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HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

1/12/06 - Chairman Dale Hines called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. Present were Dale Hines, Don Nellessen, Mel Pittman, Chip Simones, and Ron Anderson. Staff members present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Also present were Jeff Holst and Curt Kephart.

Ron Anderson moved, Mel Pittman seconded to approve the minutes of the 12/15/05 meeting. Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve vouchers dated 12/22/05 in the amount of \$126,423.04, vouchers payable dated 1/5/06 in the amount of \$309,702.92 and vouchers dated 1/5/06 in the amount of \$102.00. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm showed the committee a 5-year history of our dozers and compared the hours and revenues among the different sizes. The larger dozer doesn't generate as much revenue due to fewer hours as the larger unit is not as versatile. Bids were received for the replacement of the 1998 D7R Cat for a smaller size dozer and are as follows:

Vendor	Year, Make & Model	Outright Price	Trade Allowance	Net Price	2011 Buy Back Price	Cost Per Hour
Fabco Equipment, Inc.	2006 CAT D6N XL	\$221,695.00	\$210,000.00	\$11,695.00	\$97,500.00	-\$17.16
Fabco Equipment, Inc.	2005 CAT D6N XL	\$215,426.00	\$210,000.00	\$5,426.00	\$97,500.00	-\$18.41
Miller-Bradford & Risberg, Inc.	2006 CASE 1650K XLT	\$184,500.00	\$182,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$54,500.00	-\$10.50
Nortrax	- No Bid -					
Roland Machinery Co.	2006 KOMATSU D61EX-15	\$173,345.00	\$147,000.00	\$26,345.00	\$75,000.00	-\$9.73

Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve Fabco Equipment's bid for the 2005 new Caterpillar D6N XL at \$215,426 with trade allowance of \$210,000 and a guaranteed buy back of \$97,500.00. Motion carried.

Bid results on a patrol superintendent vehicle are as follows:

Vendor	Year, Make & Model	Total Price
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Cernohous Chevrolet	2006 Chev 1500 Silverado LT Crew-Cab Pickup	\$26,299.00
	2006 Chev Tahoe LS	\$30,499.00
Moody's Chevrolet	2006 Chev 1500 Silverado LT Crew-Cab Pickup	\$32,397.55
	2006 Chev Tahoe LS	\$36,873.78
Quinn Motors – Ellsworth	2006 Chev 1500 Silverado LT Crew-Cab Pickup	\$26,891.25
	2006 Chev Tahoe LS	\$31,379.00
Ellsworth Ford- Mercury	2006 Ford F150 XLT Super-Crew Pickup	\$26,874.60
	2006 Ford Expedition XLT	\$26,548.96
Quinn Motors – Elmwood	2006 Ford F150 XLT Super-Crew Pickup	\$27,120.00
	2006 Ford Expedition XLT	\$26,995.00
Roen Ford	2006 Ford F150 XLT Super-Crew Pickup	\$27,479.00
	2006 Ford Expedition XLT	\$29,610.00

Ray explained to the committee the department's recommendation for the 2006 Ford Expedition XLT from Ellsworth Ford-Mercury. If the department went with a pickup, it would cost more to add a toolbox. Don Nellessen moved, Ron Anderson seconded to purchase the 2006 Ford Expedition XLT from Ellsworth Ford-Mercury at a cost of \$26,548.96. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson and Al Thoner explained to the committee that due the elimination of the crusher operator and breaker operator positions, a new position "Crushing Plant Operator" was created and the job opening was posted. Two people signed the posting, Kirk Keenlyne and Kurt Funk. Kirk Keenlyne is the more senior employee, is eligible to sign and is qualified to do the job. Ross explained that according to the labor agreement, there is 60-day trial period and Kirk is on sick leave at this time. Ross would like to postpone the start date to the day that Kirk returns to work. Don Nellessen moved, Mel Pittman seconded to award the job posting to Kirk Keenlyne and to postpone the start date to March 1, 2006 or sooner. Motion carried.

Al Thoner explained the need for a driveway variance on CTH "J" for Charles and Vicki Howe. The owner would like to improve an existing field driveway which is less than the 500' required distance from an existing driveway. Al said the sight distance is good. Don Nellessen moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the driveway variance for the Howes on CTH "J". Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson showed the committee pictures of the 18' slab bridge on CTH "AA" which is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. Ross will apply for CHIP funds for half the cost of the project. Ron Anderson moved, Mel Pittman seconded to send out bids to three firms for the design engineering of the project. Motion carried. Bids will be solicited from Ayres Associates, Cedar Corporation and SEH.

Ross Christopherson explained to the committee that since there have been six changes since filing a right of way plat, it is necessary to file an amended right of way plat with the clerk. Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve and sign the Revised Relocation Order for the Construction Project 2006 CTH "QQ". Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats., for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session: Construction Project 2006 CTH “QQ” R/W owners’ appraiser invoices, Administration Revision Report Parcel #10, and Jurisdictional Offer Parcel #6. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Note: Jeff Holst and Curt Kephart were present during the closed session.

Don Nellessen moved, Mel Pittman seconded to return to open session. Motion carried. By unanimous roll call vote.

Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to pay \$750.00 to Gene Hopkins and to include a letter from the commissioner. Motion carried.

Don Nellessen moved, Ron Anderson seconded to pay \$1,250.00 per appraisal to Ted Morgan for appraisal services of Parcel #10 and #21. Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve payment of \$6,000 in total, as the agency recommended, on the Administration Revision Report for Parcel #10. Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Ron Anderson seconded to amend the agency’s recommendation on the Administration Revision Report for Parcel #6, increasing the landscaping from \$500 to \$1,500, for a total of \$5,000. Motion carried.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

- Screening sand at Stogdill, hauling seal coat chips from Prairie Island to Stogdill, mixing salt-sand as needed. Maintainers are patching pot holes and brushing along the roadsides.

Office Manger’s Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

- The 2005 physical inventory counts were started January 3rd and by January 6th we were entering the counts into the computer. Wendell from Tracey and Thole came on January 10th and conducted a spot-check of our inventories, vouchers, receipts and payrolls. He said everything checked out just perfect.
- The department is working on streamlining the bar-coding procedure as it is somewhat cumbersome at this time. We feel there are some improvements to the scanner program that would be helpful as well as data entry process.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

- The winter highway conference is set for January 23 – 26, 2006 and would like to confirm the attendance of Ron Anderson, Chip Simones and himself.
- SEH will attend the next highway committee meeting, February 9, 2006, to present 45 mph design options for the CTH “F” bridge project.
- The State DOT contacted Ross regarding hazard elimination funds for the Hwy 10 and CTH “E”: intersection. Greg Helgeson is wondering if the county is interested in sharing the costs for this project. If so, HES funds would more likely be awarded.
- Future meetings were set for March 9, 2006 and April 6, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.
- The whole committee was offered to review the performance evaluation of the highway commissioner that was done by Dale Hines and Curt Kephart.
- Ross informed the committee that the assessor’s plat for CTH “U” expected cost of \$68,000 is for 17 parcels as well as for other services. He misinformed the county board at their last meeting and wanted the committee to relay that information to them at the next board meeting before the resolution came

up for the second reading.

Jeff Holst thanked the committee for allowing him to be present during the closed session regarding CTH “QQ”.

Chip Simones moved, Ron Anderson seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Highway Committee Meeting

2/9/06 – Vice-chairman Don Nellessen called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. Present were Don Nellessen, Mel Pittman, and Chip Simones. Dale Hines and Ron Anderson were excused. Staff present was Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm and Laurie Lundgaard. Others present were Paul Barkla, Curt Kephart, Mike Burke, Kathleen Currie, John Michaels, Joe Boles, Arby Linder, Tim Wiff, Rich Eggen, Bill E. Schroeder, Darrel Richer, John Beckfield, Dan Gustafson and Nick Shaff.

Don Nellessen asked for public comments on any issue not related to agenda items. Martell Town Chair, Arby Linder addressed the committee regarding the traffic that was routed onto 530th Ave. during the closure of USH 63 on Jan. 27, 2006 due to an accident. Arby stated that according to Wis. Statutes, Sec. 84.02 (10) the State of Wisconsin should bear responsibility for the cost of repairs that are needed due to damage incurred from the increased traffic. Ross responded that this issue will be placed on the agenda for the next highway committee meeting.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the minutes of the 1/12/06 meeting. Motion carried.

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to approve the following vouchers:

- 1/19/06 vouchers payable in the amount of \$237,503.58 out of 2005 funds
- 1/19/06 vouchers in the amount of \$39,939.72 out of 2006 funds
- 2/2/06 vouchers in the amount of \$104,341.47 out of 2006 funds

Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the 1/20/06 payroll in the amount of \$88,068.96 and the 2/3/06 payroll in the amount of \$90,693.16. Motion carried.

CTH “F” Bridge Alignment Options

Ross Christopherson introduced John Beckfield from SEH. John went over several alignment options that are designed for 45 mph. There are problems with any of the alignments that run through the Kinnickinnic Park property regarding right-of-way needs.

Mike Burke spoke to the committee and addressed the funding that would be available in the form of STP-Rural and STP Bridge Funds. More would be available if Pierce County would drop the currently approved STP-Rural projects (for which we would have to re-apply in another cycle). A total of up to 3.4 million could be available in that case.

John Michaels, representing the Kinnickinnic Land Trust, spoke to the committee and showed pictures of the canyon and protected properties along the project. He expressed concern over preserving the natural resources, though he agreed the bridge needs replacing. He said they will support the project as long as it is a win-win for the park, motorists, residents and property

owners.

Nick Schaff, WI DNR, spoke to the committee about the environmental impacts and the need for environmental review at different levels. He suggested using the existing corridor, stating that less new construction equals less environmental impact equals less environmental reviews equals less cost to the taxpayer.

Mary Van Foss, DNR Real Estate Specialist, is working with the land trust to purchase 38 acres to allow public access to the river. She said they are willing to work with the county if necessary to accommodate their needs.

