NOKOMIS ATV CLUB

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Hoffman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Paszak/Wolk to approve the minutes of the July 14th, 2011 meeting. All ayes.
4. **Motion:** Wolk/Paszak to approve vendor vouchers #402 – 412 for a total of \$30,935.13, plus personal expense vouchers. All ayes.
5. Discussed Nokomis ATV Club requesting the use of CTH ‘L’. Scholtes distributed a letter from DNR Forest Hydrologist Carmen Hardin who recommended using the frontage road and Bearskin Creek Bridge at the north end of the trail to minimize wetland impacts. In other areas, she recommended having the trail moved closer to the road. In some instances, the trail may have to be on the shoulder of the road. If this is not possible, a permit may be required to construct wetland crossings. The committee agreed that they are in favor of the trail, but they are waiting for Scholtes to get some questions answered. Scholtes admitted that he has not had time to work on the issue. The committee asked Scholtes to have the answers by the August 25th meeting when the committee will take the road trip to view the potential location of the trail. The club also asked the committee to consider opening CTH “N” and “Y” so the club could move forward with requests for Lincoln County.
6. **Motion:** Holewinski/Paszak to approve the purchase of the flail mower from Serwe Implement Co, Inc for \$10,274.00. All ayes.
7. Committee/Supervisor discussions of department construction and/or maintenance activities.
Bennett discussed:
 - State work: Four mowers on State roads; repaired failed drains on USH 51 in Minocqua and STH 47 in Lake Tomahawk; working on salt inventory; cleaning up downed trees; fixing washouts; curb and gutter repairs on USH 51 in Minocqua; Compass Training
 - County work: CTH ‘C’ construction underway; old culverts hauled away for \$250/ton scrap; conveyor truck on CTH “E” to repair washouts; shoulder work; County salt deliveries began today
 - Other work: Newbold culvert done; Pelican Bridge Aid culverts delivered today, will install after “C” is complete; submitted quotes to Woodboro to two culvert replacements; quote to landfill for shoulder work on entrance road;Scholtes discussed: Quotes for Sugar Camp, Lone Pine and Kafka Road; Kafka would qualify for Bridge Aid; driveway permits; ordered county salt from Cargil; meetings recently attended; road striping began this week; Little Rice speed zone concerns; anticipating a 7% overrun on the CTH “C” project because of large culvert replacement and weather related issues; CTH “J” moving forward; 2012 budget work; department transition proposal

8. Oneida County Contract Comparisons and Proposals:

- 40 Hour work week vs 37.5 hour work week.

Scholtes: This department really needs 40 hours a week to get the work done. Cutting back the hours will have a ripple effect for the department. One of the effects would be a reduction of machinery hours which is what funds the replacement of our equipment. The equipment will get older and the expense to repair the equipment will increase. We will need to look to the tax levy for purchase of future equipment. We are also going to have to look at what levels of service the department wants to provide in the future and this would have to be decided by the committee.

Committee: The department can work 40 hours a week if the workload is there; paving, crack sealing, snow plowing. Otherwise they will work 37.5 hours a week. The committee will not make a policy or micro manage; it will be up to the department head to make it work.

- Call pay

Scholtes: Should the committee decide to eliminate the call pay, I would like to make a compromise suggestion of no call pay until after the base hours, be it 37.5 or 40 hours, have been worked, and only be allowed call pay once in a 24 hour period; but not eliminate it all together.

Committee: LRES is possibly considering leaving call pay alone, but the above would be acceptable.

- Auto reclassification

Scholtes: Currently, after three years of employment, a Maintenance Worker is reclassified as an Operator I. Suggested eliminating the Operator I and Operator II positions, and just have Equipment Operator positions. We do not have enough Operator II work to justify the position year-round. The five current Operator II positions would be red-lined, and upon retirement, the positions would be eliminated. The three mechanics and the Signman would remain the same. We could have five Maintenance Workers and the rest Equipment Operators. Maintenance Workers would remain there until an Equipment Operator vacancy becomes available. This would be a tremendous savings to the county in the long run; once all the Equipment Operator II's are eliminated; but there would be an initial increase in costs until then, if we make the Equipment Operator rate of pay an average between the current rate of an Operator I and Operator II.

Committee: It will be a battle to ask for more money now even though we would save in the long run. They suggested finding a way to do it without raising costs now.

- CDL language

Scholtes: Language needs to be clarified

Committee: Agreed, should read: if you don't have a CDL, you don't have a job.

9. Union Grievance #1-2011. Committee agreed to meet with the Grievance Committee in closed session at the next meeting. Have County Coordinator attend meeting.

10. Future meeting dates:

- August 11th, 2011, 8:00 a.m. meet with union
- August 25th, 2011, 8:00 a.m.
- September 8th, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

11. Future agenda items:

- Union Grievance 1-2011
- ATV Club Request

12. No public comment.

13. **Motion:** Paszak/Wolk to adjourn at 10:00 am. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Secretary