

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

The Jefferson County Highway Committee met on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 8:30 A.M. for a meeting at the Highway Office.

ROLL OF THE HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:

Members present: Lloyd Zastrow; George Jaeckel; Mike Kelly (Zoom); Laura Payne (Zoom)

Members absent: Dick Schultz

Also Present: William Kern, Highway Commissioner
Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator
J. Blair Ward, Corporation Counsel (Zoom)
Brian Udovich, Highway Department
Ryan Broedlow, Highway Department
Ann Jenswold, Highway Department (Zoom)
Frankie Fuller (Zoom)
Walt Christensen (Zoom)
Bill Blaska, Quad County Runners ATV Club
Jeff Ziebell, Milford

Purpose of the meeting was to review and approve vouchers and other highway business.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES: The minutes from the December 1, 2020 Highway meeting, having been distributed in advance, it was moved by Mr. Zastrow and seconded by Ms. Payne to approve the minutes as printed.

Carried by the following roll call:

AYES: Zastrow, Jaeckel, Kelly, Payne

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schultz

ABSTAIN: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsletters/E-Mails:

- None

News Releases/Notices:

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Walt Christensen addressed the Committee via Zoom on his concerns regarding the ATV/UTV ordinance, stating he is not in favor of the ordinance. He posed questions for the Committee to consider including: definition of an ATV/UTV; speeds of travel; incompatible with traffic speeds and amounts of traffic; off road tires versus roadway tires; the ordinance should be addressed at the Traffic Safety Commission meeting.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- **Construction Projects**

- **Winter Maintenance**

Crews have been out on numerous winter storms in late December through January
Crews are producing and providing salt brine for all county and state highways, several townships and cities, and the Rock County Highway Department

- **General Maintenance**

Crews are working on sign installs & repairs

Crews are working on tree and brush removals on state and county highways

Crews are working on patching repairs as needed

- **Office/Administrative Staff**

Staff is planning and scheduling for all 2021 construction projects

Office staff is preparing to close out business for 2020 and begin developing all year-end financial reports

OLD BUSINESS

8a. Review and discuss draft of ATV/UTV ordinance for County Highways

Commissioner Kern discussed the prepared draft ATV/UTV ordinance for the Highway Committee to consider. He used other county ordinances from around the state as a starting point. The ordinance has been sent to Corporation Counsel for review. George Jaeckel addressed Walt Christensen's concerns regarding speed and tire definition. Jaeckel would like to see county roads opened up to town roads to connect point A to point B; he spoke of possible revenues that could be generated within the county. The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding vehicle licensing, insurance, lights and turn signals. Operations Manager, Brian Udovich, shared ATV/UTV policy information that he had received from a recent WCHA meeting that he attended. He commented that he felt not all county roads should be opened for ATV/UTV usage. He had also reached out to the Towns for their input on the subject. Laura Payne spoke on her reservations regarding the ordinance. She stated her concerns of ATV/UTV usage on paved roads; the possibility that not all Towns are open to having trails in their area, leading to unlawful behavior; concerns to what businesses open trails will lead to; concerns to

trails connecting to high volume traffic county roads; concerns of time of day the ATV/UTVs would be active and timeframe ordinance states they could run; she stated that she would prefer not to have ordinance at all, but if county is moving in that direction, she feels this draft needs to be refined and clarified. Lloyd Zastrow commented that the Committee needs to look at each segment of roadway and what the traffic volumes are. He has concern regarding CTH E and the traffic volume and speeds there. He feels that we need to be selective on roads and segments of the roads for the ordinance. Mike Kelly echoed the elaboration of ATV/UTV definition as stated by Mr. Christensen. He questioned the signage of the trails and the clarity to the route users. He stated reservations about the ordinance, but is open to more feedback and refinement. Blair Ward, Corporation Counsel, stated that he has no opinion for the ordinance. He did say that the ordinance needs to be tailored to the needs of Jefferson County and inclusive for the type of enforcement that is written in the ordinance and the intent of the ordinance, taking a look at what trails need to be connected, and how easy or difficult it will be to change any language in the future. Commissioner Kern commented that in the past the Traffic Safety Commission has had various opinions on an ordinance, and that no recommendation came forward. He will have the ordinance as an agenda item at the next Traffic Safety meeting in April. No Motion

NEW BUSINESS

9a. Discuss 2020 monthly financial account summary (YTD)

Commissioner Kern reviewed the financial account summary with the Committee, and answered questions. No Motion

REVIEW & APPROVE VOUCHERS: The vouchers held the following totals resulting:

BILLS:	11/23/20	\$ 43,193.43
BILLS:	12/03/20	\$ 47,531.97
BILLS:	12/10/20	\$ 2,182.64
BILLS:	12/10/20	\$ 33,166.75
BILLS:	12/17/20	\$ 33,738.84
BILLS:	12/23/20	\$ 26,002.72
BILLS:	01/11/21 FOR 2020	\$ 17,195.14
BILLS:	01/18/21 FOR 2020	\$ 705,797.71
BILLS:	01/11/21 FOR 2021	\$ 5,174.32
BILLS:	01/18/21 FOR 2021	\$ 553.29
COMMITTEE:	DEC	\$ 308.93
P-CARD:	DEC-GENERAL	\$ 4,042.18
TOTALS:		\$ 918,887.92

It was moved by Mr. Zastrow and seconded by Ms. Payne that the bills are allowed as reviewed.

Carried by the following roll call:

AYES: Zastrow, Jaeckel, Kelly, Payne
NOES: None
ABSENT: Schultz
ABSTAIN: None

Motion to adjourn, by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Jaeckel at 10:10 a.m.

Carried by the following roll call:
AYES: Zastrow, Jaeckel, Kelly, Payne
NOES: None
ABSENT: Schultz
ABSTAIN: None

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 8:30 a.m.**, at the Jefferson County Highway Department.

Approval: _____