Mike Burke spoke again to inform the committee that alignment options below the 55 mph standards require getting an exception and also requires that there are no other options but to lower the speed limit to address safety factors. He also said the right-of-way costs are not included in the STP funds.

Ross Christopherson thanked all who provided input and said there will be a meeting at 3:30 this afternoon at the bridge with Congressman, Ron Kind, Curt Kephart, and several other interested parties. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to defer action and place this issue on the March 9, 2006 highway committee meeting agenda. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson told the committee that Martell Township has submitted a bridge aid request for culverts that were installed in 2005 on 690th Avenue between CTH "J" and 490th Street. Since all culverts were placed on the same form, Ross explained that the department needs to go out and verify the measurements to determine the qualifying culverts. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to defer action and place this item on the agenda for the next highway committee meeting. Motion carried.

Al Thoner reminded the committee of an earlier driveway variance that was granted to Vicki Howe on CTH "J". The Zoning Department denied the Howe's request for a building permit at that location. A new location has been chosen but it is only 300' from an existing driveway so a variance is needed. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to approve the variance for the 500' requirement for the Howe driveway on CTH "J". It should also be noted that the previous driveway variance that was granted will be revoked. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson explained the Amendment No. 1 to the Contract Between Pierce County Highway Department and Ayres Associates is needed due to the change in the scope of services. This amendment allows Ayres to perform the extra work to complete the eminent domain process at \$400 per parcel. Two parcels could be involved at this point. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Contract between Pierce County Highway Department and Ayres Associates project #311.14QQ2. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson informed the committee that the landowner of Parcel 6 of the CTH "QQ" 2006 project refused our final offer. In order for the department to move forward with

condemnation, the committee needs to confirm that our final offer was refused and that there are no more offers. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to confirm our final offer and that there are no more offers from Pierce County. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson explained to the committee that the CTH “FF” Bridge Project, Parcel 2 landowner’s mortgage was transferred to another mortgage company and now requires a fees of \$250 plus a minimum of 90 days to review the partial release, putting the project well beyond the letting date. Ross explained the options of going to condemnation (30 days time) or pushing the project back a year. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to move the project back a year in order to get the partial release. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson reminded the committee that the Finance and Personnel Committee took \$100,000 out of the highway department’s 2005 budget and put it in the contingency fund. He showed the committee some history of the maintenance fund, how it has decreased to the present -\$210,596.69. He reminded the committee that he had requested the transfer of the \$100,000 back to the highway department last fall, but was told to wait until year-end when the 2005 costs were all in. Mel asked Curt Kephart how much was in the contingency fund. Curt Kephart explained that all the money in contingency is earmarked for a purpose and that the \$100,000 from highway in the contingency fund is earmarked for the highway department. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the transfer of the \$100,000 from the contingency fund to the highway maintenance fund (706) and to forward this recommendation to the Finance and Personnel Committee for their approval. Motion carried. Ross asked that the highway committee support this issue at the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Ross Christopherson told the committee he received a letter from Contech Construction Products offering to extend the 2005 contract on steel culvert prices for 2006. Culvert bids were sent out last year and the difference between companies was very minimal. Ross asked the committee if they wanted to accept Contech’s offer or send out for bids for 2006 culvert purchases. Don Nellessen felt that steel prices have dropped. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to send out for bids for 2006 culverts. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson updated the committee on the recycled glass issue at the material recovery facility. He said there was a demonstration of a trommel at the facility last week. The DNR was here to look at our fill site. Another demo is planned and will try the drum with $\frac{3}{4}$ “ to 1” holes plus use one of our asphalt rollers and pre-crush the glass to a smaller size before tumbling it in the drum. Curt Kephart said the Solid Waste Board had complimented the highway department on their willingness to work on this project and also for the help provided with their baler repairs.

Ray Dohm told the committee that he would like to send out for bids for mowers. One is

a 15' flex wing mower that he would like to send to John Deere dealers because that is what we have and are satisfied with, and the parts are interchangeable. The other mower is a Scag turf mower that out-performed others during demonstrations. He would like to bid this particular model from various dealers. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to send out for bids for both mowers. Motion carried.

Al Thoner explained that the 2006 TMA (traffic maintenance agreement) from the State of Wis. is for the signs along the state roads that are scheduled for replacement this year. The state is no longer maintaining their signs, but is contracting this out. Pierce County has equipment and can manage this work between other county projects. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to sign the 2006 TMA . Motion carried.

Don Nellessen told the committee that the terms of the sale of the Stogdill property to the highway department included "Sellers have the right to farm said premises so long as it does not interfere with purchaser's removal of gravel from said premises". Don checked with the FSA and found that the "seller" is not farming the premises, but is renting it out to a 3rd party who is farming it. It is also is a government program. Don wants to send out for bids to rent it out and this item will be placed on the next highway committee meeting for action.

Ross Christopherson referred to Substitute Resolution 05-32 - Sale of Land in the Town of Trenton. Highway department land (4.1 acres) was approved for sale to Dairyland Power Cooperative for \$50,000. Ross stressed the importance of that revenue to the highway department's pit and quarry operation. Ross explained the need to purchase more quarry land for future sand and gravel reserves. It is also in the 10-year plan to transfer revenues of \$200,000 to \$300,000 from the pits and quarry fund to the maintenance and haul truck replacement fund. This is necessary to keep our machinery current. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve keeping the revenue from the sale of highway land in the highway department pits and quarry fund. There was some discussion regarding the appraisal costs and that the proceeds from the sale should cover the appraisal costs. Motion carried.

Since the lease on the El Paso quarries is gone, the highway department's need for the El Paso Shop is gone. There is about ¾ acre that could go back on the tax rolls. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to declare the El Paso Shop land as surplus property and to have it appraised. Ross reminded the committee that the revenue from the sale of this property should come back to the highway department. Motion carried.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

The shop crew has been working on winter projects. Monroe Truck Equipment has been fine-tuning the maintenance trucks. Over all, the men are happy with the trucks. The operator's station for the crusher is her and we are fine-tuning it.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State is lining up summer projects, lining up DMAs. There is a temporarily assigned State service man – Dale Bisonette. Between storms we are brushing and patching.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Construction crew is working on crushing at the Bisel Quarry, screening sand at Stogdill for construction projects, and helping on state projects on USH 10 and USH 63.

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

The office staff is very busy putting the 2005 numbers together in preparation for the book closing. The auditor will come sometime in March or early April.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Final plans are underway for the CTH “E” Bridge replacement – federal bridge replacement funds project for 2006. It was originally scoped as a bridge, but now has changed to a twin box culvert. The structure got longer, wider and got off our 66’ and now we have to purchase 3 very small pieces of right-of-way. Ross will ask Vince Hague to do the services as a full appraisal is not needed.

Bill Schroeder commended Ray Dohm for the work he has put into purchasing the maintenance trucks for the department.

Ross gave a brief report on the highway conference he and Chip Simones attended last month.

The next meeting will be March 9, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. Future agenda items include:

CTH “F” Bridge Project

Send out bids for 2 pickups – Construction Superintendent’s and shop pickup

Stogdill Land Use

Martell Township’s 530th Avenue Repair

Martell Township’s Bridge Aid Request

Culvert Bids Results

Mower Bid Results

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Highway Committee Minutes

3/9/06 – Chairman Dale Hines called the meeting order at 8:30 a.m. Present were Dale Hines, Don Nellessen, Mel Pittman, Chip Simones, and Ron Anderson. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm and Laurie Lundgaard. Jeff Holst, Jerry Kosin and numerous others were present also.

Ron Anderson requested that the public comment period be delayed until later in the meeting. Dale Hines said that the CTH “QQ” item will also be put on hold until later in the meeting as representatives from Ayres Associates were on their way from Madison.

Don Nellessen moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the minutes of the 2-9-06 meeting. Motion carried. Dale Hines abstained.

Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve vouchers dated 2-16-06 in the amount of \$171,276.63 and vouchers dated 3-2-06 in the amount of \$64,989.61. Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the payroll dated 2-17-06 in the amount of \$94,984.95 and the payroll dated 3-3-06 in the amount of \$87,712.51. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson introduced Dan Gustafson and John Beckfield from SEH. John spoke to the committee about the alignment options for the CTH “F” Bridge project. Several options were shown: blue line, pink line, orange line, and green line. The blue, pink and orange lines are all designed for 45 mph. The green line is designed for less mph. John also presented another option with the green line that would replace just the bridge and design it to a 45 mph. This would be done in such a way that future improvements to the roadway would be in line with the bridge. Much discussion took place. Ron Anderson moved, Don Nellessen seconded to go forward with replacing the bridge only on the green line at this time and proceed to apply for funds and try to add more to the project later. John Beckfield advised us to take this selection to a public information meeting. Motion carried.

Jim Harris explained to the committee how the list of culverts eligible for county bridge aid was determined. Out of Martell Township’s 23 culverts on 690th Avenue, 7 culverts are eligible for county bridge aid at a total cost of \$55,379.41 to be split 50/50 between county and township. Since the new policy on bridge aid was adopted, applications for reimbursement must be submitted to the highway department prior to installation of the culverts. Martell Township did not do this, and therefore reimbursement may be delayed a year as there may not be enough in the County Bridge Aid Fund this year. Ron Anderson moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve the bridge aid request for Martell Township provided funds are available this year; otherwise it will be paid in 2007. This is an exception to the policy and will not set a precedent for future bridge aid requests. Motion carried.

Dale Hines asked for public comments on any issue not related to today's agenda items. Rich Eggen, Martell Township Supervisor, spoke regarding the US63 / CTH "N" accident and subsequent detour onto Martell Township's 530th Street. The township is requesting the county's support and assistance in seeking help from the State of Wisconsin or any source to help them repair the road that was damaged during the detour.

