

Ringgold County Board of Supervisors Minutes December 9, 2019

The Ringgold County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Monday, December 9, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M by Kraig Pennington with the following members present: Ron Landphair and Lyle Minnick.

A motion was made by Landphair, second by Minnick to approve the agenda.
AYES: Unanimous NAYS: None

The Board met with Windstream President Brad Hedrick to discuss the proposed installation five towers providing for high speed internet across the county. Pennington stated the Board's only concern is ensuring there will be county-wide coverage. To clarify concerns brought to the Board, the Board never intended to deny the permit application. They simply had questions about the process, timeframe and coverage. Hedrick explained Windstream is proposing the implementation of five towers. Each tower will cover a radius of five miles, roughly the size of a township, he said. A wood pole will be 100' tall and the steel pole will be 120' tall. These towers will be line of sight coverage. Hedrick explained the end user can either mount a receiver on a pole to gain line of sight or remove trees blocking the line of sight on their property. Each tower will be able to service about 256 users; more than adequate for the county. The cost of the service will be around \$53/month (plus taxes and fees), Hedrick said.

Each tower will be installed in the county right-of-way. This will be a great start to getting broadband services to rural Iowa, Hedrick said. Landphair stated his main concern is to ensure internet access to homes allowing kids to complete their school work. Jim Hensley stated this is the primary complaint he hears from residents.

Hedrick stated there is no data limit and the tower will prove for 100mg down and 25mg up. Windstream is currently testing technology to allow for a 10-mile radius for coverage, he said. The current proposed five towers will be installed within 30-60 days. The Board moved forward with approval of the permit applications for the five towers.

The Board is very supportive of this initiative and moved forward with approval of the permit applications.

The Board then met with Assistant Engineer Jared Johnson, Interim Engineer Don Staley and Assistant to the Engineer Justin Frost for secondary roads updates. Johnson reported the Hickman right-of-way payment has been made. Construction on 240th street is tentatively scheduled to begin late Spring/early summer 2020.

Mowers continue to be out working to keep brush back and to reduce the vegetation for snow management purposes, Johnson said.

Spot rock is continuing to be hauled to mud/potential mud holes.

Work order updates:

WO 564: Replace deteriorated 24" CMP with new 24" x 40'-0 ADS culvert. Located on 175th Street east of 158th Ave. (Complete)

WO 567: Replace deteriorated 36" CMP culvert with new 36" ADS culvert. Located on 192nd Street east of 300th Avenue. (Complete)

WO 573: Replace deteriorated 24" CMP culvert with new 24" ADS culverts. Located on 220th Ave. north of 170th Street. (Complete)

WO 577: Replace deteriorated and silted in 24"x24" box culvert with new 36" ADS culvert. Located on 210th Street west of 250th Ave.

WO 576: Replace deteriorated 66" CMP culvert and downspout with new 66" CMP. Outlet was flumed to natural flow elevation and projected with grouted revetment. Located on 270th Ave south of J20. (Completed)

WO 575: Clear brush and trees out of ROW and fence line. Reshape foreslopes and backslopes as required. Located on 270th Ave south of J20, east and west side of road for half mile. (In Progress)

WO 569: Clear brush and trees out of ROW and fence line. Repair severely eroded ditch and perform minor fore slope and backslope shaping. Project located from the intersection of 160th Ave South of State Highway 169. (Complete)

The NRCS EWP project has been approved in Washington D.C. Pending budget constraints, it is proposed to construct the Colby Holmes bendway weir project utilizing these funds, Johnson said. The site has been surveyed and is ready for design, he added.

The Department submitted a cost/benefit analysis for Clinton 3 (Redding Bridge) to justify constructing a river improvement project versus just simply repairing as required. The FHWA approved the cost/benefit analysis. The county has been approved for \$63,600 to repair the damages sustained to the facility due to the flooding this spring and \$535,000 to construct river improvement project (bendway weirs). This is an 80/20 split, Johnson explained. The site has been surveyed and the department has been coordinating with John Thomas, a project director with the Hungry Canyons Alliance about the design.

Johnson stated the IDOT has approved the engineer sharing agreement with Madison County. Johnson and Staley will meet with the Engineer's Association Executive Board December 11th to ask for a reversion of the Highway Bridge Project funds, as there is a plan established to immediately utilize them.

Murphy Heavy Contracting out of Anita, IA contacted the department last week looking for winter work. They indicated they would be willing to come down and look at the

proposed projects then submit a quote. They are scheduled to come assess the projects December 10th. Lincoln 19, Lincoln 11 and Rice 20 were selected for them to provide the department repair quotes on.

The department has been coordinating with Calhoun Burns & Associates (CB&A) to get check plans revised and submitted for the December 17th turn in date for the Routh Box. The project is planned for and April letting date. Johnson met with Todd Hagen, Madison County Engineer and current Ringgold County Interim Engineer, Friday December 6th.

CB&A is currently in Ringgold County doing routine bridge inspections, Johnson said. They have completed one trip already and plan on finishing the inspections this week pending the weather. Upon completion of the first trip the Department was notified of 3 bridges that need immediate attention:

- Athens 3: Tipped abutment and undermined abutments, erosion, drift caught at piers, severe pile decay and split caps, recommended closure. Current posting 5 tons.
- Grant 17: The south backwall was washed out this spring. The road is already closed. They recommended installing better closures at the bridge.
- Middle Fork 19: Crushed and deflected west abutment cap with severe pile decay, recommend posting 3 tons. Current posting 416, 525, 629.

The Board reviewed the proposed changes to the Safety Manual. The Safety Committee recommended the additional language of safety training requirements as well as the requirement to report a work comp injury within 24 hours (following the verbiage in the employee handbook). The Board moved forward with approval.

The Board reviewed and approved the new Family Farm applications

RESOLUTION RC19-191

WHEREAS, the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors approve the utility permits for Windstream to install five towers providing for highspeed internet.

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Landphair and seconded by Minnick stating such. The vote on the resolution: AYES: All. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved December 9, 2019.

RESOLUTION RC19-192

WHEREAS, the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors approve the revised Employee Safety Manual.

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Landphair and seconded by Minnick stating such. The vote on the resolution: AYES: All. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved December 9, 2019.

RESOLUTION RC19-193

WHEREAS, the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors approve the Family Farm applications.

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Minnick and seconded by Landphair stating such. The vote on the resolution: AYES: All. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved December 9, 2019.

A motion was made by Minnick, second by Landphair to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

There was no further business. A motion was made by Landphair and seconded by Minnick to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

ATTEST:


Board of Supervisors


Ringgold County Auditor