

**MINUTES OF TOWN OF HULL BOARD,
COUNTY OF PORTAGE WI, MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011**

1. **Call to order** by Chairperson John Holdridge at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Drive, Stevens Point WI 54482

Present: Chairperson John Holdridge, Supervisors Dave Pederson, Dave Wilz, LaVerne Syens, Mel Bembenek. Patty Amman as recording secretary.

Others present: Jim Kruziki, Pete Kaminski, Mark Fritsche and Mark Kluck. Citizen visitors: Randy Spurlin and Matt Schneeberg.

2. **Citizens wishing to address the Board on non-agenda items.** None.

3. **Goals and Objectives for the Town of Hull in 2011 and beyond.**

Holdridge I passed that out. My goal by May 2nd is to complete that. Some of those may become secondary. That first one is very important. The second one involves our building inspection and assessment services. LaVerne and I are working on the Hull Management Plan. Employee Handbook, that's Mr. Wilz. Subdivision Ordinance with the Plan Commission, to update. Review of Fire Dept. operations, that's Dave Wilz and Mark Kluck. The Citizen Response and Opinion Plan I put on the back burner until the Plan Commission does the Subdivision Ordinance. Public Water Study Task Force, we'll limit it to 6 months and we're going to ask for specific members. I'm sending the goals and objectives to Ray Schmidt and Paul McGinley at the University. They are both very interested. That will be with people throughout Hull. We have a lot of people interested in this topic. I ran into Patty Drier at the Solid Waste meeting. We talked about the groundwater slowly coming up. That's probably our greatest threat in Hull, not the Wisconsin River, but the groundwater. The Safety Study will be a part of the Public Safety Task Force. Metro Fire consideration; I'm not sure where we are at on that one but that's an important one. Then there are a couple of short ones and one of the short ones is getting a hold of all of our records. We've got too many records in too many different places. First of all we need a plan of how we're going to handle it. Make sure we retain the records. Task Force on Public Safety we plan to hold meetings the 3rd Thursday of the month.

4. **Seal coating – selection of roads and authority to seek seal coating bids for summer 2011 work.**

Holdridge Pete, you gave us a list of roads. You've got Casimir Road, Torun Road, Willow Springs, Sandy Lane, White Pine and the north end of North Reserve. Any estimate of what this is all going to cost us?

Pete K. It's 4 ½ miles. I called Fahrner and he quoted \$16,500 this year. We could do 6 miles but what I would like to do, the back end of Willow Springs from Pioneer going north, that road is so narrow. Chip sealing is not going to help. I would like to wedge that. The crown of that road is awful high. When they wedge it, they'll take blacktop and put it on both sides and take out some of that crown. Then after that, I'll chip seal it.

Mel B. I was with him on that and I concur with that. If we just chip seal it, I think we would be throwing away money. It's got to be wedged.

Pete K. It's so narrow and cracked.

Mel B. I don't know if you know much about wedging but on the shoulders, you raise it up and then you chip seal the whole thing after that.

Pete K. Over the top. So when you're done, instead of driving like this, you're driving straight. I talked with American (Asphalt). I'm waiting to see if they'll give me an estimate, how much it will cost for wedging, but I haven't got it back yet.

Holdridge What is this for, 16 x 4.6?

Pete K. No, but I know that 6 miles comes out to \$99,000.

Mel B. This is 4 ¼ miles.

Pete K. Whatever I do, I'll keep inside our budget. If we need to, we'll cut something out.

Holdridge You want authority tonight to go out for bids on this.

Pete K. To put this on bids, if I can.

Holdridge Is that issue on North Reserve, can we get a separate bid for that? Or how do you handle that?

Pete K. The one on North Reserve, back 500 feet, when we put that road in 2000, we hauled up the old blacktop, put in 8" of road mat but we always had a problem with that end. That should have been dug out years ago. There are sink holes in there. Every spring it goes up and down. Just chip sealing over the top is not the answer. I would like to remove that chip seal with my grader. I would roll that road mat to the side. I would get down and dig in there and see what is down there. There must be stumps and old trees or something. Then I have a piece of geogrid left over from the DuBay project. Those 500 feet, I want to put that geogrid underneath that road and put the road mat back and then double chip seal it.

Mel B. That's on which one you are talking about?

Pete K. North Reserve, north of Firkus.

Pederson I know in the past, we've always indicated in the bids that we may adjust the number of miles to fit the budget we've got.