Ross Christopherson reminded the committee of the previously approved offering price for Parcels 3 and 5 of the CTH "FF" Project #7887-05-00. Parcel 3 was approved at \$4,700 and Parcel 5 was approved at \$8,825. The landowners of these parcels had second appraisals done and Parcel 3 was negotiated at \$5,800 and Parcel 5 was negotiated at \$10,300 by Timbers-Selissen, the firm contracted to do the acquisitions. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to approve the offering price for Parcel 3 at \$5,800 and for Parcel 5 at \$10,300. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson informed the committee that the original contract with Ayres Associates for the CTH "E" project #7886-01-02 did not include any right-of-way acquisition in the scope of services. A relocation order is required to obtain right-of-way. Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the relocation for CTH "E" project #7886-01-02. Motion carried.

Ross further explained that an Amendment to the original contract is necessary for the CTH "E" project #7886-01-02 as the services are now expanded to include acquisition of the right-of-way. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between Pierce County and Ayres Associates for the CTH "E" project #7886-01-02. Motion carried.

Jim Harris explained to the committee that he took last years' culvert usage and calculated the cost using the bid prices submitted by three vendors: Contech Construction, Johnston Fargo, and Team Oil. The total calculated cost for a whole year's usage based on 2005 use is as follows:

Contech Construction	\$172,338.33
Johnston Fargo	\$170,537.55
Team Oil	\$184,907.75

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the bid received from Johnston Fargo. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm said that Fabco approached us about our D5 tractor (unit 118, a 2003 model with a guaranteed buyback of \$55,000 if exercised before 5-23-06). Fabco is allowing us \$85,000 for trade value on our #118 in exchange for a new 2006 D5LGP at a cost of \$145,887.00 with a 2011 buyback of \$62,000 and a 5 year/5,000 hour full machine warranty. This unit is not scheduled to be replaced until 2007 but the department could reschedule a 2006 replacement to take place in 2007. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the D5 proposal from Fabco and to make the necessary budgetary adjustments to accommodate this. Motion carried.

Ray presented the bid results on the 2006 Scag Turf Tiger Mower. Three vendors submitted bids as follows:

Hanson Mower Sales & Services, Hampton, MN	\$5,699 after trade
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Nicolai Repair, Red Wing, MN
St. Croix Sport & Power

\$4,949 after trade
\$3,812 after trade

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to approve the bid from St. Croix Sport and Power at a final cost of \$3,812 as they are the lowest bidder. Motion carried.

Ray presented the bid results on the 2006 John Deere Flex Wing Rotary Mower. Three vendors were invited to bid, one vendor submitted a bid. Polfus Implement's bid was for \$13,030 and trade value of \$5,000 for a final cost to Pierce County of \$8,030. Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the bid submitted by Polfus Implement at a final cost of \$8,030.00 after trade. Motion carried.

Bid specs for two vehicles were presented to the committee. One vehicle is a 2006 ½ ton 4x4 extended cab pickup to replace the construction superintendent's vehicle. The second one is a 2006 heavy duty ¾ ton regular cab 4x4 pickup to replace the shop pickup. The department is getting rid of three units that have high mileage. Chip Simones moved, Ron Anderson seconded to send out the bids for these two vehicles. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson introduced Jennifer Queram and Laura Soldberg from Ayres Associates, the firm contracted to do the appraisals and acquisition for the CTH "QQ" project. They told us that all but two parcels have been acquired. The Latham parcel is going to eminent domain and should be completed within 30 days. The Nordwall parcel still has issues that need to be resolved. The Nordwalls did not accept the county's last offer of \$6,000, and are insisting that a retaining wall be erected along their property. Discussion was held and input from the Nordwalls was heard. Jerry Kosin encouraged the committee to work with the Nordwalls to try to get this issue resolved.

Don Nellessen moved, Chip Simones seconded to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats., for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session: Administration Revision Report, Parcel 10. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Don Nellessen moved, Chip Simones seconded to go into open session. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Dale Hines explained to the Nordwalls that a fence on the top of a retaining wall would be an average height four foot chain link fence. A receipt for the donated property would not be necessary as their appraisal will serve as documentation of the value. Ross asked the Nordwalls if the granary access issue is taken care of and they indicated that it is. Ross also reminded them that a temporary limited easement might be necessary to construct a flatter driveway for the granary and field access. They agreed that it was. Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve the county's construction of a retaining wall in front of the Nordwall property along CTH "QQ". Discussion followed. Cedar Corporation and Ayres Associates will help to draw up the documents and drawings. Once paperwork is received by the Nordwalls, they will have ten (10) work days to sign and return them. Motion carried.

Ross showed the committee the appraisal report on the El Paso County Shop. Discussion

took place as to whether or not to leave the pole shed building and how to list the property. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to accept the appraisal report and to move forward to sell the surplus property and that the proceeds from the sale come back to the highway department. Motion carried. Don Nellessen abstained.

Don Nellessen moved, Chip Simones seconded to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats., for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session: Stogdill quarry farming issues. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to return to open session. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Dale Hines asked Vernon Stogdill to explain what their rental agreement is with Larry Swanson. Dale explained that there was concern over the property as the county is the owner and no rental papers are on record with the FSA office. Mr. Stogdill said the rental agreement is 1/3 and 2/3. Dale suggested a follow-up letter is sent to the Stogdills explaining the findings after the county does more checking.

Ross told the committee that three firms are here to present their proposal for professional services for the replacement of the CTH "AA" bridge over Pine Creek. All three of the proposals contain the same scope of services and are as follows:

SEH		\$19,000
Cedar Corporation	not to exceed	\$17,156
Ayres Associates		\$17,495

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to accept the bid proposal from Cedar Corporation as the low bidder for the professional services for the replacement of the CTH "AA" bridge over Pine Creek. Motion carried.

Mike Stoffel, Cedar Corporation, gave the committee an update of the project on CTH "U" #7897-10-72. There is a portion of the project that is in the Village limits of Plum City estimated to cost \$300,000 and eligible for 80/20 State funding. The county's 20% share could be split half and half with the Village of Plum City. That would cost them only \$30,000 for considerable upgrade to the road including curb, gutter, and storm sewers. Much discussion took place. Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve 50/50 cost sharing of the 20% of the estimated \$300,000 project with the Village of Plum City. Motion carried.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

There are still a few storms left to be ready for. Meanwhile the men are repairing potholes, brushing. Soon we will have shouldering work to do. Al and Ross addressed questions regarding the cutting of brush on STH 29 last December by stating that the State of Wisconsin asked the county to cut the brush within the calendar year of 2005 and in order to get it done, more people had to be added due to the short time frame. The State was pleased with the work that was done.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Some of the men have been cutting brush on CTH "QQ" getting it ready for the construction project. Others have been hauling chips and slag for the upcoming seal coating projects. The crushing crew is crushing at the Bisel Quarry and getting equipment matched up.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Received a letter from Curt Kephart, Administrative Coordinator asking for the county department's annual report and mission statement as well as department goals for 2006.

The next meetings will be April 6, 2006 and April 20, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.

Mel Pittman moved, Don Nellessen seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Highway Committee Minutes

4/6/06 - Chairman Dale Hines called the meeting order at 8:30 a.m. Present were Dale Hines, Don Nellessen, Mel Pittman, Chip Simones, and Ron Anderson. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm and Laurie Lundgaard.

Dale Hines called for public comments not related to any agenda items. None were received.

Chip Simones moved, Don Nellessen seconded to approve the minutes of the 3-9-06 meeting. Motion carried.

Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the following vouchers: Vouchers dated 3-17-06 in the amount of \$105,656.14; vouchers dated 3-37-06 in the amount of \$26,618.46; vouchers dated 3-30-06 in the amount of \$36,980.72. Motion carried.

Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to approve the 3-17-06 payroll in the amount of \$93,164.98 and the 3-31-06 payroll in the amount of \$97,794.11. Motion carried.

Ron Anderson said that it has recently come to his attention that some employees were allowed to drive county vehicles to and from work. Ron believes two of them do not have the proper authority to take vehicles home. Ross Christopherson responded that when he started as commissioner there was only one superintendent – the patrol superintendent. The organization of the department, the job duties, and the number of superintendents have changed. All three of the superintendents take vehicles home as they are expected to respond to emergency conditions at any time and are basically on-call 24/7. The county benefits from these employees responding to an emergency situation directly from their homes, rather than driving to the shop first. Ron stated that he was not opposed to the vehicle use, but that proper authority had not been obtained. Discussion followed. Mel Pittman moved, Chip Simones seconded to continue with the current table of organization and the current vehicle use practice and to recommend to the Finance and Personnel Committee that it be approved. Motion carried. Ron Anderson opposed.

Jim Harris presented a list of completed township bridge projects that have been previously approved by the highway committee as county bridge aid projects. These requests for reimbursement total \$144,020.03; however there is only \$83,616.46 in the bridge aid account. If all requests are paid, there will be a deficit balance of \$60,403.57 in the account. Discussion followed. Chip Simones moved, Don Nellessen seconded to pay all of the requests as listed, carry a deficit balance, and compensate by budgeting more for the 2007 budget. Motion carried, with Mel Pittman opposed.

Ross Christopherson and Jim Harris told the committee that the annual highway safety training day for all highway employees is scheduled for April 28, 2006. IN the past the department has furnished

coffee and rolls or cookies for morning break and lunch at noon for about 100 people. The department has always invited the townships, villages, and cities to be included for this training. The cost for coffee, rolls or cookies and lunch has been around \$500 in the past. Ron Anderson moved, Don Nellesen seconded to approve up to \$500 for the Annual Safety Training meal and to charge a \$5.00 registration fee to the non-county attendees. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson told the committee that he received a call from Larry Swanson. Mr. Swanson is farming the Stogdill land and is asking the department to sign a blank rental agreement form. He will then fill it out and submit it to the FSA. Discussion followed. It was stressed that a blank form should not be signed. A lot of unanswered questions lead to a consensus that Dale and Ross will talk to the FSA office to see what the department’s responsibilities are and proceed from there.

