

**JOINT ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS & SOLID WASTE/PLANNING &  
DEVELOPMENT/LABOR RELATIONS & EMPLOYEE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Oneida County Highway Office Conference Room  
Thursday, September 8, 2022 8:00 a.m.**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Ted Cushing	X		
Mike Timmons	X		
Bob Almekinder	X		
Mike Roach	X		
Billy Fried	X		

**Also Present:** Alex Hegeman/Highway Commissioner, Lisa Jolin/Solid Waste Director, Dan Gleason/Highway and Brian Jopek/Lakeland Times

Chairman Ted Cushing called the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. noting the meeting was properly posted and ADA accessible.

**1. Approve agenda**

Motion by Timmons/Almekinder to approve the agenda and move around the agenda at the Chair's discretion. Motion carried.

**2. Approve the minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meeting held August 25, 2022**

Motion by Almekinder/Timmons to approve the minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meeting held August 25, 2022. Motion carried.

**3. Public Comments**

No public comment.

**4. Future Meeting Dates:**

- September 22, 2022
- October 6, 2022
- October 20, 2022

**SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**

**5. General Business Discussion/Act:**

**A. Solid Waste vendor vouchers**

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to approve the Solid Waste vendor vouchers. Motion carried.

**6. Discussion/Act on Report/Discussion**

- **Update on RFB for Transfer Compactor**
- **Update on RFB for Co-mingle Recycling Trash Compactor**

Jolin reported the bid specifications should be ready to be reviewed by Corporation Counsel by the next day. Jolin provided an anticipated timeline for both projects once the documents were reviewed by Corporation Counsel:

- September 22 – committee review and approval of the bid documents
- September 22 & October 5 – advertise for bids

- October 5 – bid deadline
  - October 6 – open bids and forward to the Administration Committee
  - October 18 – County Board for approval
  - February 28 – project completion deadline
- **Update on new office building**  
Jolin reported backfilling was taking place that day with the floor system beginning the following week.

## **7. Future Agenda Items**

Fried requested a report on how the problem brought forth at the previous meeting was resolved and a prediction of how the large investment of money made at Solid Waste will help the department turn a corner as far as generating more revenue. Over the next six months, Fried requested that Jolin report on the other challenges facing the department such as the brush cleanup and work with the committee on how to resolve those issues over the course of the next year.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

### **8. General Business Discussion/Act**

#### **A. Highway Department vendor vouchers**

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to approve the Highway Department vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

### **9. Discussion/Act on equipment updates**

Hegeman reported the idea coming from the CIP meeting was to take a loan from the general fund to pay for the patrol trucks once the trucks were delivered. Hegeman commented since the haul fleet was adequate and in order to get back to a sustainable replacement schedule, they were considering purchasing three tandem axle trucks rather than two tri axle trucks if the pricing was favorable. Specifications for both configurations were in development so they could begin requesting proposals if the committee was in agreement. Hegeman noted the hourly rate was greater for the tandem axle trucks than the tri axle trucks, and in addition to the lower chassis price, the tandem trucks would not be utilizing brine tanks further reducing the cost potentially by \$50,000.

### **10. Discussion/Act on resolution to formally establish a Highway equipment fund**

Hegeman reported the resolution came about following a recent meeting with the county board chair, committee chair, finance director, HR director, and department staff regarding how equipment revenues and expenses affect the funding of equipment purchases. Hegeman stated the finance director proposed using a formula based on the equipment's annual depreciation in combination with the revenues less expenses. Hegeman noted if that formula was applied to the previous four years, approximately \$360,000 would have been available for equipment purchases rather than flowing back to the department fund balance. Hegeman confirmed if the administration committee approved the resolution it would have no effect upon the levy.

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to forward the resolution to Corporation Counsel to finish and then to the Administration Committee. Motion carried.

