

The Pipestone County Commissioners met for the annual Road and Bridge Hearing at the Mn Dot Conference Room. Commissioners present were Chairman Les Nath, Chris Hollingsworth, Luke Johnson and Dan Wildermuth. Absent: Bruce Kooiman. Others present: County Administrator Sharon Hanson, Highway Engineer David Halbersma, Staff Engineer Nick Bergmann, Maintenance Supervisor Doug Nagel, Engineering Technician Eric Haak.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Wildermuth, seconded by Hollingsworth to open the meeting. Yeas: Hollingsworth, Johnson, Nath, Wildermuth. Nays: None. Absent: Kooiman.

Chairman Nath welcomed the city/township officials and members of the public present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chairman Nath stated the purpose of the Annual Road and Bridge meeting is to obtain input from other local units of government and from the public in order to formulate a program for the utilization of available Federal, State and Local funds for road improvements and bridge replacements.

COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER DAVID HALBERSMA

Staff Engineer Bergmann reviewed 2016 projects and Engineer Halbersma presented 2016 construction costs and funding sources.

Engineer Halbersma reviewed bridge construction history and current age of bridges in the County.

Engineer Halbersma reviewed projects and construction costs as detailed in the Tentative 5 Year Construction Plan. The Tentative 5 Year Construction Plan is also located on the Pipestone County website www.pipestone-county.com

Engineer Halbersma discussed funding of roads and bridges in the County, including concerns over potential lack of bridge bonding and County State Aid Highway (CSAH) funding at the minimum threshold funding level.

Engineer Halbersma reviewed the CSAH road system and discussion on a study of the CSAH road system by an independent consultant. The CSAH system is based on a grid system, the study recommends the County consider higher traffic areas for CSAH designation which can increase CSAH funding. The study also discussed expectations for state aid funding within cities and the possibility to look at cost participation policy.

February 27, 2017

MISCELLANEOUS ROAD AND BRIDGE ITEMS

Engineer Halbersma reported on 2017 spring road postings already in effect for the County and the region. Spring 2017 road postings can be found on the County's website at www.pipestone-county.com

Engineer Halbersma reported on a project that will rehabilitate the Stone Arch Bridge with a design phase being planned for this summer. Engineer Halbersma also updated the Board and those in attendance on the following: the status of a proposed utility ordinance that would require setbacks and if the setbacks cannot be met by the utility, they can apply for a variance through the Planning and Zoning Ordinance process; Indian Lakes Trail extension project, 2017 Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) District 8 Construction Projects and the District 8 Capital Highway Investment Plan which highlights proposed projects 2017-2026; MNDOT speed study east of Pipestone on Highway 30, MNDOT mowing right of way permit process which was enacted to assist in the enforcement of not mowing ditches until after August 1st of each year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Engineer Halbersma requested public comment on potential 2021 projects.

Public comment was given on the portion of CSAH 17 north of Edgerton to Trunk Highway 30, cost of County to maintain roads, future funding from the federal government, wheelage tax funding if enacted.

Hearing no further comments or questions, motion by Hollingsworth, seconded by Wildermuth to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Hollingsworth, Johnson, Nath, Wildermuth. Nays: None. Absent: Kooiman. The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Les Nath
Pipestone County Board Chair

ATTEST:

Sharon Hanson
County Administrator