Ross Christopherson told the committee that he has a meeting with Village of Plum City officials regarding the cost sharing options for the CTH “U” project. No further information is available at this time.

Laurie Lundgaard explained to the committee that the 2005 fringe benefit costs of \$1,573,047.67 ended up being 68.83% of the total 2005 labor. This will be the new rate we charge for 2006. The total 2005 fringe benefit cost is an increase of \$47,924.97 from the previous year. Most of the increase is due to retirement and health insurance costs. A survey of the other counties in the northwest region of Wisconsin shows that Pierce County has been able to keep their costs below the average.

Ray Dohm presented the bid results for the construction superintendent vehicle as follows:

Vendor	Year, Make & Model	Total Price
Cernohous Chevrolet	2006 Chevrolet Silverado	\$24,890.00 – LT1 \$25,490.00 – LT1, 271
Ellsworth Ford - Mercury	2006 Ford F-150 Supercab	\$22,365.60
Moodys Chevrolet	- NO BID -	
Quinn Motors - Ellsworth	2006 Chevrolet Silverado LT1	\$24,300.00

Quinn Motors – Elmwood	2006 Ford F-150 XLT	\$22,840.00
Roen Ford	2006 Ford F-150 Supercab	\$22,390.00

Ray said that the department’s recommendation is the low bidder, Ellsworth Ford-Mercury with the 2006 Ford F-150 at \$22,365.60. Ron Anderson moved, Chip Simones seconded to award the bid to Ellsworth Ford-Mercury as recommended. Motion carried.

Ron Anderson left.

Ray Dohm presented the bid results for the shop pickup as follows:

Vendor	Year, Make & Model	Total Price
Cernohous Chevrolet	2006 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD	\$23,595.00 – LT1 \$22,450.00 – LS **\$22,800.00 – LS**
Ellsworth Ford - Mercury	2007 Ford F-250	\$21,548.56 (+ price increase for 2007)
Moody Chevrolet	- NO BID -	
Quinn Motors - Ellsworth	- NO BID -	
Quinn Motors – Elmwood	2007 Ford F-250	\$22,850.00
Roen Ford	2006 Ford F-250	\$20,140.00 (<u>Bid Retracted</u> – 4/4/06)

Ray informed the committee that two of the units bid by Cernohous Chevrolet have been sold and are no longer available so, Ray said that the department recommends the low bid which is Cernohous Chevrolet’s 2006 Silverado @ \$22,800.00. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to accept the low bid from Cernohous Chevrolet as recommended. Motion carried.

Don Nellessen left.

Ray Dohm presented bid specs for a 25,500 GVW single axle cab and chassis. This will be the new sign department truck. Ray gave a brief history of our current truck and the plans to use it to

replace #37 the bridge crew truck. Chip Simones moved, Don Nellessen seconded to send out the bid specs as presented. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm explained the two paint quotes he got for painting the parts room and stairwell. Harry Joles submitted a bid for \$8,255 plus no more that \$300 for the stairwell. TMI Coatings submitted a bid for \$17,600 plus \$550 for the stairwell. Ray told the committee that Harry Joles out of Boyceville did the painting of the shop interior and did a very nice job and the department recommends the bid be awarded to Harry Joles as the low bidder. Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to award the painting of the parts room and stairwell to Harry Joles Painting and Sandblasting out of Boyceville, WI at a cost of no more that \$8,555.00. Motion carried.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State – Three bridge tenders are on duty at the Prescott Bridge from 8 am to midnight on a rotating shift schedule of six days on and three days off, then six nights on and three off. The other four patrolmen are spread out to cover the seven beats for the summer. Prescott Bridge electrical updates will take place this season. Maintainers have been pleased with the ability and results of shouldering work with the underbody blades. They are also patching steadily.

County – Shouldering, patching and brush cleanup from recent storms.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Cutting trees and brush along CTH “QQ” in preparation for the upcoming project.

We are making breaker rock at Bisel quarry.

Soon we will move to either Johnson pit or VV quarry depending on weather/road conditions.

Helping to survey for township projects.

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

The mainframe computer and software were updated recently, giving us faster reports, viewable on screen, using less paper. There are still a few glitches, but are working them out.

Just completed the State’s annual surveys: Cost trends, Net book values, Equipment storage costs, Salt storage costs, Radio inventory, resulting in a prorated reimbursement from the State.

The office staff is finished with their work to close the 2005 books. We are just waiting for the auditor to come and do the final entries. The auditor will be invited to attend an upcoming highway committee meeting to go over the financial report with the committee.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

The CTH “QQ” right-of-way acquisitions are nearly complete. The last parcel landowner sent a letter stating he will accept \$6,500. Ross will instruct Ayres Associates to work with the landowner and try to get him to settle.

Received notice that Doug Delong will be retiring soon. Plans are to refill the vacancy next year, after the job posting process is completed.

Two highway workers were killed on the job in Winnebago County, reminding everyone of the daily dangers to which highway workers are exposed.

Ross thanked the committee for their past two years of service to the highway department and special thanks were extended to Dale Hines for his dedication to the department as chair of the committee.

The next meeting will be April 20, 2006 at 8:30 am.

Chip Simones moved, Mel Pittman seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

5/11/06 – Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7: 30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Mike Larson, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Also present was Greg Lauser, Prescott Journal.

Chip Simones called for public comment, but none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the vouchers dated 4/27/06 in the amount of \$96,617.79 and the vouchers dated 5/11/06 in the amount of \$95,615.62. Motion carried.

Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the payroll dated 4/28/06 in the amount of \$95,477.98 and the payroll dated 5/12/06 in the amount of \$85,921.90. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm showed the committee the Machinery and Equipment Plan and the 2006 Equipment Needs List. Ross Christopherson explained to the committee how our capital improvement plan is tied in to these documents and the budget. It was explained that these documents get updated each year. Ray also showed the planned expenditures and what the department has purchased so far this year. He pointed out the equipment units that have planned 5-yr/5,000-hour rollovers and the 5-yr/5,000-hour warranties, which are incorporated into the bids each time. Ross explained that the machinery fund gets its revenue from the operation of the machinery, not from the county appropriations.

Ray Dohm showed the committee a list of equipment that the department feels is surplus and would like to sell as follows: unit #22, a 1993 Ford F250, unit #145, a 1970 pneumatic rock drill, and a grading crew disc. Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to declare the three units as surplus equipment. Motion carried. Ray explained how he has been communicating with a potential buyer from Mexico who is interested in the rock drill for \$5,000. Ray felt the department could get more for it. The consensus of the committee was to let Ray negotiate the best price for the drill.

Jim Harris showed the committee the long range improvement plan for Pierce County roads. It shows 248 total miles of county roads and with an expected pavement life of 20 years for the asphalt surface, and that 12.4 miles of county roads should be resurfaced each year to maintain the current quality of roads. The total cost per mile to mill, pave, and shoulder is \$119,590. That means it will cost \$1,484,590 to do the 12.4 miles per year. Plus the cost to crack fill and seal coat per year is \$387,940. Discussion followed as to how the projects will be funded, county appropriations, prioritizing projects,

turning roads back to gravel if possible, and the level of use of each road. Ross stressed the importance of keeping the roads in good all weather driving condition. Further discussion was held regarding equipment rates, efficient operation, and thinking of new ways to generate more revenue. Ross handed another sheet showing the buildings and gravel facilities. He explained that the department would like to purchase property for a new shop that would be centrally located between the Elmwood and Plum City shops. The new property would ideally be quarry land as well. The Elmwood and Plum City shops could then be sold. The El Paso shop is already in the process of being sold.

Jim Camery suggested that the committee and department hold a separate meeting for a brainstorming session to strategize the direction of the department. Ross told the committee that the department has lost its ability to manage the highway funds in the recent past. The committee/board has not allowed the department to carry over funds from one year to the next, if a project wasn't completed in that year.

Ross Christopherson gave the committee a brief update on the CTH "F" Bridge Project. He said that SEH will be coming to the 5/25/05 committee meeting to give their report thus far. Ross explained that he has met with Congressman Ron Kind and he is working on getting up to \$10 million to lessen the grade and improve the alignments. The big question for Pierce County is whether they are willing to commit more than the STP funds currently approved (20% of 1,108,800 and 20% of 702,000).

Al Thoner presented a contract project #0093-63-10 from the State of Wisconsin for State traffic control on STH 29 to be done by County forces in the amount \$2,000 . Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve and sign the contract with the State of Wisconsin for traffic control project #0093-63-10. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson explained to the committee that the department hired Ayres Associates to acquire the right-of-way parcels on the CTH "QQ" project. Most of the 23 landowners agreed to the offers after the initial appraisal by Ayres. Seven of the landowners chose to have independent second appraisals done at an average cost of \$1,250 each. Two of the second appraisals were done by Theodore Morgan at a cost of \$2,500 and \$3,000. The department felt this was excessive, so a letter was sent to Theodore Morgan stating that the highway committee approved the more reasonable price of \$1,250 each. Since then, Mr. Morgan sent a letter to the department requesting to meet to discuss the fees. Mr. Morgan will be asked to attend the May 25, 2006 highway committee meeting.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

Looking into the option of using bio diesel fuel and ethanol gasoline

Our two-year fuel contract is about to expire so will need to re-bid another contract.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State maintainers are shouldering on USH 63 and STH 72 and 128 with some rock that was prepaid by the State

Sweeping, washing bridges on State and County roads

Guardrail repairs on both State and County roads
Finishing up repairing washouts on County roads

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Crushing crew is making breaker rock
Next week will be crushing lime rock
Filling in small washouts and ditch work

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

The 2005 Highway Department's Financial Report is completed. Each member received a copy. They were asked to look them over and bring them back to the next meeting with any questions. Steve Tracey, CPA will be invited to attend a future meeting to go over the report and the highway department's fund statement.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

The WCHA WC District Spring meeting is tomorrow in Mondovi. Dan Reis and Ross are planning to attend.

