

# ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS & SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Oneida County Highway Department Conference Room  
Thursday, March 5, 2026 8:00 a.m.

Committee members:	Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Cushing	Phone		
Bob Almekinder	X		
Billy Fried	X		
Dan Hess	X		
Robb Jensen	X		

**Also Present:** Lisa Bauknecht/Solid Waste, Alex Hegeman/Highway Commissioner, Ben Rich/Highway, Linnaea Newman/County Board Supervisor, Bill Mueller/County Materials and Dan Gleason/Highway

## 1. Call to order and Chairperson's announcements

Vice Chair Bob Almekinder called the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee meeting to order at 8:00 am noting the meeting was properly posted and ADA accessible.

## 2. Approve agenda

Motion by Fried/Jensen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

## 3. Approve minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meeting held February 19, 2026

Motion by Hess/Jensen to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

## 4. Public comments

None

## 5. Future Meeting Dates:

- March 19, 2026
- April 2, 2026
- April 16, 2026

## 6. February Monthly Vendor Vouchers and Budget to Actual Reports

Bauknecht presented the reports to the committee for review.

Motion by Jensen/Hess to approve the February monthly vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

## 7. Scheduled Weekly Maintenance with Legacy Lift Service

Bauknecht reported she moved forward with the maintenance agreement for the loaders with McCoy after confirming it would not work to have the mechanic from the sheriff's department perform the maintenance. Bauknecht explained regular maintenance was not performed on department equipment so Legacy Lift was hired to go through and service each piece of equipment. Bauknecht noted there several pieces of equipment in need of

repair and recommended entering into an agreement scheduling Legacy Lift to make those repairs one day a week until caught up then scheduling preventative maintenance every 120 to 160 days. Bauknecht reported she developed tickets and a schedule to ensure regular maintenance was being performed on the equipment along with noting any problems that need to be addressed.

Jensen noted the importance of performing preventive maintenance of the equipment. Fried suggested time should be scheduled daily to go through the equipment to ensure maintenance was performed.

#### **8. Compost Update**

Bauknecht reported she was in contact with both Chad Lynch and another attorney who were both aware the deadline to remove the material was June 30, 2027. Bauknecht commented the attorney questioned if there was the possibility of other remediation in the future noting when they pump the pond there were three places it could go.

#### **9. Solid Waste Report**

Bauknecht reported:

- Thermal cameras were installed in the recycling building
- They have started weekly meetings to discuss equipment concerns and ensure duties were rotated to be prepared for summer
- She discovered and addressed issues with long breaks and leaving early
- A new transformer was installed in the transfer station
- A department Facebook page was developed and would be used to inform the public about department hours and address the issues with e-cigarettes

#### **10. Future Agenda Items**

- Compost update
- Financial report yearly comparison

#### **11. Approve Vendor Vouchers**

Motion by Hess/Jensen to approve the vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

#### **12. Invoices Paid and Budget to Actual Reports**

Hegeman reported county winter maintenance for January was by far the largest going back to 2008 and estimated roughly 46 percent of the state RMA was spent through the end of February. Hegeman noted in order for the state to save funds for November and December maintenance on the state would likely be limited to safety issues such as large potholes.

#### **13. Out of County Travel: Spring Commissioner Training March 31 – April 1, 2026 Green Lake**

Motion by Hess/Jensen to approve as presented. Motion carried.

#### **14. Discuss Kern Professional Services**

Hegeman reported Bill Kern was the former Jefferson County highway commissioner that started a consulting service and was willing to attend a future meeting if the committee was interested in discussing assistance with certain things.

Jensen suggested waiting until after the current job posting closed before making a decision.

Fried commented he was interested having him come and answer what they can deliver and how sooner than later so they know what options they have.

Cushing noted he felt it would be worthwhile to have him attend a meeting.

#### **15. CTH H Seasonal Weight Limit Removal Request**

Hegeman reported this was a request from County Ready Mix Corporation to remove the seasonal weight limit on CTH H from STH 70 to their pit entrance. Hegeman estimated the asphalt thickness was three to three and one-quarter inches, which was less than the current standard.