Pete K. When we get there, I will do that.

Holdridge So you will write this up, send it to Fahrner.

Pete K. I'll give it to Janet. It's pretty much done.

Holdridge On this North Reserve, you'll do the work?

Pete K. We'll do that ourselves, yes.

Holdridge How about the other one, Pioneer?

Pete K. Pioneer we cannot wedge. We don't have the proper equipment for wedging like that.

Holdridge So who is going to do that?

Pete K. That will probably be American Asphalt. He is the only person around here, besides maybe B & B Paving.

Holdridge So you're going to get a separate bid for that?

Pete K. Correct.

Mel B. For the one on North Reserve.

Pederson Would it pay to get a bid from B & B Paving too?

Pete K. Yes, I would like to get at least 3 bids. But B & B Paving buys his material from American anyway.

Holdridge When are you going to get these out?

Pete K. I would like to get it out so that we get our bids back in by our second meeting in May. You need to give them about 2 weeks. They need to come out and look at the roads. I'll show them everything.

Holdridge The requirement is that they do this in the summer when it's hot.

Pete K. Absolutely.

Wilz When you wedge these things, do you widen the road, put down more structure below it or what?

Pete K. Willow Springs Road right now, the shape is like 17'-18' wide and for some odd reason, that back half is narrow. The front half is 22' wide. I don't understand why. But he'll do the 18', he'll put 1 ½ feet on each side. Our crown on that road right now is here when you drive it. He'll raise each side up to make a proper slope.

Wilz They'll widen it and raise it up.

Pete K. Yes. By the shoulders you might have 6" of blacktop that taper down to 1". Then we need to shoulder it and chip seal it.

Wilz What do you do with roads that are getting ripped up right now because of frost? Can those be patched?

Pete K. The one on North Reserve, that's what I want to do. I want to tear it out and stick in geogrid. There's 500' and it's impossible to do by hand. But I've got lots of places like the river bottom where there's a 15' stretch where we're going to go in and do it by hand. Patch over the top. We'll dig out whatever is loose and throw it out.

Holdridge Where is that?

Pete K. There's a place on Granite Ridge Road, on Shady Oak, on Pioneer Road there's 2 or 3 spots that are bad.

Wilz So those can be patched?

Pete K. Yes.

Wilz You don't have to rip up 300'?

Pete K. No. Some of that road on Pine Bluff, we need to stick a ditch in there. We have water this year running over the road on the east side. This summer I want to take our end loader, a little back hoe, we've got to make some sort of ditch there because we can't have water going over the road.

Holdridge When you get to that, bring it back here so we can authorize it. Take a look at that if that's what you need to do.

Pederson *I move to give Pete Kaminski the authorization to put out the information for bids for seal coating, and tearing out and putting in the geogrid on North Reserve.*

Syens *Second.*

Holdridge Any discussion?

Motion carried without any further discussion.

5. Operational budget costs for 2011 and identification of reserve, designated reserve and capital improvement funds in the 2011 budget for possible set aside for future operational funding.

Holdridge Today at the Solid Waste meeting we heard that the County allocation for recycling will be cut from \$300,000 to \$204,000. Half of that goes to local government. We get \$12,000. This is going to affect this budget year. We're ¼ of the way through it. This is part of the budget repair bill. We have that to contend with. That's another one of the financial problems. Under #1, we have \$400,000 set aside in reserve funds. That's important to do that.

Jim Kruzicki That's \$400,000 added this year.

Holdridge The problem we have is we need to make sure we have an operational budget. That we can fund the basic operations we have before we start talking about buying equipment and some of this other stuff. At least until things settle down at the state level. Remember the state amount we get is 22% of our revenues. The authority is to use that in other ways if we have to. Mark had sent me a note on the referendums that passed around the state and I think almost all of them pertained to school districts. Almost all of those were simply money to

continue the operation. If these schools don't get more money, they can't run their operational plant. That's my concern in the Town of Hull. We need to pick up garbage, plow streets, etc. and we need to have money for that. So that's one issue. The second one is the capital expenditure budgets which is about \$180,000 and we've spent \$1,500 for computers. But I don't think we've bought anything else have we Jim?

Kruzicki No.

Holdridge So I would say what we do there is to put that on hold. If something comes up or somebody needs a piece of equipment out of there, then we'll take it on an individual basis. The Parks Commission has bought equipment for a number of years now, bringing that equipment up to a better standard and quality. They've got one park left to do. So I would suggest that we support that. That is \$20,000 of capital equipment. I would suggest that continues, then we'll have our equipment in these parks in pretty good shape.

