

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Members Present: Bill Thomas, Pat Hanson, Karl Krall, Scott Erickson and Tanner Hiller

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Kasey Krall, Commissioner; Tana Osterman, Office Manager II; Larry Youngs, County Board Chairman

Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.

Roll call taken; no members were absent.

The meeting was properly posted in the Iron County Miner, Ironwood Daily Globe, and announced on WJMS and WUPM.

Motion by Hanson, seconded by Krall, to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2024, meeting. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- The Commissioner arranged a meeting with the state to discuss the No Passing sign on Hwy 77 near BP, as the sign does not align with the pavement marking.

Truck & Equipment Bids:

The Bid Tabulation is attached. The discussion included maintaining the same brand as our current fleet. The Commissioner expressed satisfaction with the UP Truck Center salesman, who was transparent about delivery dates and additional tariff fees. Michelin tires and one year of software are included in the bid. Motion by Krall, seconded by Erickson, to award the truck bid to UP Truck Center \$169,615. Motion carried.

An equipment bid was received from Burke Truck & Equipment. The Commissioner did not send a bid to Truck Equipment due to past poor workmanship on their previous truck. Motion by Erickson, seconded by Hiller, to award the equipment bid to Burke Truck & Equipment for \$159,515. Motion carried.

Scissor Lift Purchase:

The purchase was approved at the Finance Committee. Motion by Hiller, seconded by Hanson, to purchase the scissor lift from Fabick for \$44,444. Motion carried. The Forestry Department will use the lift in August for bridge inspection, and we are coordinating with Northern Technical College for scissor lift and forklift training.

Blacktop Bids CTH G:

The Bid Tabulation is attached. Motion by Erickson, seconded by Tanner, to award the blacktop bid to Pitlik & Wick for \$645,298 (\$75.57/ton). Motion carried. Krall and Youngs abstained from voting.

Request for Proposal (RFP) Engineer Services, CTH FF Bridge, 80/20match, \$600,000:

Five proposals were received:

- Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)
- Ayres Associates
- MSA Professional Services
- Becker Hoppe
- Cedar Corporation

A 3-person committee is needed to review proposals. Krall, Erickson and Hiller volunteered for this committee.

Committee Ranking:

1. Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)
2. Ayres Associates
3. Becker Hoppe
4. Cedar Corporation
5. MSA Professional Services

Kimball Bridge Funding:

Ayres Associates – Engineering Consultant, 50% county eligible, construction scheduled for 2026, using stamp concrete (\$12,000 - \$15,000).

Employee Probation Period & Wage Increase:

Mike Guild has successfully completed his probationary period. Motion by Hanson, seconded by Hiller, to increase Mike Guild wage to full scale effective April 1st. Motion carried.

Summer Employment:

Motion by Hiller, seconded by Erickson, to advertise for two employees at \$17/hour. Motion carried.

Commissioner's Report:

- The crew is cutting trees on CTH G, with paving scheduled to begin on or before July 1st.
- ATV signs have been removed from CTH J near Mercer School, as our ordinance states that all county roads are open. The Committee will review the ordinance based on any complaints.

2024 Budget Review:

Ending balance: \$-589,460.41. We will be using the money market account (MMA) for CTH G paving.

Motion by Hanson, seconded by Tanner, to approve the payment of bills:

- January \$34,227.97
- February \$44,603.71
- March \$27,278.93

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

A floor scrubber was received from the Memorial Building but was disposed of as it was unusable.

The Commissioner is pleased with the Office Manager's performance, especially considering the busy season with auditor tasks and year-end activities.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2025, at 4:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned.

TO