

**Minutes of the Public Works Committee
March 16, 2017**

Chair Dave Swan called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Dave Swan (Chair), Darlene Johnson, Tom Schellinger, Richard Morris, Steve Whittow and Chuck Wood. **Absent:** Keith Hammitt

Others Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Senior Landscape Architect Jason Wilke, Facilities Manager Shane Waeghe, Maintenance Mechanic Mark Breu, Senior Civil Engineer Bruce Barnes, Engineering Services Manager Gary Evans, Director of Government Relations for Watco Companies Ken Lucht, Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission Member Dick Mace and County Board Chairman Paul Decker. Minutes Recorded by Beth Schwartz, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of February 16, 2017

MOTION: Johnson moved, second by Whittow to approve the minutes of February 16, 2017. Motion carried 6-0.

Future Meeting Date: April 13, 2017

Reviewed Bid Results for Project #PLU17-01 Menomonee Park Storage Building Roof Replacement

Wilke said the Menomonee Park storage building roof replacement project received three bids and the contract was awarded to H.I.S. Corporation for \$32,639. The new roof will be a fully adhered EPDM, or extremely durable synthetic rubber roofing membrane, roof system. The project and bids are based on roofing specifications, plans and details designed by Roofing Consultants, Ltd., an engineer, architect and building envelope specialist firm. Johnson asked if H.I.S. Corporation has ever worked for the County before, which Wilke said not to his knowledge.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Morris to approve the bid for project #PLU17-01. Motion carried 6-0.

Executive Committee Report of February 20, 2017

Swan reported on the following items discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting:

- Discussed and considered the Financial Management Information System operations audit
- Heard an update and status report on the Fire Department Study
- Discussed the proposed scope on the Sheriff's Department audit
- Heard an update on information technology projects
- Discussed and considered appointments
- Heard an update on the WCA Legislative Exchange, Regional Transit Leadership Council Executive Committee, and Wisconsin Workforce Development Association Board
- Heard standing committee reports by committee chairs

Reviewed Bid Results for Project #56872 UWW Rooftop Replacement

Breu and Waeghe discussed the University of Wisconsin – Waukesha rooftop replacement project, which received four bids. The contract was awarded to Zien Mechanical in the amount of \$134,685 which includes pipe insulation, control valve RTU 1-2 and replace RTU 1. Morris asked why there was a large difference in the bids. Waeghe said he is not sure why, but somehow Zien Mechanical is able to

bid lower on a regular basis.

MOTION: Morris moved, second by Johnson to approve the bid for project #56872. Motion carried 6-0.

Discussed and Considered Ordinance 171-O-087: Modify Speed Zone on County Trunk Highway NN

Barnes explained that this ordinance is to reduce the speed limit on County Trunk Highway (CTH) NN from 55 MPH to 50 MPH. Using a chart, Barnes showed the committee where the changes will be made and the relative traffic volumes along both directions of CTH NN between Sprague Road in the Town of Eagle and Pinehurst Drive in the Town of Mukwonago. More signs will be displayed along the road. Barnes said collision numbers largely influenced the decision to lower the speed limit. The collision type is mostly failure to keep the vehicle under control for road conditions. The most often occurring collisions are rear ends that occur at times that correlate with school start and stop times. Lowering the speed limit will need to be enforced for this change to make a difference. It was recommended that the high school be more proactive in educating students further where safe driving is concerned to improve the crash rate in this area. Answering questions from Whittow and Johnson, Barnes said an important part of this change is that the lower speed limit will need to be enforced by police. Evans said just as important to enforcing this is working with the school district to educate students. Other high schools crash rates were surveyed and Mukwonago's numbers are much higher than average.

MOTION: Johnson moved, second by Wood to approve Ordinance 171-O-087. Motion carried 6-0.

Heard an Overview of the River Rail Transit System

Lucht said the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission (WRRTC) preserves and protects the publicly-owned railroad corridors throughout southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Established by Charter in 1982, the commission collaborates closely with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) and Wisconsin and Southern Railroad (WSOR) to ensure quality and reliable access to freight rail service. WRRTC helps communities in southern Wisconsin be economically competitive through connection to the national rail system by operating 750 miles of track in Wisconsin and Illinois, serving over 200 businesses. Over 50% of traffic is local grain and aggregate but commodity groups also include paper, lumber, metal products, motor vehicles and equipment, food and energy products, chemicals, as well as waste and scrap materials. Lucht said as Wisconsin's second largest railroad presence, performance measures are taken such as routine track inspections, as well as audit and financial reporting. The commission, for example, funds smooth, well maintained crossings, bridge repairs, public road crossings, and constant rail welding to avoid derailment. Rail customers generate 34,500 jobs, \$2.88 billion in total income, and \$292 million in state and local revenues.

Mace added that many counties took advantage of the legislative opportunity in the late 1970's and early 1980's to secure and maintain freight rail through their community at a time when many railroads were abandoned. Among activities, rail transit commissions may make acquisitions and rehabilitate rail; operate and maintain the lines; lease lines to a private railroad operator; or contract with any railroad operator to use these lines. When formed, rail transit commissions and their member counties took ownership of all track and improvements currently in place within a specified geographic area. This includes rail line, ties, ballast, bridges, and all other associated improvements. The land underneath the improvements, however, is retained and owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Legislative Update

Spaeth reported on several public works related bills. The Fairbox Fairness bill will require a percentage of mass transit system operating expenses to be recovered as passenger fares. Another bill is to allow advertising on bus shelters located on state trunk highways. There is also a bill requiring approval by the municipal governing body before construction of highway roundabouts. The Joint Finance committee will begin voting on the budget soon. Spaeth went to Madison with Director of Public Works Allison Bussler to speak with legislators about transportation budget items. Spaeth reported that the governor and legislature have recently devoted additional funding to county General Transportation Aid (GTA), but counties receive less today than they did five years ago. In addition, as county costs rise, state GTA payments represent a smaller share of total county maintenance costs. Counties received \$98.4 million in 2015 GTA payments, down from more than \$104.4 million in 2011. The Wisconsin Counties Association requested the allocation of additional funding to the county GTA appropriation to reflect the backlog of maintenance on the county trunk highway system. Lastly, Spaeth discussed the effort to include modernizing 911 services into the budget. The WCA requested an issuance of an RFP to utilize existing infrastructure, such as the BadgerNet, for a statewide ESInet system to provide all personal sound application products (PSAPs) with the network needed to implement necessary NG911 services.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Morris to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Morris
Secretary