

**MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.**  
**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**301 WASHINGTON STREET, COURTHOUSE BUILDING “A” ROOM #1003-#1004**  
**OCONTO WI 54153**  
[www.ocontocountywi.gov](http://www.ocontocountywi.gov)  
*(Draft minutes not approved by committee)*

COMMITTEE PRESENT: David Behrend, David Christianson, Joel Lavarda

ABSENT: Elmer Ragen, Bob Wolf

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Hytinen, Vanessa Hasenberg, Richard Heath, Al Sleeter, Beth Ellingson, Char Meier – CB Supervisor District 21, Tracy Ondik – CB Supervisor District 24, Craig Schuh – Ayres Associates, Neil Bierwirth- Barrientos Design & Consulting,

**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 Behrend/Lavarda to approve the agenda. The motion was voted and carried.

**4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

Motion by Behrend/Lavarda to approve the June 5, 2025, minutes as printed. The motion was voted and carried.

**5. Review Prior Months Vendor Payments**

Vendor payments were discussed.

**6. Communications**

- Notice of Public Hearing – No impact at this time.
- Public involvement meeting was held on June 24 for the STH-64 from STH-32 to CTH-S project. This is tentatively scheduled for 2030.

**7. CTH-S Detour Request**

Request received from Bellin to detour traffic on CTH-S for Bellin Kids Triathlon on August 2. Motion by Lavarda/Behrend to approve closure with detour and traffic control provided by the City of Oconto. The motion was voted and carried.

**8. Approve Gravel Contract**

Hytinen reviewed gravel contract for David and Glenda Blazek gravel pit. Motion by Lavarda/Behrend to accept contract at \$0.80/ton until December 31, 2025. The motion was voted and carried. Committee signed contract.

**9. Facility Discussion**

Barrientos and Ayres gave presentation regarding next steps for Oconto facility study. Conditions assessment stated cost of updates would be more than 70% of insurable value. Oconto facility site limitations were discussed as well as optimum locations. Preliminary designs are needed to solidify floor plan and more refined cost estimate. Design expected to take 14 months and construction 14 months. Committee feels more information is needed prior to moving forward with design. Behrend requested bigger photos be used in presentation. Lavarda/Ondik requesting more information on utilizing existing Oconto site. Christianson recommends getting an appraisal of Oconto shop site. Heath to contact Economic Development for suggestions with this process. Meier requested slides from today's presentation. Reminder to all county board members that the facility study presentation is posted on the website and tours of the current shop are encouraged. Heath recommends monthly updates to county board on any progress during department reports.

#### **10. Staffing Update**

- Operator 2 position open.
- Operator that is incapacitated was determined by his doctors that he cannot return to work and has been released from his duties.
- Grader operator position is posted and will continue for another week and a half.

#### **11. Equipment Update**

- Few employees attended prebuild meeting at Monroe Truck. (2) Tri-axles from 2024 budget have build dates moved to third week of September.
- Hytinen signed quote with Packer City International for 2026 quad axles.
- Incident yesterday where our employee in mini dump truck was rear-ended while travelling on USH 141. Bumper bent on truck but no injuries.

#### **12. Roadwork Update**

- Right of way purchases and design continue for CTH-C STP project. One parcel is in appraisal process, and a second parcel possibly needing appraisal services.
- Design continues on CTH-CC structure in Oconto Falls as well as on Pecore Road in Town of How.
- CTH-A paving started last week, goal is to have binder on this week.
- Concrete repair continues on 4 lanes, 5 blow-ups occurred during the heat last week.
- CTH-J LRIP project paved, striping today and shoulder gravel as it can get scheduled.
- Mowing on the state and county systems.
- Paved Town of Oconto roads that were adjacent to the CTH-J project.
- July 15 is pre-construction meeting for Old 64 bridge in Town of Brazeau.

#### **13. Announcements/General Information/Guests (No action to be taken)**

- Fox Solar/NextEra has submitted application for certificate of public convenience and necessity for a proposed solar farm and battery storage in the Town of Morgan.
- Ondik talked about options for scanning documents.

#### **14. Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 9am in County Board room.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Chair Christianson declared meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.

Vanessa Hasenberg  
Recorder  
Date Posted: July 2, 2025