Wilz That's not part of this \$180,000?

Holdridge No. That's in the Park's budget but it's a capital expenditure. Number 3, furthermore, Governor Walker's 2 year budget proposal freezes the tax rate at the 2011 level and permits only increases matching the rate of inflation. That's what we've got. Any questions about that?

Mel B. I've got a couple. When we had the meeting the other day and the treasurer reported operating funds, you had on there \$273,000, was that a month?

Jim K. Yes, that's our monthly contingency for operations.

Mel B. So you mentioned that we are solid as far as what we've got. We've got over a million in cash. What I'm getting at is the \$400,000. So if we don't need any of this \$400,000 for operating expense, it's going to stay in there, right?

Holdridge Right. But it's not just operating expenses this year. It's operating expenses for the 2012 and 2013 year. What Walker's budget says is that you're not going to get any increase.

Mel B. I understand that but what I'm getting at is the end when we're working on the 2012 budget, that \$400,000 might still be in here and we might be capable...I'm always thinking on the positive side...is that we can still add a little bit to this for 2012.

Jim K. I think we need to be real careful there because when the 2011 budget was approved, included in that budget was that \$400,000 to be moved to designated funds. So we specifically did that. The real catch is if you're going to use it from the designated funds, then what legal process is needed to transfer it back to operational funds? You can't just use that for operations. John, you remember you got an opinion from Bob Konkol on that last summer. He talked about reserve funds.

Holdridge Oh yes, what they mean and what you should have. But I don't know that it's any major thing to move those funds to operational. It came up a couple of years ago with the county budget. They had a huge reserve fund and I used to be the chairman of the county's finance committee. We had no more than 20% of the operational budget that was in reserve. That's kind of the standard. So I put this to Carol Doran, the Dept. of Revenue person, and I put it to Konkol and it's around 20%. It's not fixed into law. There is some language in there that says you should have so much in reserve. We need to have a reserve but the biggest problem we've got is we don't know what's going to happen. We've got gas prices going up. So what's happening to food prices, they're going up. So we could really have an inflation factor here particularly because of the gas. On the west coast, they're over \$4 per gallon. What are you paying for diesel, Pete?

Pete K. About \$3.89 or \$3.90.

Mel B. Back to this \$400,000; I was hoping that we don't have to use that. Also on that capital outlay about putting this stuff on hold, I can understand that. But I just want you to know that we can't afford to put new roads in with new asphalt. It's got to be \$30,000 a mile. We're paying \$16,500 just for seal coating which I think is ridiculous. But we've got to maintain our roads. I'm going out with the road guys now since Bob (Brilowski) is gone and I see a lot. I can understand that we've got to put a hold on some of these things but some of the stuff that Pete put in here, it's definitely needed. Three of these are used. So we're not going out to spend much. We've got a shoulder reclaimer, used trailer, used compactor, used backhoe and he

needs all that just to maintain our roads without having to worry about putting in new asphalt on them. So I'm just letting you know about that. We can squeeze here and there but if it has to be, if we need this to keep these roads in half way decent shape, we need this stuff. That's all I have to say.

Holdridge We know the state won't have any increase for the next 2 years. We're going to have some needs. I'm looking from the citizen's standpoint that pays these taxes. Most governments don't. They talk some rhetoric but they don't do much about it. We're looking at the bottom up, the tax rate in the Town of Hull and trying to hold that at a moderate level. It's conceivable at some point we may not be able to do that. Partly for what Mel talked about but there could be other needs here that we need to do which means we may have to raise the taxes. The reality is that it's only 14% of these householder's budget. It's uncertain times and I don't see us going out and buying a bunch of stuff until we have some pretty firm figures. We've had that shouldering equipment in there for 5 years.

Mel B. It is the second year. The used trailer, we rented a trailer last year for \$1,500. A used trailer is \$4,000. We keep renting. A used compact roller for the trailer....3 of these items are where we're looking for used stuff. The shoulder reclaimer, that's the second year. If we need this stuff, a lot of it isn't that expensive and if it can help us with our roads in the long run. I don't think we're going to see brand new asphalt on these roads while we're here. It's going to need to be a lot of maintenance.