Mueller stated the purpose of the request was to transport equipment noting this was a seasonal plant.

Jensen questioned if approved would there be other requests to open other roads.

Motion by Jensen/Hess to deny the CTH H seasonal weight limit removal request from County Concrete. Motion carried.

#### **16. Winter Maintenance Procedures for State and County Highways**

Hegeman commented he did not have anything to report.

#### **17. Approve 2026 Engineering Roster**

Hegeman reported if the county was awarded a STP or Local Bridge grant the consultant for the design would need to be solicited from an approved engineering roster.

Motion by Jensen/Fried to approve the 2026 engineering roster as presented. Motion carried.

#### **18. Sand Lake Boat Landing Launch Fee Program**

Hegeman reported there would be multiple signs with a QR code to scan and pay launch fees noting the company indicated it would not be cost beneficial to run power in for cameras.

Almekinder recommend trying this for a year and if necessary look into adding cameras in the future.

Fried suggested selling the landing.

Motion by Almekinder/Jensen to approve the Sand Lake Boat Launch fee program as presented. Fried requested they explore the cost of adding cameras and if the DNR would consider taking over the landing. Motion carried.

#### **19. Resolution to Request to Enact Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution**

Hegeman explained the resolution was sent to all counties and requests the legislature fund transportation programs on a recurring basis rather than through one-time funding.

Motion by Jensen/Cushing to approve the resolution to request the governor of Wisconsin and the state legislature to enact sustainable transportation funding solution as a consent agenda item and forward on to the county board. Motion carried.

#### **20. CTH C Relocation Order and Plat**

Hegeman explained this was the first step in the purchase of right-of-way needed for the 2028 CTH C Bridge replacement.

Motion by Fried/Hess to approve the CTH C relocation order and plat as presented. Motion carried.

#### **21. Discuss County Funded CDL Training**

Hegeman explained the excavator operator's CDL restricted him from driving the semi with the trailer. Hegeman commented the operator was willing to sign the 3-year employment agreement if sent to training to have the restriction removed.

Motion by Jensen/Hess to approve the County funded CDL training with the 3-year agreement and funds to come out of the current budget. Motion carried.

#### **22. Approve Semi Tractor Purchase**

Hegeman explained this was an approved CIP to purchase a used semi-tractor with a \$75,000 budget.

Motion by Hess/Jensen to approve the semi-tractor purchase as presented at \$73,889.50. Motion carried.

#### **23. Equipment Updates**

Hegeman reported:

- There were some issues with hydraulics and wiring that required some of the new trucks to return to the dealer for repairs.
- The first 2023 truck was delivered and ready.

#### **24. Complaint Status Report**

Hegeman reported both the patch crew and the mastic crew were out fixing potholes in addition to a few mailboxes.

#### **25. Commissioner's Report**

Hegeman reported:

- The department was fully staffed but one mechanic was out for a work related injury.
- The crew was doing mastic, patching and cutting trees.
- The DOT was going out for bids for salt and the county order would be brought back.
- Green Bay, Marinette and Superior were out of salt and Milwaukee was almost out. St. Paul Twin Cities was the only dock with salt and they are anticipating a 10 percent cost increase.
- The cost of four-foot carbide plow blades increased from about \$230 in the fall to \$800 currently.

#### **26. Future Agenda Items**

- Highway Commissioner recruitment
- Highway department campus projects
- Crew and office work schedules
- Update on winter maintenance procedures
- County salt order
- Kern Professional Services

**27. Public comments**

Jensen thanked Hegeman for his service noting he will be difficult to replace.

Almekinder commented Hegeman was topnotch and it was a shame he was not appreciated for what he had done.

Hess commented Hegeman was the best commissioner he worked with in his 35 years in government and the DOT was lucky to get him.

**28. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 am

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Committee Chairman

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Committee Secretary