



MARATHON COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 3, 2021, 9:00 a.m.
Marathon County Courthouse, Wausau, WI

Attendance:	Present	Excused	Absent
Randy Fifrick, Chair	x		
Sandi Cihlar, Vice-Chair	x		
John Robinson	x		
Jeff Johnson	x		
Alan Christensen	x		
Richard Gumz	x		
Chris Dickinson	x		

Also Present: James Griesbach, Kendra Pergolski, Kevin Lang, Dave Mack, Lance Leonhard, Gerry Klein, Andrew Lynch, Jamie Polley, Darryl Landeau, Brian Grefe, Michael Puerner, Kurt Gibbs, Mitchell Fox, Ted Knoeck, Chad Billup, Joe Ponczak, Judy Pagryzinski,

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Fifrick at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Public Comment:** Judy Pagryzinski of Ringle, representing Rural Riders, addressed the committee with a request of a one year trial consideration be made in order to open all roads to ATV/UTV use or consideration in changing the current application process.

Joe Ponczak addressed the committee echoing Pagryzinski's request.

3. **Approval of the Minutes of the May 6, 2021, Infrastructure Committee Meetings**
MOTION BY CHRISTENSEN, SECOND BY JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2021, INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.
NOTE: SUPERVISOR ROBINSON MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE MINUTES TO REFLECT THAT SECTION 4A'S ACTION REFLECT THAT THE MOTION CARRIED. ADJUSTMENT WAS ALREADY REFLECTED IN THE MINUTES PRIOR TO MOTION.
4. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:**
 - A. Marathon County Highway Departments 2022 Capital Improvement Request
Discussion: Commissioner Griesbach reviewed with the committee his request to replace the County Highway P Bridge due to the bridges age (over 70 years old) and correlated deterioration of bridges integrity.
Action: MOTION BY ROBINSON, SECOND BY DICKINSON, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST AND FORWARD ON TO HR/FINANCE. MOTION CARRIED.
Follow through: N/A
 - B. City-County IT 2022 Capital Improvement Request
Discussion: Klein reviewed with the committee his requests to replace the financial/human resource software; the replacement of switches; a data center re-fresh; new firewall installations; phone system maintenance; and some camera replacements.
Action: MOTION BY ROBINSON, SECOND BY CIHLAR, TO APPROVE THE REQUEST AND FORWARD ON TO HR/FINANCE. MOTION CARRIED.
Follow through: N/A
 - C. Marathon County Highway Succession Plan and Expanded Job Request
Discussion: Griesbach addressed the committee with a request to develop two new positions at the Highway Department. Griesbach cited his reasons as a bench strength shortfall and the need to expand the positions to help staff better facilitate job duties.
Action: MOTION BY ROBINSON, SECOND BY CHRISTENSEN, TO APPROVE THE SUCCESSION PLAN AND JOB EXPANSION, AND FORWARD ON TO HR/FINANCE. MOTION CARRIED.
5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution:**
 - A. Use of ATV/UTV on County Highway System

Discussion: Lt. Ted Knoeck of Marathon County Sheriff's Department presented to the committee his perspective on the current use of ATV/UTV's on the county highway system and the procedures surrounding the application process. Knoeck cited that he believes the current process is working at a high efficiency level due to the intricate considerations that go into determining if a road should be open to use. Knoeck reviewed statistics with the committee regarding crashes and injuries; also stating that the lack of data from ATV/UTV use in the surrounding counties currently inhibits Marathon County to reference their success rate.

Mitchell Fox expounded on the changes being introduced to further clarify the language in the current ordinance: trail vs route; clarification regarding operator requirements for trail use in regard to age; and rules regarding the speed allowed on routes and trails.

Action: N/A

Follow through: Committee will review the changes in the ordinance prior to next months' meeting.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion:

A. Update on 2050 Transportation Plan

Discussion: Darryl Landeau of North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission provided the committee with a brief overview of their intent to make a sustainable plan that aligns with the strategic plan. The plan will look at ways of maximizing budgeting and the longevity of roadways by using a range of criteria to develop a methodology in which to apply said criteria.

B. Big Poniatowski Bike Trail

Discussion: Griesbach informed the committee of the economic benefits of the proposed gravel bike trail across a large section of western Marathon County. Griesbach noted some of the attractions the 79-mile trail would pass which would be sponsored by IRONBULL.

C. Broadband Update

Discussion: Robinson addressed the committee regarding some of the frustrations currently happening with the attempts to bring broadband to the rural communities. Robinson stated that despite a large effort, little progress has been made. They are looking to produce a community engagement process to develop a priority list from the community on how funds should be distributed from the American Rescue Plan.

D. CCIT Update

Discussion: Report provided.

E. Commissioner's Report

Discussion: Griesbach noted all current large scale projects taking place: Highway P being the largest. He also reminded the committee of the road school taking place.

7. Announcements:

- A. Future meetings and location, agenda topics
July 1, 9:00 AM, Marathon County Courthouse
- B. Central Wisconsin Airport Update

8. Adjourn

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY CHRISTENSON, SECOND BY ROBINSON. MOTION CARRIED.
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:00AM.**

Minutes prepared

By Kendra Pergolski on June 7, 2021.