Pederson And too, Mel, somewhere if we spot a good deal on those items, then we should bring it up to the Board. Trailers, you could find something for less than that.

Mel B. This was from last year. I can check into this.

LaVerne S. We want to hold the line on expenditures. Considering the \$400,000 that's in the funds that transferred, considering that we know we are going to lose \$77,000 in 2012. Now if we hold the line on everything but this \$400,000, if we spend it but we don't go over that, if we get a reduction and we match the 2011 budget, we have 5 years on \$400,000. \$400,000 is a lot of money but if you break it down to what we're using per year and then you look at how many years it carries us, that's only 5 years and as John says, 5 years isn't very long.

Jim K. Can I give you some numbers to look at. This is something that John asked me to put together (*handout*). What I did was to summarize the budget items instead of looking at

all those detailed numbers. On the operating expense side, the key there is the total operating expenses, it's close to \$1.5 million. If we went in individually line by line, I'm sure there are things we could pare out. I think \$1.5 million in operating expenses is a pretty good guideline to follow. The second 2 columns, the 25% budget, John suggested – we're at the quarter so we should be about at the quarter mark in our expenditures. Compared to \$372,000 we're actually at \$353,000 so we're a little bit under. Considering we haven't done anything with parks yet, that comes later in the year. The big question is as you were talking about the capital outlay items as of the end of March, we haven't spent any of that yet from the \$182,000. In the budget was a contingency, an undesignated balancing figure for us for that budget. So we do have a number to play with there for that contingency. We have the \$400,000 that we transferred to designated funds. The surpluses rolled over from a couple of previous years. So according to our budget, our total expenses for the year would be \$2,156,776.

Holdridge Is there a figure we should look at Jim, in terms of here's our total operational budget and here's what we project for reserves on December 31, 2011? That assumes that our operational expenditures are going to be as they are.

Kruzicki On the other side, revenue, we've got the taxes that come in, the majority as you see them for a couple of months. Our other revenue for this year should pretty much stay in line with what we have. What I tried to do on the bottom of the sheet is do a little comparison of the major totals in our cash flow this year versus next year. What I've done is taken our taxes, we won't have any tax increase so it'll be the same as last year, that's our major source of revenue. Our intergovernmental, that 2011 figure is really overstated because the Fire Dept. rolled their bank accounts over to us so that \$20,000 and that \$11,000 "intergovernmental other" really is not true revenue. It's just a transfer of funds. So without those 2, we have about \$1.5 million for cash inflow for this year. For 2012 I reduced what we're expecting to lose out of that intergovernmental, for the recycling, for state shared revenue and road aides so you can see that potentially we could drop our revenue down to net \$1,491,500. If we would project operating expenses to be the same, that would be our major outflow for 2012 and with no capital outlay. Either way we look at it, 2011 or 2012, we've got a negative net cash flow. For 2011 that \$165,000 is assuming that we would have some capital outlay so really we could balance that cash flow pretty close to zero if we didn't have any capital outlay. However for next year, if we didn't have any capital outlay, we're still going to have a negative outflow of \$56,000. But as John says, we do have those designated funds plus we have some other designated funds on top of that. So it's not like we have a doom and gloom situation. If we didn't have those designated funds, we'd be in some really tough shape.

Holdridge My question is, if we have an operational budget and it runs 3 months into it, if we continue that expenditure as we have through December of 2011, what sort of revenues will we have for reserves on the 31st of December 2011?

Kruzicki Our reserves are separate from this.

Holdridge We have an operational budget and then we've got capital outlay and then we have reserve funds set aside. We know the operational budget. What is going to be our reserves, unspent that we'll be able to carry into January of 2012? That would be part of the whole budget that we work on in November of 2011. We're going to want to know what that will be. We've got to make sure we know what they are because if we don't, it could be a real dilemma.

Wilz John, are you asking, when you say reserve, if we hit our budget figures and we know our revenues, how much is left at the end of the year?

Holdridge Our expenditure budget is one thing, we know what that is projected to be. Now we may have a few questions with the revenues there in the operational budget. That FEMA grant for one thing. So what I'd like to know, say for example, the revenues come in for the operational funds, supposedly you need to have a balanced budget. If that's true, what do we have in reserve or unspent by December 31st?

Wilz Money left over. The answer is, if you spend everything on your budget including this \$183,000 for capital outlay, you're going to be a -\$165,000.

Holdridge Then that's the argument that we don't spend capital outlay and we set this aside.

