

October 17, 2023 meeting of the Monroe County Highway Committee

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 8:29 am by Chairperson David Pierce.

Members present: David Pierce, Wally Habhegger, Douglas Rogalla, and Nodji VanWychen.

Members absent: Zach Zebell

Others present: Highway Commissioner – David Ohnstad, County Board Chair – Cedric Schnitzler, and Office Manager – Brooke Adams

2. Period of Public Comment

No public comment

3. Last Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 regular meeting made by Doug Rogalla, seconded by Wally Habhegger. All ayes, motion carried.

4. Review Vouchers and Credit Card Charges (Discussion)

Highway Department vouchers and expenditures were reviewed. Month vouchers: \$3,670,508.57.

5. Re-Purpose of Funds (Discussion & Decision)

Motion to approve the Re-Purpose of Funds for the Equipment Storage Building currently under construction, made by Nodji VanWychen, seconded by Wally Habhegger. All ayes, motion carried.

6. Committee Project Review (Discussion)

The Committee members completed a road tour to see project updates through the northern portion of the county.

7. Commissioners Report (Discussion)

Doug Rogalla asked what is not in the 2024 budget that we may need.

Commissioner Ohnstad responded with the following:

- Given the competing priorities, we ended up at a reasonable place. Our tax levy revenue increased, which is a positive thing, but costs have increased dramatically.
- Another cycle of federal programs is due by the end of the month and state programs are due by end of the year. We will be applying for several.
- We will be looking at funding with Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through Ho-Chunk Nation. We have 165 miles of tribal highway in the county and through BIA there may be funding available.
- Once the 2023 books are closed in the spring, and the non-lapsing reserve accounts have been established, accurately calculating capital balances will be possible. The budget does cover the obligated projects this upcoming year.

8. Future Agenda Items

Next meeting date scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at **8:30** am at the Highway Administration Building.

Next meeting to include Highway road trip in the southern portion of the county.

Motion to adjourn at 2:53 pm by Wally Habhegger, seconded by Doug Rogalla. All ayes, motion carried.