The Summer Highway Conference registration deadline is tomorrow. Members planning to attend were urged to get their forms turned in. At this time, Chip, Dan, Jerry and Ross are planning to attend.

A public informational meeting is scheduled for 5/18/06 at the Plum City Senior Citizen Center from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. regarding the CTH "U" project.

Resolutions recognizing years of service and retirement have been forwarded to the WCHA for former county board members who served on the highway committee: Dale Hines, Leroy Peterson, Mel Pittman, and Ron Anderson.

Future agenda items: Theodore Morgan, CTH "F" Bridge project, 2005 Financial Report

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

5/25/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Mike Larson, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, and Laurie Lundgaard. Also present were John Beckfield and Theodore Morgan.

Chip Simones called for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Mike Larson seconded to approve the minutes of the 5-11-06 meeting. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve the vouchers dated 5/11/06 in the amount of \$144,605.97 and the vouchers dated 5-25-06 in the amount of \$89,922.90. Motion carried.

Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the 5/26/06 payroll in the amount of \$88,882.83. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson presented the committee with documentation and explanation of the right-of-way acquisition process for the parcels on CTH "QQ". Seven of the 24 parcels had second appraisals done by independent appraisers. Two of those seven, done by Theodore Morgan, came in at a higher cost than the other five. The committee previously took action to pay Mr. Morgan \$1,250 for each of the two appraisals he did. That is the same as the highest amount submitted for the other parcels. It was deemed to be reasonable. Mr. Morgan addressed the committee, giving his explanation for the \$2,500 and \$3,000 fee he charged for appraising the two parcels. Discussion followed and Ross suggested compromising with a figure somewhere in the middle. Mr. Morgan seemed accepting of this concept. Jerry Kosin moved to pay Mr. Morgan one half of the total fees submitted, \$2,750.00. The motion died for lack of a second. Jim Camery moved, Mike Larson seconded to pay Mr. Morgan only \$1,250 for each of the two parcels he appraised. Motion carried. Mr. Morgan thanked the committee for the opportunity to come and explain his fees to them.

Ross Christopherson introduced John Beckfield from SEH. SEH was hired to do the engineering work on the CTH "F" bridge project. Federal bridge replacement funds have been secured in the amount of \$1,000,000. Also, STP-Rural funds for approaches are available at 80%/20% which included engineering, but not right-of-way acquisition. John gave the committee an update on the project and process so far. A public informational meeting will be held at the River Falls Public Library on June 22,

2006.

John Beckfield, SEH also gave the committee a brief update on the CTH "U" bridge project he is working on for the department.

The committee was asked if they had any questions regarding the 2005 financial report they received last meeting. Ross told them that the auditor will come as soon as he is able to give a detailed explanation of the report and what it all means.

Al Thoner presented the 2006-2007 salt bid results. Six companies were sent the bid forms, three responded as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Price Delivered</u>	<u>Price - picked up</u>
Cargill, Inc. Salt Division	\$54.97 per ton	\$46.97 per ton
North American Salt, Inc.	\$47.81 per ton	\$45.00 per ton
Morton Salt Division	\$55.03 per ton	\$53.03 per ton

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to accept the bid from North American Salt, Inc at \$47.81 per ton delivered. Discussion was held regarding picking up the salt ourselves. As our cost to pick it up is around \$5.00 a ton, we probably would not be doing that. Motion carried.

Jim Harris went over the 2006 L.R.I.P. asphalt hot mix bid result. He explained the L.R.I.P. program and process. Only one company submitted a bid, Monarch Paving Company. The price per ton is \$31.92 on all projects. This is a reasonable price. Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to accept the bid from Monarch Paving Company for L.R.I.P. asphalt hot mix at a cost of \$31.92 per ton. Motion carried.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

The rock drill #145 was sold to a party in Mexico for \$6,000. It is being picked up today.

The state maintainers are finishing up shouldering work.

Some failing culverts are being replaced on USH 63 through a LFA (Local Force Agreement) with the State.

Some hand-patching and blade-patching is being done on state, county and township roads.

The State has contracted a firm to do the centerline painting.

The county maintainers are working to repair washouts, hand-patching, and blade-patching.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Construction crews are helping on the USH 63 culvert project and patching.

Crushing crew is in the VV quarry.

DNR was here yesterday and are asking for air quality control in our crushing operations.

The CTH "QQ" project will start after July 4, 2006.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Dan Reis and Ross attended the Spring meeting in Mondovi last Friday, May 12. Ross and Dan gave a brief overview of the dismal reports from the legislators.

The summer highway conference will be attended by Ross, Chip, Jerry, and Dan.

Ross was contacted by Lawrence May who represents Herbert Koch. He is interested in leasing the Koch quarry to us.

Future agenda items include: 2005 financial report, Koch quarry lease, CDL policy/procedure should someone lose their license while on their own personal time.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

6/8/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosit, Mike Larson, and Dan Reis. Jim Camery was excused. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard.

Chip Simones called for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosit moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 5/25/06 meeting.

Motion carried.

Jerry Kosit moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve vouchers dated 6/8/06 in the amount of \$266,260.46. Motion carried.

Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the 6/9/06 payroll in the amount of \$93,866.88. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm presented quotes from two companies for the sign truck body. This is for the equipment that goes on the sign truck we purchased earlier this year. The two quotes are as follows:

Dueco Company	\$83,226.00 without lift
Lift	<u>10,000.00</u>
	\$93,226.00 complete

Flannigan Western	<u>\$60,443.91</u>
	\$32,782.09 difference

The recommendation from the department is to purchase from Flannigan Western as the quote is \$32,782.09 cheaper. Ross Christopherson told the committee that this purchase was included in the 2006 budget that was approved by the committee in 2005 and is part of our 5-year capital improvement plan. Jerry Kosit moved, Mike Larson seconded to purchase the sign truck body equipment from Flannigan Western at a cost of \$60,443.91. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson presented documents regarding the Koch Quarry in El Paso and the former lease that we had with Herbert Koch. Ross would like to use the same language in that lease with some minor changes that would include updating the dates, the price per ton and length of the lease. Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosit seconded to move forward with the process of securing the lease and bring it to Corporation Counsel for review. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson explained to the committee that Pierce County does not have a policy or procedure to follow in the event an employee should lose his/her CDL. Ross felt that Pierce County should have a policy and presented labor agreement language from various other counties. The committee reviewed what was presented and discussed various scenarios. Jerry

Kosin moved, Mike Larson seconded to defer this item to a future meeting until more information can be obtained.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

The maintenance trucks which have been replaced are for sale.

The new flail mower is being used and is doing a nice job.

The new trucks are getting ready for operation.

The fuel contract expires this year and we will be sending out for bids for another contract.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State maintainers are finishing up the patching with the hot cold mix.

Weed spraying along the guardrails is completed.

We will now be mowing along the roadsides.

We are finishing the installation of the culverts on USH 63, using extra funds from the State.

The county maintainers are also finishing up patching, weed spraying and starting mowing.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Seal coating starts next Monday. We are going to do CTH B, I and S. Then in July will be doing City of Prescott, Village of Ellsworth and CTH "QQ".

Projects include a dam and road for El Paso Township.

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

The auditor, Steve Tracey from Tracey and Thole, S.C. plans to come to the June 22, 2006 meeting to explain the audit and financial report for 2005.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Ross reminded the committee of the summer highway conference next week.

Future meeting agenda items include driveway permit fees, utility permit fees, mailbox policy regarding type/style of mailbox and post, and selection of a firm for acquisition of right-of-way parcels for the CTH "U" project.

Future meetings will be June 22, July 13, and August 17, 2006 at 7:30 a.m.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Highway Committee Minutes

6/22/06 – Vice chairman Jerry Kosin called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m. Present were Jerry Kosin, Mike Larson, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Also present was Steve Tracey. Chip Simones arrived at 8:20 a.m.

Jerry Kosin called for public comments. None was received.

Dan Reis moved, Mike Larson seconded to approve the minutes of the 6/8/06 meeting. Motion carried.

Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the vouchers dated 6/22/06 in the amount of \$128,296.43. Motion carried.

Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the 6/23/06 payroll in the amount of \$92,879.08. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson introduced Steve Tracey, C.P.A. Steve explained the book closing process and the requirement to report to the Wisconsin D.O.T. He went through the 2005 financial report of the highway department and the fund statement as well. Committee members' questions were answered.

Jim Harris presented a cost share request from Rock Elm Township as follows:

The Town of Rock Elm is requesting County Bridge Aid for a culvert on 610th avenue 0.5 miles west of 170th street. The existing 36" x 36' culvert failed and had to be replaced with one 36" x 50' plastic culvert pipe. This culvert meets the WI statute requirements for bridge aids.

Town Share - \$3,442.36

County Share - \$3,442.35

Total Cost - \$6,884.71

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the cost share request as presented. Motion carried. It was noted that Rock Elm Township still needed to fill out the bridge petition form and turn it in to the highway department.

Jim Harris presented a cost share request from Union Township for a bridge known as the 50th St. Bridge as follows:

The location of said bridge is as follows: Section 13-14, Town 25N Range 15W Road 310th Ave.

Town Share - \$16,181.50
County Share - \$16,181.50
Total Cost - \$32,363.00

Jim Harris presented a cost share request from Union Township for a culvert by the residence of W649 310th Ave.

The location of said bridge is as follows: Section 13-14, Town 25N Range 15W Road 310th Ave.

Town Share - \$2,861.00
County Share - \$2,861.00
Total Cost - \$5,722.00

Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the cost share requests from Union Township as presented. Motion carried.

Jim Harris told the committee that Gilman Township was not ready to present their cost share request at this time. No action was taken.

Jim Harris explained to the committee that the residents on CTH "J" between STH 65 and 769th St. had submitted a petition to get the speed limit reduced to 35 miles per hour. The Traffic Safety Commission met on 6/14/06 and said the county should develop and submit a recommendation back to them for their consideration at their next meeting. The State DOT says the lowest speed limit that we could go for that road design is 45 mph. Dan Reis moved, Mike Larson seconded to recommend to the Traffic Safety Commission a 45 mph limit on CTH "J" from STH 65 going south to just past 769th St. Motion carried.

