

LINCOLN COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 5, 2025 - 4:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Vice Chair called meeting to order at 4:32 PM

Members Present: Marquerite Lyskawa, Randy Detert, Mary Lemke and Gene Simon

Member via internet: Ken Wickham

Visitors Present: Jason Lemmer (Highway Commissioner), Todd Bishop and Heather Marheine (Finance Director)

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

a. May 1, 2025

M/S Detert/Lemke to approve the May 1, 2025, minutes as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4. Set Future Meeting(s)

Thursday, July 3rd, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Rm 255, Service Center, Merrill

Thursday, August 7th, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Rm 255, Service Center, Merrill

5. Claims - General Services

Lemmer stated one brush claim from the winter of 2024 is still in process.

6. Financial Report/Vouchers

a. Vouchers

Vouchers were discussed then placed on file.

b. Financial Reports

Lemmer explained the main portion of paving has been completed, which will show up next month on the financial reports. General Maintenance will be the main focus now that construction is winding down. Lemmer has no budgetary concerns at this time.

7. Mandatory vs. Optional Budget Cutbacks

Lemmer and Marheine explained the Highway Funding, State RMA and various other revenue streams and expenditures. Discussion followed.

8. Approve and Sign Commissioner's Timesheets and Travel Expenses

M/S Wickham/Lemke to approve and sign the commissioner's timesheets for 4.4.2025 through 5.25.2025 as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.

a. 4.4.25 to 4.27.25

b. 4.28.25 to 5.11.25

c. 5.12.25 to 5.25.25

9. 50/50 Cost Share

a. Town of Harding - Edward Drive and Brook Drive

M/S Wickham/Detert to approve as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.

b. Town of Scott - River Road and Fairview Road

M/S Wickham/Lyskawa to approve only River Road. Motion carried by a voice vote. Fairview Road did not meet the requirements to be placed in the program.

c. Town of Skanawan - Skanawan Lake Road

M/S Detert/Lyskawa to approve as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.

d. Town of Somo - Wilson School Road and Pine Tree Lane

M/S Detert/Lyskawa to approve as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.

10. Road Notice Work Discussion

1. Simon expressed concern to say that the State is responsible for the repairs/construction on USH 107 and STH 17, and that the County has limited control over the traffic or traffic control while it is under construction or being repaired. Lemmer stated a detour from a State Road is usually detoured to another State Road, but it could possibly be detoured onto a County road if deemed possible. The County publishes/advertises the construction/detour information early in order to inform as many commuters and drivers as possible through message boards and inserts it on the website and radio ads. The construction/repairs also begin after 8:30 a.m. to help with the morning commute, if possible.

11. Traffic Safety Commission Update

a. Intersection of CTH JJ and Hillside Drive

Lemmer discussed the safety issues with the Traffic Safety Commission, who stated that there are not enough accidents to warrant reconstructing the intersections. He has looked into adding "Whirlybirds" on the intersection to help alert drivers to be more aware of the upcoming intersection.

b. CTH L under R/R overhead - ATV's and UTV's

Lemmer stated he was asked to see if there was a State Statute limiting ATV and UTV access with an overhead present. He was not able to find any such statute that pertains to the overhead on HWY L. Wickham volunteered to work with Corp Counsel and draft a change to the ordinance and bring back to the July meeting.

12. Lake Clara Boat Landing

a. Map

Wickham reported in the early 2000s on CTH A in the Town of King the County paved the right of way 4' from Lake Clara, a small parking area and boat landing. This paved area has been used by the public as a public parking lot and boat landing. The owners of the land have since barricaded and posted the parking lot/boat landing as private and is not allowing the public to use it. A formal driveway permit has not been found for the landowner access. The Forestry department has sent letters expressing an interest in an easement, but there has not been any response from the landowner. Wickham will talk with Corp Counsel, Highway and Forestry will continue to look for background ownership and land intent documents, then they will bring back their findings to the July Highway Committee meeting.

13. Commissioner's Report on Highway Operations

Lemmer was approached about dropping the speed limits on certain County Roads. On Monday, June 9th there is an Ad Hoc committee meeting planning to view the Highway Buildings and Rep. Callahan will also be visiting. Unfortunately, Lemmer will be out of the country, but his Superintendent will be there to discuss the WISLR ratings and show the Committee and Representative around. An update on the current highway workers is that one new crew member has put in his resignation for next Thursday.

a. Summer Projects

Bishop stated he is patching STH 17 & 107. STH 107 is on the plans to be paved in 2029 and STH 17 in 2029. There are culverts to be replaced on STH 107 before the paving begins. Lemmer said STH 51 from CTH S to CTH K will be paved in 2028. Shouldering working will finish up next week and there are plans for mowing by the end of June and cutting the intersections before July 4th. There are lots of General Maintenance items to be worked on and culverts to be replaced.

b. Discuss Sale of 160 Acres off Swamp Road

Lemmer explained the Highway Department owns 160 Acres off Swamp Road north of Schultz Spur Rd. It used to be logged, then the logs were brought back to the highway shop, then cut with their saw mill for Lathe, construction stakes and winter fence. The saw mill was sold many years ago and the land is vacant and no longer needed. Simon stated the need to talk to Corp Counsel about the legalities of selling it.

14. Items for Next Meeting Agenda

CTH L under R/R overhead - ATV's and UTV's ordinance change (Wickham) - action item. Lake Clara Boat Landing - possible action item, Sale of Swamp Road - possible action item, dropping speed limits on roads, report back on Rep. Callahan's visit.

15. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.