**11. Discussion/Act on proposal for repair/replacement of salt dome roof and Three Lakes Shop roof**

Hegeman reported the contract for the office and dome roof repairs was complete and he was working on obtaining an updated quote for the Three Lakes shop roof.

**12. Discussion/Act on brine building update**

Hegeman reported they were waiting on the electricians to hook up the pumps and the plumbing would be complete once the City was able to turn off the water so the final connection could be made.

**13. Discussion/Act on fuel system removal update**

Hegeman reported they were still waiting for the soil sample results.

**14. Discussion/Act on CTH B Wolf River Culvert – replacement options**

Hegeman presented the three options offered by Robert E. Lee based upon one hundred year flood levels. Hegeman recommended eliminating the 19 foot 10 inch aluminum box culvert as it did not meet the 20 foot minimum criteria to be considered a structure that would be eligible for matching funds when replaced in the future. Hegeman recommended moving forward with the multi-plate low arch option as it would qualify for matching funds in the future and was significantly less expensive than the concrete bridge.

Motion by Roach/Almekinder to approve the multi-plate low arch structure for the CTH B Wolf River Culvert replacement. Motion carried.

**15. Discussion/Act on staffing updates**

Hegeman reported one person was interviewed for the operator position but they have not made a decision. In addition, there was one potential candidate for the mechanic position who did not have a CDL who was not yet interviewed.

**16. Discussion/Act on CDL training pre-employment agreement**

Hegeman presented a promissory note that both he and Lisa Charbarneau adapted from Wood County that was also being brought before the LRES committee later that day. Hegeman noted a newly hired employee was misinformed their temporary CDL would be grandfathered, however, in addition to previous training the license now required an additional half-day of training with an instructor and another day to test. Regarding the training of new hires without a CDL he wanted a contract in place so they would stick around. Hegeman confirmed both he and Charbarneau reviewed the Social Services contract but they both preferred the way the proposed contract was set up noting it provided more flexibility. Timmons questioned if the contract was binding enough. Hegeman stated it had yet to be reviewed by corporation counsel but noted it might be difficult to recoup if an employee left before fulfilling the contract. Fried commented he felt as though Social Services repaid the cost of training over years rather than paying up front noting chasing money was problematic. Hegeman commented the upfront costs of \$6,000 or \$7,000 for training would be difficult for someone looking at making \$19 per hour noting other counties were on the fence in their approach and Price County was not requiring any contract. Roach questioned if half of the up-front costs might be more affordable in order to keep some skin in the game. Almekinder commented maybe they were at the point they would just need to gamble and hope they stay. Hegeman commented Wood County was now doing the training in-house and assigning a value for the employee, the other employee doing the training and

the equipment time adding they could look into doing the training hours within the department and then testing separately.

Motion by Almekinder/Roach to move the agreement forward with the approval of Corporation Counsel and LRES.

Fried commented language should be included so the employee would keep some skin in the game even if minimal. Motion carried.

**17. Discussion/Act on CTH L bridge posting update**

Hegeman reported there was additional analysis to determine what the weight needed to be on the bridge but there was an issue with the State website so he did not have an update.

**18. Commissioner's Report/Discussion**

Hegeman reported the paving on CTH D was complete with shouldering planned for the following week. The crew was working on mill and fill and wedging of CTH G, then a section of CTH Q, with a couple of culvert projects planned for September, followed by salt sand production in early October. Hegeman reported there were pavement issues with a couple of sections of the "hogs back" measuring approximately 12 feet by 180 feet so he was getting a quote to mill out the surface and the County would repave.

Hegeman reminded the committee the deadline to register for the Fall Commissioners Meeting in Stratford on October 28<sup>th</sup> was October 12<sup>th</sup>. Cushing stated he planned on attending. Hegeman commented the consultant for Dam project on CTH D stated it was going well but anticipated it would remain closed for the month of September.

**19. Future Agenda Items**

**20. Public comments**

No public comment.

**21. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

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Committee Chairman

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Committee Secretary