Laurie Lundgaard presented two discretionary maintenance agreements from the State of Wisconsin, Access Control, Driveway Removal #0047-66-31 in the amount of \$2,000 and Crack Seal, STH 29, from STH 65 – USH 63 #0047-63-10 in the amount of \$55,000. Jim Camery moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve and sign the two DMA with the State of Wisconsin as indicated above. Motion carried.

Laurie Lundgaard requested to send two office staff to the annual CHEMS training to be held in Stevens Point on October 12 and 13, 2006. The State will pay for registration fee, training time and travel expenses for the two people. Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to send two people to the annual CHEMS training as requested. Motion carried.

Laurie Lundgaard informed the committee that the department has been sending up to five people to the Highway Superintendent's and Foremen's conference. Discussion was held as to what takes place and the location of the event. This year the conference is being held in Wisconsin Rapids on September 20 – 22, 2006. Jerry Kosin moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve sending up to 5 employees to the conference. Motion carried.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State maintainers are mowing a 5-foot cut on State highways. Also have been patching and doing some left-over guardrail repairs. The County maintainers are mowing a 15-foot cut for the first cut and won't cut again until the end of August. They are using a wider mower that cuts a larger swath. They are also helping out with the crack filling operation.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

One crew is milling on CTH "QQ" and should finish this week. There is a crew that is working on a construction project for El Paso Township. The crushing crew is in the VV Quarry.

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

The budget process for 2007 has begun. New personnel requests are due to the administration office by July 1, 2006. The request for additional hours (5/week) is being submitted bringing the two bookkeepers in the highway office up to 40 hour a week status. The highway committee will have the opportunity to approve this at their next meeting.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Ross gave a report on the Summer Highway Conference he attended. The NACE (National Association of County Engineers) conference is being held in Milwaukee this year. Plaques of recognition were received for past highway committee members. They will be presented to the individuals at the next highway committee meeting.

Ross is working with Brad Lawrence on the following items: Koch Quarry lease, mailbox policy, and CDL policy.

RFP for right-of-way acquisition services for CTH "U" sent out. Bids will be presented at the next highway committee meeting.

There is an informational meeting tonight at the River Falls Library regarding the CTH "F" Bridge.

Attended last Monday's Finance and Personnel meeting. Each department was instructed to submit a 2007 budget with a 15% reduction and the impact that it will have on the department. Ross indicated that the department feels the only place to cut anything would be in new construction. Roads that are in need of reconstruction would not get done. All other areas of highway responsibility have a safety factor that dictates necessity. After lengthy discussion, the committee instructed Ross to prepare a presentation for the Finance and Personnel committee about how things work at the highway department. Ross objected but agreed to put something together after more discussion.

Ross signed a (LFA) contract with the State of Wisconsin for \$100,000 for replacement of three culverts on USH 63. The project is finished now.

Jerry Kosin moved, Mike Larson seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The

meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

7/13/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Mike Larson was excused. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Curt Kephart was also present.

Chip Simones called for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 6/22/06 meeting. Motion carried.

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the vouchers dated 7/6/06 in the amount of \$57,337.39. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the 7/7/06 payroll in the amount of \$91,868.45. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson showed the committee four plaques that were presented to past highway committee members at the last WCHA conference. Plaques were received in recognition of years of service to the public and State and County highway departments for Dale Hines, Rod Rommel, Leroy Peterson, and Ron O. Anderson.

Ross Christopherson gave a brief explanation of the process for selecting a firm to acquire right-of-way parcels for the CTH "U project. Bids were sent to five firms and received from three as follows:

Ted Morgan	\$12,950
Timbers-Selissen	\$ 6,800
Ayres Associates	\$ 8,000

Ross said that all three firms addressed the same issues and after comparing the bids, the staff recommends the low bidder. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to award the right-of-way acquisition services to Timbers-Selissen at a cost of \$6,800. Motion carried.

Laurie Lundgaard presented to the committee the request that was submitted to the administration office for an increase in hours for the two highway bookkeepers for 2007. Cost of the increase for the two employees to go from a 35 work week status to a 40 hour work week status is \$10,320 for 2007, including fringe benefits. Part of the expense will be funded through State and other local municipalities by the 4.5% administrative fee that is charged for all work done for them. Only 60% (\$6,192) will be highway department cost. Discussion followed regarding other ways of doing

business to lighten the work load, such as new technology. It was explained that the office has streamlined its work and it is felt that they are working the most efficient way possible. There is just more work to do and the employees are stretched to the maximum stress level. More discussion was held regarding budget cuts, the tax levy and department priorities. Laurie explained that the personnel requests are the first part of the budget process, the whole budget gets submitted later and the increase in personnel hours will be included in the bottom line. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve the increase in hours for the two bookkeepers and that the request is forwarded to the finance and personnel committee. Motion carried with Jerry Kosin opposed.

Ross Christopherson informed the committee that he, Laurie, and Jim Camery have been working together to get a presentation ready for the finance and personnel committee. The presentation shows the commitment of the department to the development and maintenance of a county trunk highway system. It also shows the impact of a 15% cut in county appropriations to the department and its plan to protect the investment in the highway system. The committee offered ideas on how to clarify and fine-tune certain points of the slideshow. This presentation will be given to the finance and personnel committee in August.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

- The maintainers are finished mowing and patching now.
- STH 29 DMA will start shortly.
- County centerline painting is done.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

- Attended the meeting at the River Falls Library regarding the CTH "F" bridge project. The meeting went well and Ron Kind's office is still working to find funding for it.
- Attended the 7/10/06 finance and personnel meeting where they took action to receive sealed bids for the sale of the El Paso Shop.

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

9/14/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Mike Larson, and Dan Reis. Jim Camery was excused. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Curt Kephart arrived later.

Chip Simones called for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 8/17/06 meeting. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve vouchers dated 8/31/06 in the amount of \$54,527.78 and vouchers dated 9/14/06 in the amount of \$817,889.22. Motion carried.

Dan Reis moved, Mike Larson seconded to approve the 9/1/06 payroll in the amount of \$102,291.31 and the 9/15/06 payroll in the amount of \$90,520.12. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson presented a nominal payment parcel report for CTH "U" project ID #7897-01-23. He explained that the firm that was hired to do the appraisals did a sales study and have now submitted a list of six (6) parcels that need to be compensated (TLE or PLE) or purchased. Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the nominal payment parcel report for the CTH "U" project ID #7897-01-23. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson presented a draft of the highway department's capital improvement plan for the next 5 years. Ross went on to explain the purpose of the plan and how it ties into our truck replacement plan and the machinery and equipment fund. Curt Kephart arrived at this time.

Much discussion ensued regarding buildings, ownership, sharing between departments and the funds used to purchase the buildings. It was stated that all highway department buildings are and have been purchased with funds generated by the machinery fund, not with general tax appropriations. Curt suggested that a future agenda item should be discussion regarding the replacement of the blue shop. \$300,000 is sitting in the contingency fund earmarked for replacement of the blue shop for the highway department.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the capital improvement plan in the draft form. Motion carried. The final plan is being submitted to the administration office before 9/22/06.

Ross Christopherson told the committee that the 2007 budget was submitted to the administration department with the 15% cut and the option of the 2.9% increase. Ross asked the committee what they would be willing to support, the 15% cut or the 2.9% increase or something in between. Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to leave the budget as submitted, with both options, and let the finance and personnel committee make the decision as to what the priorities are. Motion carried.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

Bulk fuel bids are due to be sent out next week and Ray explained that our 2-year bidding process is working well compared to the way some of the other counties do it. They call and ask for prices with each fill. After checking cost averages with several counties, Ray said that this is not the most efficient way to do it and in the end it doesn't make any difference.

We sold two more trucks. They went to Milwaukee for \$23,000 each. He reminded the committee that the trade-in price was \$18,500. So the county benefited with \$9,000 more than would have been received if we had traded them in.

The shop is replacing the suspension under the crusher which is badly rusting.

The pickup that the fair department has is wearing out and Ray will be looking to see what we may have available for them.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

State maintainers are finishing up with summer mowing, boom mowing and brushing. They have also been patching.

The county maintainers are mowing the right-of-ways, finishing up the storm cleanup.

Taylor County did the painting on CTH "OO"

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Working on CTH "QQ", seeding, mulching, hauling sub-base and base rock.

Started a STP-rural project on CTH "CC", milling which is going slow, but we are paying the reclaimer by the square yard, rather than by the hour.

We have also been doing some paving for villages and towns.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Ross, Jim and Laurie have been working to get some old bills cleared up. Meetings with municipal officials have resulted in coming to some understanding on several old bills.

The fall district highway meeting will be October 27, 2006 at the Eau Claire airport.

The project on CTH "K" from USH 63 west 1.5 mile and south 1.5 mile is on the road improvement plan. The road is too narrow and too steep to do a reconditioning of the surface, it really needs to be reconstructed. We will send out proposals for engineering for the next highway committee meeting. This project could qualify for rural STP funds.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2006 at 7:30 a.m. The budget issue and fuel bid results will be on the agenda.

The Quonset hut at the fairgrounds will be cleaned out so we can move our mowers in for winter storage.

The El Paso Shop sealed bids will be opened here on 9/18/06 at 2:00 p.m. and then handed over to Curt Kephart to be forwarded to the Finance and Personnel Committee for recommendation.

Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m

Highway Committee Minutes

10/19/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Mike Larson, and Dan Reis. Jim Camery arrived at 7:45. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Others present were Kelli Traynor and Jim DeBenedet from Stevens Engineers.

Chip Simones called for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 9-14-06 meeting. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve vouchers dated 9-28-06 in the amount of \$71,865.30 and vouchers dated 10-12-06 in the amount of \$405,335.05. Motion carried.

