

**JOINT ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS & SOLID WASTE/PLANNING &  
DEVELOPMENT/LABOR RELATIONS & EMPLOYEE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Oneida County Highway Office Conference Room  
Thursday, November 17, 2022 8:00 a.m.**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Ted Cushing	Via phone		
Mike Timmons	X		
Bob Almekinder		X	
Mike Roach	X		
Billy Fried	X		

**Also Present:** Alex Hegeman/Highway Commissioner, Lisa Jolin/Solid Waste Director and Dan Gleason/Highway

Vice-Chairman Mike Timmons called the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

**1. Approve agenda**

Motion by Fried/Cushing to approve the agenda. Roach not present. Motion carried.

**2. Approve the minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meetings held October 13, 2022 and November 3, 2022**

Motion by Fried/Cushing to approve the minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meetings held October 13, 2022 and November 3, 2022 as presented. Roach not present. Motion carried.

**3. Public Comments**

No public comment.

**4. Future Meeting Dates:**

- December 1, December 15 and December 29, 2022

**SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**

**5. General Business Discussion/Act:**

**A. Solid Waste vendor vouchers**

**6. Discussion/Act on Re-packed rams in Excel Baler**

Jolin reported the rams were replaced at a cost of \$18,000 but commented the baler required complete refurbishing at a cost \$50,000.

**7. Discussion/Act on Single Stream Recycling Price**

Jolin reported were losing money at the current price of \$52 per ton so she would like the price increased to \$57 per ton until the recycling market recovered. Jolin commented they were holding onto as much as they could anticipating the price would rebound but were limited by space.

Motion by Roach/Timmons to increase the price from \$52 per ton to \$57 per ton. Motion carried.

**8. Discussion/Act on Contract Award for Co-mingle Recycling Trash Compactor**

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to move forward with the contract for the co-mingle recycling trash compactor. Motion carried.

**9. Discussion/Act on Office Furniture for New Building**

Jolin reported she did not care for the furniture included in the proposed quote of approximately \$10,000 so she sought out other options that reduced the price to about \$4,000.

Motion by Fried/Roach to note the reception of the proposed plan for purchasing office building furniture out of the fund for furniture for the new building. Motion carried.

**10. Solid Waste Report /Discussion**

Jolin reported the quantity estimated for transfer was already met.

Jolin also reported on two occasions there was a suspicious vehicle parked by the MERF building, which left once she approached the vehicle. Out of caution she spoke with Capt. Terry Hook at the Sheriff's Office and instructed staff not to be on site by themselves.

- **Office Building Update**

Jolin reported the roof was on and the windows were installed with work to begin on the interior walls.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**12. General Business Discussion/Act**

**A. Highway Department vendor vouchers**

Motion by Fried/Timmons to approve the Highway Department vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

**13. Discussion/Act on equipment updates**

Hegeman reported the purchase of the trucks and attachments were approved at County Board so orders were placed noting an anticipated delivery of the chassis for summer of 2024. Most of the current patrol trucks were ready with work continuing on a couple of spare trucks.

**14. Discussion/Act on approval of 2023 Wisconsin Department of Transportation Routine Maintenance Agreement**

Hegeman reported the amount of the 2023 RMA was approximately the same as the previous 10 years noting the DOT dictates the work that can be done based upon the fund balance. Hegeman reported the DOT purchased 2 storage tanks for brine and mastic with remaining funds at the end of the previous year noting he requested additional brine tanks with any remaining funds from the current year. Hegeman commented he felt there was a good relationship with the DOT noting the 10 employees that plow State beats in the winter are utilized for County work in summer.

Motion by Timmons/Roach to allow signing the 2023 Wisconsin Department of Transportation Routine Maintenance Agreement. Motion carried.

**15. Discussion/Act on brine building update**

Hegeman reported Varitech completed the setup so brine was being produced and stored. Hegeman commented they were looking into additives to increase the brines effectiveness.

**16. Discussion/Act on fuel system excavation oversight contract with REI**

Hegeman reported 1 of the 5 samples taken of the excavation site revealed some remaining contamination. If they submitted the report to the DNR without excavating the other suspected contaminated material it would likely result in a whole site evaluation so he recommended attempting to remove the remaining contaminated material.

Motion by Fried/Roach to approve the fuel system excavation oversight contract with REI as presented. Motion carried.

**17. Discussion/Act on CTH C Bridge RFP results**

Hegeman reported the CTH C Bridge rating dropped from 55 to 40 and was now eligible for replacement so he requested proposals from 6 consultants for the estimate and application. Proposals were received from EMCS and Mead & Hunt. Hegeman commented both firms were qualified noting not many firms submit proposals for this type of work as it make the firm ineligible to bid on the project. Hegeman noted EMCS put a decent amount of work into the bridge projects on CTH D and CTH L.

Motion by Roach/Timmons to let the commissioner make the decision for the CTH C Bridge project design on CTH C east of Rhinelander. Motion carried

**18. Discussion/Act on staffing updates**

Hegeman reported an offer was made and accepted for the equipment operator position to begin on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The applicant was relocating from Kenosha and needed time to close on their house but has not yet provided an update to his start date.

Hegeman commented the State routes averaged 38 lane miles as do some of the County routes, but routes 10, 11 and 21 were significantly longer so he developed an additional route that shortened each. If another position were added to help complete County work and to help secure additional town work during the summer, the route would also provide work in the winter while decreasing response time for each of the routes. If 2 additional positions were added, those positions could be used as helpers on State routes if needed. Hegeman commented he was beginning the process of a proposed restructuring that would eliminate 8 LTE positions and add 3 FTE operator positions noting there was plenty of work to be done. Hegeman noted the restructure would not require any additional money from the levy. Hegeman commented there were not enough employees to create the additional County beat as proposed even if fully staffed at the current level.

**19. Commissioner's Report/Discussion**

Hegeman reminded the committee members Winter Road School was scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. Cushing, Roach and Timmons confirmed they would attend. ‘

Hegeman reported meeting with both Mike Roach and Ben Rich to rank the consultants for the CTH D Bridge noting SCH out of La Crosse was the highest ranked.

The new mechanic completed and passed the CDL course and reported he was very happy with the training.

**20. Future Agenda Items**

**21. Public comments**

Ted Cushing commented while travel from Wausau that morning his speed was limited to 35 mph on USH 51 from USH 8 to Hazelhurst.

**22. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

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Committee Chairman

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Committee Secretary