

Town Board Meeting
Town of Rock Elm
Pierce County Wisconsin
Tuesday June 14, 2022,
by Monica Robey, clerk

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Bates at 8:00 PM.

Agenda Approval

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Chris Thibado and seconded by Matt Holcomb, motion carried. Agenda items 2 and 3 were switched in order to better accommodate the rep from Rural Insurance.

Rep from Rural Insurance to review current policy

Tom Jenkins was here to go over policy and make any suggestions on coverages. Since repair and replacement costs on buildings have risen so dramatically he suggested raising our structure coverage by \$30,000 with a premium difference of approx. \$25. Chris Thibado made this motion, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried.

Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the May 10 regular monthly board meeting were read. Motion to approve by Chris Thibado, seconded by Matt Holcomb, motion carried. Minutes for the May 13, 2022 special meeting to discuss hiring SEH Inc. as a design engineering company for the 450th road project were read, Matt Holcomb motioned to accept, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried.

Public Input

None, but congrats to Pam and Dave Reitz on their Anniversary.

Financial Reports

Monica Robey presented the financial reports. This month's total of bills to be paid was \$28742.54. Matt Holcomb made a motion to approve, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried.

Discuss option of levy increase

This discussion is being brought up by recent unexpected road repairs, volatile pricing of needed supplies and fuel, and if selected for road grants we would need funding for our percent of the projects. Tim Bates, Chairman stated that we have \$250,000 in road repairs needed soon. This includes the 70th project to complete, the "boil out" or soft spots in the Coulee, and the numerous culverts in need of replacing. There was some discussion on which was more cost effective, gravel roads or blacktop roads.

Liquor Licenses

Discussion of Liquor License and Server Licenses Applications. Chris Thibado made a motion to approve all liquor license and Server Licenses, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried.

Highway Report

Fuel Suppliers

Although some of the fuel testing came back acceptable there are still problems with water in the equipment. Based on the pricing quotes of last month Matt Holcomb made a motion to switch our fuel supplier to Timm Oil, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried. Of note is that Timm Oil currently services 9 other local municipalities.

70th Project vs numerous culvert needs

Estimates for the culverts that have been found to need repair or replacing were reviewed. A hard decision was made to post pone further work on the 70th Project, possibly until next year due to the more urgent needs of several culverts. All estimates did not include cost of culverts.

Location	Culvert size	Pierce Cty.	Greg Bechel	Elbe Excavating	Award
210 th	30"	3419.79	1376.00	1225.00	P.C.
210 th	36"	7015.47	2410.00	2500.00	P.C.
Pierce County would allow cost share on price of culvert and the cost of blacktop, which means they would pay for ½ of the costs involved.					
530 th (Thompsons)	36"	7000.00	2960.00	1250.00	Elbe
170 th	24"	4409.00	1276.00	1250.00	Elbe
510 th (Bechels)	18"	3011.00	1007.00	1250.00	Elbe
450 th (Nelsons)	36" includes ditching			9750.00	Elbe
20 th (DNR involved)	24"		5300.00		Bechel
Coulee Boil Spots w/fabric			65,000.00 estimated		Bechel

The Coulee repair was a public safety hazard and Greg Bechel could fit it into their schedule quickly. Dave Bechel is currently researching cost of culverts.

Tim Bates made a motion to have Pierce County Highway Dept install the culverts on 210th, Chris Thibado seconded, Matt Holcomb abstained, motion carried. Tim Bates made a motion for Elbe Excavating to install the culverts on 530th, 170th, 510th, and 450th, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried. Matt Holcomb made a motion to have Greg Bechel Trucking install the culvert and do the ditching per the DNR's suggestions, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried. Chris Thibado made a motion to have Greg Bechel Trucking excavate and repair the "boil out" or large soft area using fabric between the sub-grade and breaker rock, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried.

Review progress on grant applications

SEH Inc has submitted a state grant application for our 450th Project. If chosen it would be a cost share grant.

Monica Robey has submitted 3 applications to Pierce County for shared funding. No response has been received so far.

No word has been received on the Celect Communications application for a Broadband grant for servicing The Town of Rock Elm.

Lease of Black Top Hot Box

A lease agreement has been written up. The Village of Elmwood is interested in leasing it. Chris Thibado made a motion to approve, Tim Bates seconded, motion carried.

Mowing Partridge Ave for the Village of Elmwood

The Village of Elmwood is interested in having the Town of Rock Elm do additional mowing for them. This would include our tractor and mower with our patrolman operating it. Matt Holcomb made a motion to charge \$180/hour from the time leaving our shop to returning with a 2 hour minimum, Tim Bates seconded, motion carried.

Road repair needed in Buttermilk Coulee

Large "boil ups" or soft spots have become a concern in Buttermilk Coulee. One of these involves a spring that is backing up and creating issues with the road. Dave and Tim have met with the DNR and Steve Bechel on possible solutions. The DNR permit has been approved. This will involve a large excavation with a fabric layer, large breaker rock put in as a base, and then gravel. There is also need for a culvert here. The Bechel estimate for this project is \$65,000.

Highway Misc.

Presented by Dave Bechel, patrolman. He and Tim have spent time with Steve Bechel and the DNR on solutions for the Coulee problems. He has been hauling rock onto lots of soft spots. Also been busy grading and mowing. The cemetery on 72 is in need of a new flag. Dave and Lisa Bechel will donate this. Thank you to them. Dust control will be the same cost as last year \$1850 and Chris Thibado motioned to have it done, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried. Hopefully will be done soon.

Tim Bates had applications for three driveway permits: Cheryl Mutchler on 170th, Motion to approve by Matt Holcomb, second Chris Thibado, motion carried. Bruce Anderson on 20th, motion to approve Matt Holcomb, second Chris Thibado, motion carried. Scott Kopp on 210th, motion to approve Matt Holcomb, second Chris Thibado, motion carried.

Tim Bates stated that there is damage to 530th where the road is broken up. He has told the person responsible that they will need to pay for repairs, but will wait on construction of new house completion before repairing road..

Closed Session

Chris Thibado made a motion to go into closed session for personal review, Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried.

Return to Open Session

Matt Holcomb motioned to return to Open Session, Chris Thibado seconded, motion carried. Based on the remarks made during the closed session Chris Thibado made a motion to give Dave Bechel a raise of \$1.30/hour. Matt Holcomb seconded, motion carried.

Correspondence

Correspondence was reviewed.

Next Meeting

Next meeting date will be held on July 12, 2022 at 8:00 PM. Motion to adjourn by Matt Holcomb, seconded by Chris Thibado, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:35PM

Attendance;

Tim Bates	Matt Holcomb	Chris Thibado	Tom Jenkins from Rural Insurance
Monica Robey	Pam Reitz	Dave Bechel	John Eager