

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Buffalo County Highway Committee

Date of the Meeting:

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Chairman Mr. Lindstrom called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. in the conference room of the Buffalo County Highway Department, Alma, Wisconsin.

Board Members Present: Mr. Michaels, Mr. Lindstrom, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Ruff, and Mr. Sendelbach

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Kelly Johnston, Lee Engfer, Bennett Olson, Nick Bremer, Steve Schofield and Ronnie Brownell

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: None

Review/Discussion/Action - Minutes of the Previous Meeting: A motion was made by Mr. Ruff, seconded by Mr. Michaels to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, February 16, 2026. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action - Monthly Vouchers #31690 through #31720 totaling \$254,801.46 were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mr. Sendelbach, to approve the monthly vouchers as presented. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action – Spring Road Bans:

- a. Discussion on road bans. Write up a message to put on website explaining why the road bans were put on earlier than discussed.

Review/Discussion/Action – Recycling Program Coverage:

- a. Ask for volunteers to fill in from the county side, talk to the employee who has filled in if he wants to take a county route to be able to continue filling in or assign it to someone if there is no interest.

Review/Discussion/Action – Staffing:

- a. Highway Commissioner Vacancy- Interviews set up for tomorrow March 12, 2026, for candidates for the commissioner's position.
- b. Highway Commissioner Job Description- Updated job description, some verbiage changes.

Review/Discussion/Action– Equipment:

- a. Bomag RS 500 Trade Update- Trade in values for the Bomag RS 500 Reclaimer vary from \$30,000-\$94,000. Bomag rubber tire roller still has issues. The dealer has had both drives off and apart multiple times and there are still issues with it.
- b. Landpride #538 Update- Mr. Ruff made a motion to replace the one tire and rim for now, and do what is needed to change the rotation of the one gear box so it doesn't throw the grass on the roadway. Mr. Michaels seconded. Carried.
- c. New Pull Behind Mower- Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to purchase the new Land Pride mower provided the rotation of blades is in correct direction and the wheels are in walking tandem. Mr. Weiss seconded. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Michaels yes, Mr. Ruff yes, Mr. Lindstrom yes, Mr. Weiss yes, Mr. Sendelbach yes.
- d. Truck 29 Update- The used motor we purchased has a bad cylinder also. Come back to the April meeting with some pricing for new ¾ Ton, 1 Ton, 1 ¼ Ton service trucks.
- e. GPS Update- Lee sent Bob Lowe from Precise an email but has not heard back yet. 35 counties in Wisconsin use Samsara. St. Croix used GeoTab. Mr. Ruff made a motion to move to the next meeting and come back with more information. Mr. Weiss seconded. Carried.
- f. Universal Attachment Pricing- The two freightliner triaxles from Premier Truck Group are \$305,907.00 plus \$317,156.00 for the attachments from Universal Truck Equipment. The two international tandems are paid for, and the attachments are \$454,778 which would go on the 2027 Highway budget. Reimbursement from WisDot is \$8.42 per hour for the 100–150-gallon tailgate brine tanks. Going to the 800-gallon brine tanks on the two Internationals would be \$18.44 per hour.

Review/Discussion/Action– Roads & Bridges:

- a. Joint Projects- Discussion of issues with how some Towns are not petitioning correctly and paying their share in advance.
- b. County Road B Update-Discussion and updates.
- c. Buffalo City Speed Limit Request- WisDot would waive the engineering study, but the City of Buffalo City needs to request the speed reduction not anyone else. This will be discussed at the Highway Safety meeting in April. There have been some requests for no parking on Highway OO along the river also. There is a lot of misinformation being communicated about the Highway OO project. Table until after Highway Safety committee meets.
- d. GPR Update-All data is in and converted on GIS.
- e. LSSIP- Working on the applications for this program. Waiting on Larson Construction for estimates.

Review/Discussion/Action– Buildings & Grounds:

- a. Fuel Contracting-Table for now, keep watching prices. Pehler topped off all the tanks before the price increased.
- b. Fluid Secure- Was \$3,900 per year and now is \$5,000 per year. New digital pumps are about \$2,500 each, would need seven total to update. Mr. Ruff made a motion to eliminate Fluid Secure. Mr. Michaels seconded. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action– Invoicing and Administrative Fee:

- a. Discussion was had.

Review/Discussion– Safety/Risk Management Update:

- a. Waumandee shop entrance was hit with the loader backing out. Brush pile on County Road Q started 60-80ft away from the initial burn area one day after burning took place, winds picked up and blew ashes.

Review/Discussion– Financial Update:

- a. Mrs. LaDuke is moving along with year-end, audit, etc.

Commissioner's Report- MSHA training, Paver/Roller training and chemical sprayer training will be coming up. QR code to watch a video for entering quarries will be placed at shops. Toolbox talks started 3/9/2026. Shoulder retrieving and shouldering will start soon. Use recycled rock at Fountain City shop for county shoulders.

Committee Chair Report – Nothing to report

County Administrator Report- County Road OO discussion.

Public Comments- Nothing to report

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be Tuesday April 14, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourned- Mr. Michaels made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Secretary
Kelly Johnston