

Unapproved Minutes Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes
February 7, 2017
Regular Meeting
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Bev Juhl, Chair
John Pluth, Vice-Chair
Tim Schumacher
Jeff Quastad
Roger Hash

Absent:

Juhl, Chair, called the meeting to order. Motion was made by Pluth, seconded by Hash, to approve the minutes from last week's meeting and also approve them for publication. All ayes, motion carried.

During public forum, Quastad shared some drainage information with the Board on drainage district 121. The conversation will continue with Rich Meyer, Drainage Attorney, at the end of this meeting during miscellaneous and drainage time.

Walter Davis-Oeth, Emmet County Engineer presented to the Board, Resolution #17-05 for Bridge Embargo. It was moved by Quastad, seconded by Schumacher, to approve and sign the Resolution. All ayes, motion carried. The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION # 17-05

WHEREAS, the Emmet County Board of Supervisors is empowered pursuant to Sections 321.236(8), 321.255 and 321.471 to 321.473 of the Code of Iowa, 2016 to prohibit the operation of vehicles or impose limitations as to the weight thereof on designated highways or highway structures under their jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer, pursuant to consultation with bridge engineers, has completed the structure inventory and appraisal of certain county bridges, in accordance with the national Bridge Inspection Standards, and has determined that these bridges are inadequate for two-lane legal loads at allowable operating stresses, and

WHEREAS, by reason of repair, removal or replacement, some bridges previously restricted do not require posting at below normal permissible weight and may be removed from prior listings, and

WHEREAS, by reason of deterioration of materials and materials of insufficient strength, some such bridges will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless the permissible weights of vehicles are reduced, and

WHEREAS, it is our judgment that the following listed tons (including the weight of the vehicle and load) is the maximum weight such bridges can bear, on a continuous basis, without seriously damaging or destroying such bridge:

	Bridge Location	Maximum Load Limit
1	F.H.W.A. #148500 T-R-Sec: 98-32-22	Weight Limits: 25 – Ton Truck 33 – Ton Tractor/Trailer 33 – Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
2	F.H.W.A. #148570 T-R-Sec: 98-33-29	Weight Limits: 27 - Ton Truck 39 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 37 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
3	F.H.W.A. #148640 T-R-Sec: 99-31-36	Weight Limits: 25 - Ton Truck 40 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 40 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles" and "One Truck On Bridge"

4	F.H.W.A. #148680 T-R-Sec: 99-32-17	Weight Limits: 22 - Ton Truck 32 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 40 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
5	F.H.W.A. #148720 T-R-Sec: 99-32-29	Road Closed
6	F.H.W.A.#148781 T-R-Sec: 99-33-6	"One Truck On Bridge" "All Vehicles"
7	F.H.W.A. #148890 T-R-Sec: 100-32-18	6 Tons "All Vehicles"
8	F.H.W.A. #148940 T-R-Sec: 100-32-24	Weight Limits: 25 - Ton Truck 25 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 40 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
9	F.H.W.A. #148950 T-R-Sec: 100-32-24	Road Closed
10	F.H.W.A. #149010 T-R-Sec: 100-32-33	10 Tons "All Vehicles"
11	F.H.W.A. #149040 T-R-Sec: 100-32-35	Weight Limits: 20 - Ton Truck 26 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 26 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
12	F.H.W.A. #149060 T-R-Sec: 100-33-08	Weight Limits: 20 - Ton Truck 29 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 35 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"
13	F.H.W.A #149121 T-R-Sec: 100-33-17	"One Truck On Bridge" "All Vehicles"
14	F.H.W.A. #149190 T-R-Sec: 100-34-28	Weight Limits: 25 - Ton Truck 40 - Ton Tractor/Trailer 40 - Ton Combination "All Vehicles"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Emmet County Board of Supervisors that the above listed bridges be posted as stated.

Date

Chairperson
Emmet County Board of Supervisors

Amy Sathoff, County Auditor

Discussion was also held with the Board concerning weed spraying in our County. Davis-Oeth continued with the ongoing Board discussion about the weed spraying job performance that some of the Board members are concerned with. He has looked at a couple of other counties that are doing mostly spot spraying and not the entire county. It has involved hiring additional help in the summer months. He stated that he would like to see a couple of changes to the program. He stated that on February 21st Don Reefer of B&W Control Specialists can come before the Board and he hopes to come to some understanding to see what the deficiencies are in the spraying process for the County.

Pluth stated he thinks we will be too rushed at this time to jam a new program of weed spraying in this year and would like to keep moving forward with the proposed plan this year and possibly implementing in 2018. Quastad believes that spraying of the thistles should be done in the fall and Pluth agreed. Davis-Oeth stated that he would be looking at hiring an additional person if the spraying was county controlled, namely in the style of an Integrated Road Vegetation Manager (IRVM), plus hiring additional summer help. He stated that the test to pass before you can be the above named applicator is a very serious exam and would require some intense study time.

Davis-Oeth, in conclusion, stated to move the proposed spraying project to next year. He would have to advertise for the position and have things in order to implement the new plan. He stated that for now he has a general path to follow, either way, and Don Reefer deserves a chance to put forth his plan and explain and discuss his procedures and answer any questions the Board may have.

Amy Sathoff, Auditor, and Vickie Jurrens, Treasurer, further discussed with the Board about associating the drainage assessments with the taxes that will be run for the fall of 2017. They had previously been directed to talk to our audit firm to see what their thoughts would be. The audit firm said it's really the County's choice. The Board's concern is that the County strives for a clean audit and was concerned about the deficit in the drainage districts at the end of the fiscal year. This new process will save the County money for supplies, postage and labor costs. The Board gave their approval to try the new plan. Sathoff, Auditor, stated that at the end of December of 2017, she will give the Board a list of drainage districts that have negative balances and there could be the possibility of still being able to assess them in February of 2018.

Rich Meyer, Drainage Attorney, met with the Board concerning Drainage District 121. There has been a landowner that owns land on the county lines in Minnesota and Iowa that has requested a clean out of about 2 miles of the open ditch in drainage district 121 in the Grass Lake area in Emmet County. Quastad stated that we have acquired the necessary permit to enter into this Grass Lake area. Last fall Meyer, Quastad and Pluth met with Martin County drainage Trustees on this situation and the idea was to treat this as one system and they would pay an outlet fee, now Meyer says that has changed with Martin County. Quastad stated that there is no written agreement for this, just the past one. Meyer stated we may have to get an Engineer involved to see what he thinks and where he feels the restriction is. Schumacher asked the question to Meyer what is the possible resolution to this problem. Meyer stated that we could do nothing on this project or hire an Engineer to look at it. He stated just because a landowner fills out a petition does not mean the work will or has to be done. The Board acting as Trustees of the drainage districts, can decide what is best for the district. At this time, there are no complaints downstream in this drainage district and landowners downstream are asking questions of why is this drainage project being considered. The consensus was to look at the letter Meyer has proposed, Quastad is going to talk to a landowner that possibly attended the meeting recently in Martin County, then possibly tweaking the letter and sending it to Martin County and keep moving along with it.

Motion was made by Pluth, seconded by Quastad, to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Colleen Anderson, Assistant to the Auditor

Bev Juhl, Chair