

MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
301 WASHINGTON STREET, COURTHOUSE BUILDING “A” ROOM #3041
OCONTO WI 54153
www.ocontocountywi.gov

(Draft minutes not approved by committee)

COMMITTEE PRESENT: David Behrend, David Christianson, Bob Wolf, Joel Lavarda

ABSENT: Elmer Ragen

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Hytinen, Vanessa Hasenberg, Richard Heath, Al Sleeter, Beth Ellingson, Mike Beyer, Dan Benser, Jill Hendricks

1. Call to Order

Chair Christianson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. Statement of County Mission and Vision by Hytinen

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1 Change of Sequence – None

3.2 Removal of Items – None

Motion by Wolf/Lavarda to approve the agenda. The motion was voted and carried.

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Motion by Wolf/Behrend to approve the May 8, 2025, minutes as printed. The motion was voted and carried.

5. Review Prior Months Vendor Payments

Vendor payments were discussed.

6. Communications

- Heath gave information on Village of Lena Baseball Diamond Appreciation Night June 16, 2025.
- Property/Technology Committee is hosting an ice cream social at Beyer Home Museum following County Board meeting on June 19.
- Notice of Public Hearing – No impact at this time.
- Email received from Crooked Lake fire department requesting to detour portion of CTH-W on July 5 at 10:30am for a parade. They will provide their own traffic control.
- Information received from Brad Olsen from Oconto Falls police department regarding the City of Oconto Falls moving forward with plans to annex the right of way on the segment of CTH-I from the hospital to Columbia Street. A portion of this segment is currently in the Town of Stiles. If approval is received from WisDOT to jurisdictional transfer this segment to the city, it will also need approval from Highway Committee and County Board.
- Email from WisDOT on local officials meeting taking place on June 10 for resurface of STH-64 from STH-32 to CTH-S. This is tentatively scheduled for 2030.

7. CTH-Z Driveway Variance Request

Hytinen brought up location on screen as well as variance request letter. The driveway request was denied due to not meeting requirements of ordinance for spacing and frequency of driveways already in that area. Discussion followed on speed limit, traffic counts, and grade of land. Motion by Wolf/Lavarda to approve variance request for accessed growth and development. The motion was voted and carried.

8. CTH-BB Detour Request

Request from Civics Club & City of Gillett to detour CTH-BB for parade on July 4. Motion by Lavarda/Behrend to allow use of CTH-BB on July 4 for parade with proper signage and detour. The motion was voted and carried.

9. CTH-A Detour Request

Request from Wooden Shoe/Village of Lena, to detour CTH-A from Old 41 to East Railroad Street, from 3:30pm-7:30pm on June 10, July 8, and August 12. Motion by Behrend/Lavarda to allow detour, with Village of Lena providing signs for traffic control. The motion was voted and carried.

10. Approval to Order Two Quad-Axles 2026

Motion by Behrend/Lavarda to recommend to County Board the purchase of (2) Quad-Axles with plow equipment with funding allocated in 2026 budget. The motion was voted and carried. Wolf Abstained.

11. Approval of Need to Build a new Highway Facility Resolution

Resolution R2025-05-05 Approval of Need to Build a New Highway Facility was voted at County Board to send back to Highway Committee. Email from Supervisor Barkhaus shown on screen. Discussion on what is included in the estimated cost of 44 million dollars as well as the need to hire a firm to assist with direction of project. Motion by Lavarda/Behrend to create new resolution with change in line 5 to, "Approval to Proceed to Next Steps on New Highway Facility," and strike lines 20 and 21. Also request to have the resolution submitted by members of Highway Committee, not County Board Chair. The motion was voted and carried.

12. Staffing Update

- Six LTE's have started, with 2 more starting at a later date.
- Operator that is incapacitated continues to be off.
- Grader operator position has been posted.

13. Equipment Update

- (2) Tri-axes from 2024 budget at Monroe Truck and have build dates of end of June, (3) triaxles from 2025 budget have expected build dates of June 2026.

14. Roadwork Update

- Right of way purchases and design continue for CTH-C STP project.
- Design continues on CTH-CC structure in Oconto Falls. Public information meeting held May 19.
- Pulverizing to begin June 16 on CTH-A.
- Concrete repair continues on 4 lanes.
- Binder down on CTH-J LRIP project, surface purchased from NE Asphalt.
- Asphalt plant went down last week. Repairs are taking place now with parts estimated at \$13,000.
- Paving on town roads will be next.
- Draft PS&E documents submitted last Friday for Pecore Road and will be let shortly. Work to begin next year.

15. Announcements/General Information/Guests (No action to be taken)

- Lavarda questioned maintenance on CTH-A bridge, this is WisDOT jurisdiction.
- Breakfast on the Farm is June 8. Highway Department will maintain traffic control based on WisDOT recommended traffic plan.
- Town of Breed will notify Hytinen after their July board meeting if they want us to continue services with them. Discussion followed on other towns that may be interested in our services.
- Issues with calling and cell phones continue.

16. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at 9am in rooms 1003/1004. County Board room is having microphones installed and is not available.

17. Adjournment

Chair Christianson declared meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.