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the payroll dated 9-29-06 in the amount of \$91,643.69 and the payroll dated 10-13-06 in the amount of \$98,059.08. Motion carried.

Bid results for the design services on the CTH "K" project (from USH 63 to CTH "KK") were presented by Ross Christopherson. Bids were sent to four vendors and the results are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
SEH	\$69,899
Cedar Corporation	\$56,806
Ayres Associates	\$51,975
Stevens Engineers	\$48,400
plus incidental expenses	<u>1,500</u>
Total bid	\$49,900

The committee gave Jim DeBenedet from Stevens Engineers the opportunity to address the committee. He explained that Kelli Traynor is going to be the project engineer and that she is from the Ellsworth area. Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to award the bid to Stevens Engineers at a cost of \$49,900. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson reminded the committee that the Capital Improvement Plan was discussed at the last meeting, but that is wasn't complete. Since completion, the plan has been submitted to the administration office for inclusion in the 2007 budget to be adopted. Ross went through the plan highlighting the Truck Replacement Fund and the Machinery and Equipment Plan as they are the major purchases for the department. Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the Capital Improvement Plan as presented. Motion carried.

Laurie Lundgaard explained that because the county no longer appropriates any money for administration, a 4.5% administration fee was implemented beginning in 2005. This fee is charged against all work done by the highway department. In an effort to help balance the 2007 budget, the highway department offered to eliminate the fee charged to other Pierce County Departments for 2007. The amount collected for 2005 was \$7,291.63. Jerry Kosin moved, Mike Larson seconded to approve the elimination of the 4.5% fee charged to other Pierce County departments for 2007. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson told the committee that the 2007 budget submitted by the highway

department with the two options (a cut of 15% or \$2,478,931 and an increase of 2.9% or \$3,000,964) was approved by Finance and Personnel at the +2.9% minus \$4,342 and with the understanding that the highway department will cut a check to the contingency fund for \$100,000. The ending result is that the department's 2007 appropriation will be \$2,896,622 which is a 1% cut from 2006. Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to accept the budget as approved by the Finance and Personnel Committee. Motion carried. Ross asked that the members of the highway committee follow through at the county board and preserve the funding at least at this level.

Ross Christopherson has spoken with Paul Barkla, county board chairman and the building committee is working on a plan and use for the blue shop building. There is \$300,000 in the contingency fund that is earmarked for the purchase of the blue shop from the highway department. Those funds would then be used towards building a replacement structure.

Ray Dohm presented the fuel bid results as follows:

Vendor	<u>Diesel</u> Tanker Delivery	<u>Gas</u> Tanker Delivery	<u>Diesel</u> Bulk Tank Deliv.
<u>Bauer Built</u>			
Freight	.0212	.0186	.0209
Margin	.0100	.0100	.0800
Insp. Fee	.0200	.0200	.0200
<u>Consolidated</u> <u>Energy Co-op</u>			
Freight	.0267	.0234	.0267
Margin	.0200	.0200	.1600
Insp. Fee	.0200	.0200	.0200
			(Add \$.05/gal. for equip. fills at job sites)
<u>DEM Co-op</u> <u>Transport</u>			
Freight	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID
Margin			
Insp. Fee			
<u>Hartland Fuel</u> <u>Products</u>			
Freight	.0235	.0190	.1500
Margin	.0030	.0030	.0500
Insp. Fee	.0200	.0200	.0200

Mike Larson moved, Dan Reis seconded to award the bid to the low bidder in each category, Hartland Fuel Products for tanker deliveries and Bauer Built for bulk tank deliveries. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm told the committee that our hammer #9241 has a high maintenance cost at about \$10,000 per year. He also said that he received a proposal from Westermann Supply for a "try and buy" Surestrike model impact hammer. The cost to the department would be \$32,000 if the unit proved to be satisfactory. If not, there is no cost. Mike Larson moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve the testing of the Surestrike hammer for 21 days. Motion carried.

Jim Harris presented a cost sharing request from Gilman Township as follows:

The Town of Gilman is requesting Bridge Aid for the replacement of a structure on 650th avenue 4,000 feet west of CTH BB.

The existing 10' x 4' concrete structure was in poor condition and was replaced with one 95" x 67" x 52' galvanized steel culvert with galvanized steel end sections.

Pierce County is to supply the culvert at a cost of \$8,568.80. Shadow Valley Excavating is to do the culvert installation at a cost of \$2,900.00. The Town of Gilman costs are \$4,654.01.

Town Share - \$8,061.41

County Share - \$8,061.40

Total Cost - \$16,122.81

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the cost request as indicated above. Motion carried.

Al Thoner presented a contract from the State of Wisconsin for work done by local forces on the signal lights in Prescott. The amount of the contract #1530-01-91 is \$2,500. Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve and sign the contract for the project #1530-01-91 in the amount of \$2,500. Motion carried.

Al Thoner presented a Discretionary Maintenance Agreement (DMA) #0047-63-20 from the State of Wisconsin for paving work to be done on USH 10 in the Village of Ellsworth in the amount of \$70,000. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve and sign the DMA for project #0047-63-20 in the amount of \$70,000. Motion carried.

Al Thoner presented a driveway variance request on CTH "CC" from Don Fisher. After some discussion, Jim Camery moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to table this item until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Al Thoner presented a driveway variance request on CTH "K" from Steven Pershau. The sight vision is good, but the location is less than the required 500' from an existing driveway. The department recommends approval. Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve and sign the driveway variance request for Steven Pershau for a driveway on CTH "K". Motion carried.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

We have installed a metal detector on the crusher and finished installing updated step on the new crusher shack.

The county maintenance trucks have been getting the snow equipment added on.

The gen-set on the paver went out and cost to replace it is \$11,000 from OEM Vendor, so took it to LaCrosse and got it repaired instead for \$950.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

The foremen that went to the highway convention sent a thank you note to the committee.

Taylor County painted CTH "OO" and Al passed a picture around for all to see.

Al and Dale Bisonette have been working on the last Compass segment ratings.

State maintainers have been patching, boom brushing, guardrail repair and prepping for the DMA project. The bridge tenders will be done at the bridge 11/1/06.

The County maintainers are finishing mowing the right-of-ways, had some truck training on the new trucks, and helping other crew when needed.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

Paving next week will include Trenton Township, CTH "QQ" and Town of Ellsworth. The crushing/screening operation is setting up for salt sand.

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

Nancy Lundgaard and I attended the annual CHEMS User Group meeting and training workshops last Thursday and Friday in Stevens Point.

Workshops attended were: State year End Financial Forms, Using CHEMS as a total GL package, Excel Workshop and an introduction to CHEMSPro – the new and improved Windows version of CHEMS.

After the workshops were held, there were nominations and elections for vacancies on the board of directors and I was elected Vice President for 2007, which automatically moves up to President in 2008. The meetings are held every other month on the second Tuesday in Wausau, except for the annual meeting which is in October.

I would like to thank the committee and Ross for giving us the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the users' group. Not only did we find it informative and educational, but we also were able to network with the other users of the computer program.

I am happy to say that we survived a lot of long hours and extra meetings, now that the budget process is completed for 2007. We did not get the extra staff hours we were hoping for, so will have to wait another year and ask again.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Reminded the committee of the 10/27/06 Fall Committeemen's meeting.

Informed the committee of the 1/29/07 Winter Highway Conference.

The El Paso Shop sale has been approved by the Finance and Personnel Committee with a resolution being presented at the 10/24/06 county board meeting.

Spring Lake Township has contacted us regarding using our equipment and having access to our Elmwood shop. The department and committee agreed that it was not appropriate to allow others access to the shop and equipment. Ross will contact Spring Lake Township.

Ray Dohm and Ross are working with Steve Melstrom from MRF. The highway department would like to bid on moving their containers around Pierce County by using one of our old haul truck and rigging it up for the containers.

We received a small claims summons for a claim of approximately \$1,700 by Wisconsin Bell for an incident in 2004 on STH 65 near Shady Grove.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2006 at 7:30 a.m. The agenda will include the Don Fisher driveway variance request and tractor bids.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.

Highway Committee Minutes

11/9/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Mike Larson arrived at 8:40 a.m. Also present later were Curt Kephart and John Mansfield.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to defer the public comments until the person wanting to make comments arrives. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 10/19/06 meeting. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve vouchers dated 10/26/06 in the amount of \$81,808.48 and the vouchers dated 11/9/06 in the amount of \$131,842.55. Motion carried.

Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the payroll dated 10/27/06 in the amount of \$89,063.08 and the payroll dated 11/10/06 in the amount of \$90,310.91. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to take public comments at this time. Concerned motorist and citizen, John Mansfield addressed committee concerning CTH "QQ" south of USH 10 about ½ mile. Mr. Mansfield requested that the committee consider putting in guardrail along the stretch of "QQ" that has a long slope, which he considers to be steep and a safety concern. Committee agreed that they would look at the location and thanked Mr. Mansfield for his time and concern.

No other public comments were received.

Ross Christopherson presented a request for County Bridge Aid from Union Township. Ross explained that he had been working with the town board and found that they did not exactly comply with the county's current bridge aid policy. Ross explained to the committee how he arrived at the dollar amount that was eligible for cost sharing. The request is as follows:

1. Project to replace bridge with culvert at 310th Ave / 50th St. intersection

Town Share	\$ 15,505
County Share	<u>15,505</u>
Total Project	\$ 30,130

2. Project to replace culvert on 3310th Ave. by the Todd Sweeney residence

Town Share	\$ 2,018.79
County Share	<u>2,018.79</u>
Total Project	\$ 4,037.58

Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the cost sharing request as presented in the amounts indicated above. Motion carried. It was also discussed that townships are made aware of the county's policy on bridge aids to ensure better compliance.

Al Thoner explained the driveway variance request from Matt Quinn on CTH "DD". He wants an extra driveway on his property, but it does not comply with the 500' distance from an existing driveway rule. Since there is more than one option to resolve this request and Mr. Quinn is not present, the committee decided to take no action today.