Kruzicki We have to be a little bit careful with that. What is not considered here is our designated funds.

Pederson So if we don't touch those funds, we've still got those funds.

Wilz If we spend our budget including the capital outlay and with your anticipated revenue less your anticipated expenses on 12/31 for that 12 month period, is there money left over or are we short? According to this, we'd be short about \$165,000.

Kruzicki As far as operating contingencies.

Wilz Then that's your answer John.

Holdridge It's not a good answer.

Mixed conversation, several people talking at once, picks up in mid sentence with:

Syens ...2012 you dip in for \$56,000 and that gives us a total of \$221,000 for those 2 years. So now my 5 year projection doesn't look too good.

Mel B. One question then, say if we use the \$183,000, then we're short \$165,000 but we have the \$400,000.

Kruzicki Correct. If you want to think of it as our savings.

Wilz You had made a statement that the \$400,000 was left over in the checkbook after we allocated to the Fire Dept. and Roads. You had mentioned that we probably gained that over a couple of years. But we don't know how long it took to get that. That could be 20 years of surplus budgets. We just don't know. I'm guessing most of that money came from earlier years rather than later years. My point is if we spend it now, it may have taken 20 years to get it in there.

Mel B. The \$400,000 bothers me more than anything. To say that we can use it....because like you said, it took awhile to get there.

Syens If we do not spend any of that capital outlay, that does not mean we will have reversed that cash flow because some of that equipment listed to purchase would need to be rented so we'd have an expense in rental. I can't know what that would be but we would be renting equipment which would affect that \$183,000 capital outlay number.

Holdridge We ought to put this on the agenda for May 2nd and maybe change our structure here a little bit and get rid of some of the terminology. The basic terminology is the operational budget. If we can identify those things we need to operate day to day, then we look at things we don't need to operate, that we're going to purchase or in reserve funds and we need to know what that number is. When we know that, we might discover that we've got to start talking to our citizens about a tax increase. If we're going to continue the operational funds and maybe do a few of the capital purchases, we don't have enough money to do it. We're cut in state aid 26% and that's 22% of our budget. It seems to me we need to go back in this and make sure we're talking from the same page with the same numbers.

Wilz What was our + or – for 2010? How did we do? I think we had \$26,000 left? I don't have the December budget, year end. Is this it? \$19,255? Is that money left over? Is that what that means?

Kruzicki Our total revenue was \$1.5 million, (*unclear on tape as someone was whispering close to the machine*).....

Wilz So last year we didn't pay our bills.

Kruzicki We were about \$10,000 short.

Wilz We had money taken away from us now so I don't see us getting better.

Pederson My argument for buying any of the capital outlay items would be, if we can, with a purchase, offset the rental, then we can justify it.

Holdridge Over a certain number of years.

Pederson Yes, one or 2 years. I don't know that we would go a lot further.

Wilz We've kind of taken that lead in recent years. When Pete says, if we get this, it's going to save us buying this. We've done purchases that have literally paid for themselves in 2 years or less. That makes sense. Then every year forward it's free but I agree with thinking along those lines. That's an investment, not a cost.

Kluck John, you've got in for capital outlay the FEMA grant. That's something we applied for last year that's coming through. You're not going to refuse it?

Holdridge No. We're getting the FEMA grant?

Kluck They told us all the denial letters had gone out over a month ago.

Holdridge Is there anybody you can get in Washington or elsewhere to send you a letter saying.....and when would you know?

Kluck I got an e-mail. I would know within the next 30-60 days.

Holdridge That to me Mark, is another reasonable question. This isn't free money as it comes out of every taxpayer in the country. But if you're getting a huge amount of money to buy a truck, then we ought to be reasonable about that.

Kluck It's probably for 4 different pieces of equipment. But the Town's actual payout is only 5% of the total.

Holdridge That's what I'm saying, some of these things are logical.

Wilz If they don't give you the grant, Mark, we can cross that off income and we'd take that off expense and they'd wash each other at that point.

Kluck Right. Okay. I just didn't understand.

Holdridge That's why I talk about case by case. There may be other exceptions too.

A motion was made by Mel Bembenek to table this for now and bring it back up at a later meeting to refine it. Motion seconded by Dave Pederson. Motion passed.

