

# MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

HELD ON: JULY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: SCHOLTES/COMMISSIONER, COOPER/SECRETARY,  
BENNETT/PATROL SUPT, BREMSER/WISDOT

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:** Paszak/Wolk to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Sharon/Wolk to approve the minutes of the June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting. All ayes.
4. **Motion:** Wolk/Sharon to approve vendor vouchers #352 – 370 for a total of \$444,839.41, plus personal expense vouchers presented. All ayes.
5. Committee/Supervisor discussions of department construction and/or maintenance activities.  
Bennett explained:  
State work: Mowing; Cut trees on 32; Patching on USH 51; Conveyor truck for washouts;  
Sweeping intersections  
County work: “D” East is done; Starting “D” West tomorrow; Mowing; Beaver problems;  
Conveyor truck for washouts  
Other work: Graded Stone Lake Road for the DNR; Working on possible Willow Trail job;  
Finished Forestry’s Almond Park, Perch Lake grubbing done so far; Working with Pine Lake on drainage job and lift and pave projects  
Scholtes explained: Meetings recently attended; Discussed beat postings; Working with LRES on employee health issue; Did interview questions and held interviews for Shop Supt; Permits; “C” driveway not put in to standards; Drainage issue on “B”; Issues with “D” American Legion, suggest moving driveway to the top of the hill; Went out to view storm damage in Pelican Lake with Bennett on Saturday
6. Bremser, WisDOT, was present to explain to the committee the DOT’s agreement to purchase and install AVL/GPS units for all patrol trucks. This will be at not cost to the county. WisDOT will even finance the monthly monitoring fees. Right now Federal funding is available to cover all costs. DOT expects to have these mandated for all trucks within the next year. The Federal grant is only available for a short time. Bremser suggested taking advantage of the Federal funding now, and have the DOT purchase and install all units at no cost to us, before the funding is gone. Once it is mandated, and the funding is no longer available, each county will have to pay for the units themselves. **Motion:** Holewinski/Paszak to approve the WisDOT Contract Agreement to purchase and install AVL/GPS units for all patrol trucks pending approval from Corporation Counsel, then authorize the Commissioner to sign the agreement. All ayes.
7. Scholtes reviewed the two safety bids received at the last meeting. Alpha Terra is \$8,150 including training; REI, Inc is \$15,800 but includes a lot of different options. Scholtes said this is something that has to be done to make the department COM 32 compliant. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to accept the low bid from Alpha Terra for \$8,150. All ayes.
8. Item #8 did not need to be discussed; was finalized at the last meeting.

9. Scholtes expressed the departments need for a mechanic, and a minimum of two additional employees. Six months ago, there were 27 union employees; we are now at 22 with two of those off on Family Medical Leave. Scholtes feels the minimum staffing level for the department should be 25 union employees. 19 for snow-plow routes, a minimum of two mechanics, and 4 employees available to cover vacations, sick leave, and other time off. Holewinski felt the number should be 23; 19 for the routes, 2 mechanics, and 2 spares. The two vacant Operator I positions Scholtes would like to fill from within, and fill the subsequent Maintenance openings from outside. The department had three mechanics, and is down to one because of the LOA. The committee agreed that a mechanic was needed. Holewinski said he would agree to hire a new mechanic as long as the welder position was eliminated once vacated; and move up two Maintenance workers to Operator I to fill those vacancies, but then only hire one Maintenance worker from outside, not two. Scholtes explained that the Maintenance worker positions would first be posted within, giving the current mechanic an opportunity to post out of the shop. Then we would need another additional Mechanic. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to present to the LRES Committee to waive the six-month waiting period and hire a Mechanic. All ayes. **Motion:** Holewinski/Sharon to present to the LRES Committee to waive the six-month waiting period and fill the two vacated Operator I positions from within. All ayes. **Motion:** Holewinski/Wolk to present to the LRES Committee to waive the six-month waiting period and replace one Maintenance worker position that became vacant due to two employees moving to Operator I's. All ayes. The last vacated maintenance worker position would wait the five months before asking to fill the position.
10. Scholtes explained that WCA is working together with numerous different organizations to try to firewall the transportation fund. The committee can sign a resolution in favor of firewalling the fund and forward to the full county board for approval and forward the results to WCA; sign a resolution requesting a referendum on firewalling the fund and forward to voters; or do nothing at this time. Putting this in the referendum would cost the county approximately \$1,000. The committee suggested bringing the matter to Corporation Counsel for their opinion, and then bring back to the committee.
11. Future meeting dates:
- July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, 8:00 a.m.
  - August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 8:00 a.m.
  - August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 8:00 a.m.
12. Future agenda items:
- Transportation Fund
  - Interviews
13. No Public comments
14. **Motion:** Hoffman/Wolk to adjourn at 10:40 am. All ayes.