The driveway variance for Don Fisher on CTH "CC" was deferred so no action was taken.

Ross Christopherson explained that Ray has been talking with the Material Recovery Facility. The highway department is planning to bid on the 3-year contract for transporting their roll-off containers. More information on this will be coming at future meetings.

Ross Christopherson explained that the right-of-way on CTH "CC" at the intersection of STH 29 was supposed to be conveyed back to Tony Huppert on April 15, 1994 but was mis-recorded and now to rectify it, takes committee action and subsequently county board action. Discussion followed. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to convey the right-of-way to Tony Huppert in order to confirm the actions that were taken originally. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson went over the CTHS maintenance program and budget history. It is expected that by the end of 2006 the fund will be in a deficit twice that of last year. Ross explained the department's plan to remedy the situation by the end of 2007, by transferring funds from other accounts and down-sizing the maintenance operation. The staffing plan will include going from seven year-round county sections to six winter sections and 3 summer sections. Mike Larson moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the maintenance operation plan and revised staffing plan by abolishing the position of County Section 7 Patrolman. Motion carried.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

The last new county truck has arrived and we are busy getting all the trucks ready for snow. Also are working on township plows, getting ready for snow.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

The bridge tenders are finished at the Prescott Bridge for the winter.

State and county maintainers are busy crack-filling on STH 29.

Also busy with patching. The county maintainers area done mowing the right-of-ways.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

The paving on CTH "QQ" is finished and busy shouldering on "QQ". Next week they will be striping the new pavement. Then we'll move from "QQ" to Ellsworth.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Ross and some of the committee members attended the district committeemen's meeting hosted by Chippewa County. The DOT, lobbyist, and management consulting firm that handles all the state and federal projects were there. The story on transportation issues is a sad one. There are

less funds with higher equipment and material costs.

The ambulance association wants the highway department to place a light on the top of our tower for helicopters as our lot is a heli-pad. Discussion was held and determined that Curt Kephart will check more on this.

Ross reminded the committee that the November county board will be deciding on the 2007 budget is expressed his hope that the highway committee will continue to support our budget as presented.

A phone call from an Oak Grove citizen claimed that the highway department was attempting to manipulate the outcome of the November 7th elections by paving the road that the polling site is on – “QQ”. Ross explained that the road to the polls was open even though we were paving and paving was complete by 4 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2006 at 7:30 a.m. Agenda items include the “QQ” project and the maintenance fund deficit and transfer of funds.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Highway Committee Minutes

12/14/06 - Chairman Chip Simones called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Chip Simones, Jerry Kosin, Dan Reis, and Jim Camery. Highway personnel present were Ross Christopherson, Al Thoner, Jim Harris, Ray Dohm, and Laurie Lundgaard. Also present was Curt Kephart and Jay McGrath.

Chip Simones asked for public comment and none was received.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the minutes of the 11/9/06 highway committee meeting. Motion carried.

Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the vouchers dated 11/24/06 in the amount of \$427,615.18 and the vouchers dated 12/7/06 in the amount of \$74,608.92. Motion carried.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve the 11/24/06 payroll in the amount of \$90,789.34 and the 12/8/06 payroll in the amount of \$84,499.71. Motion carried.

Al Thoner presented a driveway permit variance request from Matt Quinn for a driveway on CTH "DD", south of USH 10. The variance is needed because the location is less than the required 500' from an existing driveway. After eliminating several other options and much discussion, the staff recommended the variance be granted with the understanding there would be no other driveways permitted on this parcel without committee approval. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to grant the variance with the stipulation there will be no other driveways permitted on this parcel unless the committee approves. Motion carried.

Ross and Al Thoner presented the 2007 Routine Maintenance Agreement (RMA) with the State of Wisconsin for maintenance and upkeep of the State roads in Pierce County in the amount of \$1,354,200.00. Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to approve and sign the 2007 RMA in the amount of \$1,354,200.00. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson reminded the committee of the guardrail issue on the CTH "QQ" construction project that was discussed at the last committee meeting. A concerned citizen feels guardrail is needed along a stretch of the road. After reviewing the site and engineering plans and specs, it was determined that guardrail is not required and should not be a safety concern with the 4-1 slope that goes past the safety zone, then a 3-1 slope beyond that. No action was taken.

Jim Harris presented an El Paso Township bridge aid request for two (2) projects as follows:

The Town of El Paso is requesting County Bridge Aids for two projects on 450th avenue. Project 330.0616 is the Gail Ingli Stabilization structure. This project is located approximately 1.5 miles west of CTH CC. The existing 16' span x 22' wide x 10' high structure is being replaced by a 36" x 128' culvert pipe that is part of an erosion control structure project in

conjunction with the Soil Conservation Department.

Project 330.0618 is located 500' east of 350th street. The existing 72" x 36' culvert was in poor condition and was replaced with one 72" x 56' galvanized steel culvert pipe.

330.0606 - Inгли Dam Project – To be done per NRCS plans

Total Structure Cost – 49,550.50
Less - NRCS Participation - \$14,000.00
Total Eligible for Bridge Aids - \$35,555.50

Town of El Paso Share – 17,775.25
Pierce County Share – 17,775.25

330.0618 - 450th Avenue 500' East of 350th Street

Town Share - \$5,630.35
County Share - \$5,630.35
Total Cost - \$11,260.70

Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve the bridge aid request from El Paso Township as indicated above. Motion carried.

Ray Dohm presented bid specs for a tandem drive 32,000 lb. motor grader to replace our current unit #139 a 1996 Caterpillar 140H motor grader. He also presented bid specs for a cab tractor with front wheel assist and detachable loader to replace our current units #104 a 1986 Ford 545 2WD tractor and #107 a 1998 Ford 545D cab loader tractor with front wheel assist. The replacement of these units is in our 2007 capital improvement plan and budget. Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the specs and send out for bids. Motion carried.

Al Thoner and Ray Dohm presented information to the committee about a salt brine system that will provide a salt solution that will be applied to roads for anti-icing and de-icing. The cost to produce the brine is estimated at \$0.06 per gallon. This purchase is quoted at \$7,500.00 with the whole installation and set up to cost less than \$30,000 once complete. The goal is to use less salt, which is better for the environment, cheaper, and sticks to the surface better than dry salt. Al mentioned that he is working to get some money from the State of Wisconsin to go towards this system. Dan Reis moved, Jim Camery seconded to approve the purchase of the salt brine system. Motion carried.

Ross Christopherson reminded the committee of the deficit in the road maintenance fund and the reasons. The beginning balance in 2006 was -\$314,429, and the expected ending balance will be around -\$661,000. In order to zero out at the end of the year a fund transfer will be needed. Ross suggested taking \$250,000 from pits and quarries (fund 703) and \$411,000 from the road construction (fund 707). This will allow the department to start out 2007 in the black. Jim Camery moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the transfer of \$250,000 from fund 703 to fund 706 and to approve the transfer of \$411,000 from fund 707 to fund 706. Motion carried.

Ross presented to the committee a Jurisdictional Transfer/Cost Share Agreement between the Village of Plum City and Pierce County for the transfer of 0.35 mile of CTH "U" that runs through the village limits. The document also contains an agreement that the village will pay 50% of the County's 20% share of improvements being made to the road. Total costs of improvements are expected to be \$300,000 which has 80% STP-Rural funding for the project. There is a state-wide trend to get those portions of county roads that run through municipalities transferred to the local municipality. Dan Reis moved, Jerry Kosin seconded to approve the Jurisdictional Transfer/Cost Share Agreement between the Village of Plum City and Pierce County for the transfer of 0.35 mile of CTH "U". Motion carried with Jim Camery opposed.

Ross Christopherson explained to the committee that his current term as commissioner expires at the end of 2006. The County Board elects the commissioner for a two-year term and asked for a recommendation from the highway committee. Jim Camery moved, Dan Reis seconded to recommend the appointment of Ross Christopherson as highway commissioner for another term (2007 – 2009). Motion carried.

Curt Kephart updated the committee and department on the Stogdill land sale opportunity.

Patrol Superintendent's Report (Al Thoner)

Maintainers are training on the new county maintenance trucks. Though we haven't had any real snow events lately, every day there is early morning frost or icy conditions. The county maintainers are helping other crews as much as possible. Other activities include: Calibrating the truck sanders; finished the 2006 DMA (discretionary maintenance agreement) crack filling on STH 29, more should be coming in 2007: State road woody vegetation control on USH 63 and STH 65; transition from 7 to 6 maintenance beats is being handled OK.

Shop Superintendent's Report (Ray Dohm)

Explained the roll over option for the skidsters; transmission issues with the 6400 series John Deere tractors; working with the Material Recovery Facility's maintenance problems.

Construction Superintendent's Report (Jim Harris)

CTH "QQ" is done, Ellsworth Township project on 570th Ave is coming along nicely, doing some State work ditching, and screening for hot mix operation for the next season

Office Manager's Report (Laurie Lundgaard)

Attended the CHEMS board meeting on Tuesday and the new Windows version of CHEMS (CHEMSPRO) will be available by October 2007. Currently have a test version of it and are testing it on our data.

Attended the state-wide bookkeeper's meeting and received updates for the machinery rates, and heard of the tight budget outlooks for the state.

Commissioner's Report (Ross Christopherson)

Ross reminded the committee members of the Winter Highway Conference. Those signed up to go are Ross, Chip Simones and Jerry Kosin.

Future meetings will be set for the third Thursday of each month. More meetings can be scheduled on an as needed basis. The next meeting will be January 18, 2007.

Ross thanked the committee for their recommendation for his appointment. He stated he has enjoyed working with all the committee members this past year and appreciates the working relationship. Ross stated that the commissioner position should be a permanent appointment so the person can work on being commissioner and the big picture, rather than always wondering if a new appointment will be granted every two years.

Jerry Kosin moved, Dan Reis seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.