

March 2, 2020

Pipestone County Road and Bridge Hearing
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The Pipestone County Commissioners met for the annual Road and Bridge Hearing at the MN Dot Conference Room. Commissioners present were Vice Chairman Luke Johnson, Chris Hollingsworth, Dan Wildermuth, and Les Nath. Chairman Bruce Kooiman, absent. Others present: County Administrator Steve Ewing, Highway Engineer Nick Bergman, Assistant Engineer Jerid Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor Doug Nagel, and Senior Engineering Technician Eric Haak, and Engineering Technician Bruce Wollan.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Johnson welcomed the city/township officials and members of the public present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER NICK BERGMAN

Engineer Bergman stated the purpose of the Annual Road and Bridge meeting is to obtain input from other local units of government and the public in order to formulate a program for the utilization of available federal, state, and local funds for road improvements and bridge replacements.

Engineer Bergman presented the agenda for the meeting and reviewed construction costs and sources of project funding. Assistant Engineer Jerid Johnson reviewed the completed construction projects for the year 2019.

Engineer Bergman presented information on bridges. Prior to 2019, 20 bridges had posted weight limits, after 2019, 16 bridges have posted weight limits, after 2020, 12 bridges will have posted weight limits.

Engineer Bergman reviewed the MnDot 10-year CHIP (Capital Highway Investment Plan). This year the Highway 75 bridge replacement over Pipestone Creek next to the BNSF railroad bridge on the North side of the City of Pipestone will be completed. After that project no MnDot projects are planned in Pipestone County until 2024 when State Highway 23 between Pipestone and Russell is scheduled for paving.

Engineer Bergman presented information on the tentative 5-year construction plan. The 2020 plan includes 30 miles of sealcoating, 1 widening/blacktop, reconstruction and trail construction near the Pipestone National Monument area, 1 mill and overlay project near the

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Minnesota West College and 8 bridge replacements. In 2021, 3 overlays and 5 bridge replacements are planned. In 2022, 30 miles of sealcoating, 6 overlays, 1 total reconstruction and 5 bridge projects. For 2023 1 reconstruction project, and 4 bridge projects. For year 2024 suggestions were requested from the public present at the meeting. All projects are listed and available for viewing on the Pipestone County Website at www.pipestone-county.com.

MISCELLANEOUS ROAD AND BRIDGE ITEMS

Engineer Bergman reported that the typical funding sources for projects come from Federal Grants, State allocations including County State Aid, State Bridge Bonding Grants, State Park Road Grants, and Township Bridge State Aid and finally local tax dollars.

Engineer Bergman reported that 2020 spring road postings will be in effect starting March 6, 2020 for state and county roads. Spring 2020 road postings, and spring weight restriction maps, when available can be found on the County's website at www.pipestone-county.com.

Engineer Bergman reported that \$4,302.29 in wheelage tax funds will be used for local share of projects 59K11 and CR107. Anticipated future uses will be the local share of the Indian Lakes project, culvert replacement on Hwy 255 South of CSAH 2, and Hwy 54 overlay in Ihlen.

Engineer Bergman discussed the dust control cost share program that was adopted in 2017. For information on the program interested persons should contact the Highway Department for project specifications.

Engineer Bergman discussed County funding assistance for the township beaver bounty. Pipestone County will supplement a Township's bounty with an additional \$25 for each beaver.

Engineer Bergman reported that due to the March/April 2019 flooding event \$154,414 in damage was submitted to FEMA for funding. The September 12, 2019 flooding event caused \$132,269 in damage and was submitted to FEMA for funding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comment was received on the status of County Road 17 from Trunk Highway 30 to the South that the road needs work as there is no crown left on the road.

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Comment was received on the general status of county gravel roads that it seemed that not enough gravel has been used for maintenance on the roads. Engineer Bergman reported that due to the flooding events of 2019 much of the gravel that was stockpiled was used to repair flood damaged areas and that there was so much extra work some areas were not maintained as well as he would have liked.

Hearing no further comments or questions, motion by Nath, seconded by Hollingsworth to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Johnson, Nath, Hollingsworth, Wildermuth. Absent: Kooiman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Luke Johnson
Pipestone County Board Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Steve Ewing
County Administrator

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