

MARQUETTE COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE
Highway Department Office Building
Virtual and In-Person Meeting
October 21st, 2025 – Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 9:00 a.m. by Mike Raddatz.

Members of the committee present: Present: Mike Raddatz, Dave Benson, John Bennett, Kathy Jo Locke and Lance Achterberg. Other county officials present Brian Trebiatowski, Brenda Petersen and Ron Barger (virtual).

Review/Approve the Agenda: Moved by Dave Benson and seconded by John Bennett to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Review/Approve the minutes from the previous meeting: Moved by Kathy Jo Locke and seconded by Dave Benson to approve the minutes from the August 19th, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

Citizens Input: None

Township Questions/Comments/Concerns:

Roadside Vegetation Management

Discussion regarding mowing vs spraying. Gary Thalacker was present and voiced his concerns to the committee.

Financial Reports:

State Financial Report Review:

RMA costs for September totaled \$15,724 with most of the costs towards mowing and patrol supervision. The remaining budget for 2025 is \$71,264. The county has used 92.22% of the 2025 budget for the state. DMA budgeted totals for 2025 were \$931,500 of which \$870,418 has been spent year to date.

County Report Review:

Costs for September 2025 were \$210,851 with \$197,292 in County Maintenance of which most of the costs were sealcoating and mowing. Winter maintenance costs were \$0. Special County Maintenance costs were \$130. Road Construction costs were \$4,066 and Overlay Maintenance costs were \$8,639. Budget remaining for 2025 is \$296,826.

Town Report Review:

Townships had a total of \$174,746 in work in September with \$47,538 being labor costs. Villages and City had \$2,055 in work with \$0 in labor costs. The current year labor comparison vs the 5-year average is down 1.16%. Compared to last year, labor is down 1.81%. When looking at seasonal work, construction is down 1.09% and the Winter Maintenance is down 19.03% compared to the previous 5-year average.

Interdepartmental Report Review:

Brian reported that we sold 4,366 gallons of fuel to other departments in September. The average costs for September are \$2.4396 for unleaded and \$2.4646 for diesel, which includes the state tax of .309 per gallon. Total gallons sold so far in 2025 are 42,669 gallons. The average price for the year is \$2.7311 for unleaded and \$2.7543 for diesel. Brian also reported that we purchased 102,792 gallons year to date and we have sold 41.51% to other departments.

Labor Percentage by Job Type Report:

Brian reported as of the end of September 2025- County work is 57.87%, State is 22.36%, Townships are 18.74% and Interdepartmental is 1.03%. Brian reminded the committee that only 29.78% of the department's labor comes out of the County budget. The remaining percentage is encompassed in the Highway Operational Fund.

Percentage of GTA met for 2025- In September 2025 all but 4 townships have already met 20%. Brian does anticipate all Towns will meet the 20% labor requirement for 2025

State Project Review and Update:

Salt Dome Replacement Update- Paving has been completed. Brian reported there is a delay with the doors from the manufacturer. Reimbursement of DMA will occur upon project completion.

County Project Review and Update:

Brian reported that he received the contracts for design from Strand for moving forward with the designs on the urban sections of CTH A and CTH D. These projects will be prepared and ready to move forward with once funding is allocated, likely through future LRIP programs. Brian is requesting approval to move forward with the design services contract in the amount of \$42,000 for CTH A and \$40,000 for CTH D. Design will be completed in 2026 and billed monthly. Brian also stated that there is no LRIP reimbursement on the design costs. Moved by Kathy Jo Locke and seconded by Lance Achterberg to move forward with the \$82,000 design cost with Strand. Motion carried.

Causeway MLS project update: Fishing platforms, paved approaches and pavement marking have been completed. Brian stated that the design firm is submitting the project for potential state and national awards.

Richards Pit Update: Control house changeover is nearly complete; Brian stated the plant has been running and the department has been paving the last week and a half but still waiting on the new AC pump and transformer for line power transition.

Town Project Review and Update:

Local Bridge Project Update: Crystal Lake Dover Bridge has been completed. No movement with Town of Montello Railroad bridge. Brian is working on completing Local Bridge Program application for replacement of the CTH O over the Fox River Bridge. Projected 2028 or 2029 construction if we are selected.

Inter-Departmental Operations:

Brian stated the department has a small paving project to complete for Buildings and Grounds. The department is also working on brushing projects with Buildings and Grounds and the Parks Department.

Equipment/ Property Purchase and Disposal Update:

Brian reported that the Endeavor Shop property has only been used as equipment storage for several years. Based on fleet consolidation and reducing the number of mowing tractors, the department is now able to store all the equipment in Montello and the Fairgrounds. Upon discussion with Paul, Brian is requesting the approval of the committee to place the Endeavor Shop property on an upcoming surplus auction. Moved by John Bennett and seconded by Dave Benson to list the Endeavor Shop on an upcoming surplus auction. Motion carried.

Brian is also requesting approval to pursue a purchase of a new skid steer. The Gehl skid steer has been experiencing increased electrical issues and has significant erosion. Brian solicited bids from several vendors and received 5 responses. When considering trade in of the Gehl and the screen deck the out-of-pocket amount is \$32,849.17, funds are to be offset by the equipment operational account. Moved by Dave Benson and seconded by Lance Achterberg to approve purchase of the new skid steer for \$32,849.17 from the 2026 budget. Motion carried.

Personnel and Staffing Update:

Two vacancies with interviews to be held next week.

WCHA Updates/: Upcoming Events/Issues/Correspondence:

Brian is hosting meetings for the Marquette County sections of the Local Road Improvement Committees tomorrow. There will be two meetings between eligible townships at 9 a.m. and municipalities at 11 a.m. Committees will decide on the projects for the 2026/2027 program cycle.

Voucher Inquiries: 1 inquiry which Brian answered.

Adjourn: Mike Raddatz declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted-
Brenda Petersen, Highway Accountant