6. Legal aspects of credit card use from Hull Attorney letter.

Holdridge Last time we had an extensive discussion on credit cards. I wrote a letter to Jerry O'Brian and he responded. I was talking with one of the people down at the County and an incident that they had with credit cards and fraud. Apparently someone would use the credit card to purchase something then take it back and try to get cash for it. I hear that the County has 150 credit cards out. This person said how in the world can you ever monitor those? The school district I was told has 10. I see O'Brian's last part of this letter is very important. That is, if anybody gets a credit card, signs an agreement and you put out the stipulations. #1 you can only use it for official business. Some people just don't understand that. So you have a contract with certain provisions in it on how it's going to be used. The people that get it, sign it, date it and we keep the contract. Jerry talks about if you have some fraud and you know it, if you get to the credit card company within 60 days, you're liability is \$50. That's the second paragraph. Apparently this firm has an agreement with M&I. Jim who did you have?

Kruzicki Chase.

Holdridge My thought is that we ought to write up a little statement on how much are you going to charge for a business card, what if we don't pay it all in a month, what's the interest or grace period, what's our financial limits on it, and there may be other questions.

Kruzicki This is the reply I got from Joe Steeber at the bank. This is from Chase. I took those issues that John had and put them to Joe. He answered 2 things. On question #1 about the Town of Hull being only responsible for transactions that are approved by an authorized officer of the Town of Hull for the person using the card. Visa provides protection against transactions incurred on the card if it is lost or stolen. Visa provides \$100,000 protection to the Town of Hull. If an employee uses the card in a wrongful manner, appropriate action against the employee is required. I think that's where you'd have a contract with the employee or an agreement with the employee.

#2 Corporate liability means that no individual information will be needed to put a card in place. Whoever is using the card doesn't have to put their personal information on it. The Town of Hull

would be responsible for any debt incurred, not the individual. The card is underwritten from the Town of Hull's financial institution only.

Pederson We could also establish or request a limit on the card couldn't we?

Kruzicki Right. We can put limits on individual cards.

Pederson That might be something to consider too.

Kluck Chase is who St. Michael's uses and I know they have over 500 cards out. Like you said, the limits vary. My limits are \$5,000 per transaction, \$25,000 per month.

Holdridge But you're a purchaser aren't you (*purchasing agent*)?

Kluck Correct.

Holdridge That's a whole different thing, a part of your job. I like this; Visa provides \$100,000 fraud protection to the Town of Hull. Visa does that? The bank doesn't do that? I would think we could come up with certain key items we want them to respond to. Get them out and see what we get back.

Kruzicki What benefit would there be to do that?

Holdridge The biggest benefit is credibility. That's why we do these sort of things. We need to demonstrate to this banker who lives in the Town of Hull over here that we are going to go across the board and try to get the best bang for our buck. Once you do that, you might welcome back the Chase or you might go to M&I. Believe it or not, we've got bankers that live in the Town of Hull. I like the notion of stepping back, send it out, get the feedback in and make a decision. That's pretty much our consistent approach. That's makes everything an arm's length transaction. The decision on how many cards and who should have a card or should Barb control the cards so if Pete wants to go to a conference, does he check the card out from Barb or does Pete have a card.

Wilz We talked about this last time. I think we should have cards for departments. The road crew has a card. That way, if Pete's on vacation, someone else who's working can get the card and go over and buy whatever is needed.

Kaminski A lot of the time like on a Saturday or Sunday when I come in and something breaks down on the snowplow and I need something, Barb is not here. I would need to have a card back there.

Holdridge You'd have a card in your office.

Kaminski I've got one now back there. A Fleet Farm card.

Wilz Fire Dept., Road Crew and General and just put limits on them. I don't think there has to be a lot of limit on them. It's more for convenience than anything else. So a couple of thousand maybe. Mark, when you guys take off and use your credit cards to go to your training and out of town meetings and hotels, what do those....that I look at being a larger one.

Kluck That's probably one of the larger ones. One is over \$1,000 just to get signed up. The Hurst Rescue Training in Delafield. We're sending only 2 this year but if we send 4 next year or this fall, yes, I think we'd have to sit down and discuss what reasonable limits would be.

Wilz I see yours as being one of the more expensive ones. Pete, when you guys go out and pick stuff up, it's never more than....maybe the cost of a new chainsaw when one gets fried, and that's a few hundred dollars.

Kaminski At Fleet Farm I don't think I've ever spent more than about \$500. I'll go buy 30 or 40 fence posts.

Holdridge What would you do with your Fleet Farm card if we go to Visa or MasterCard?

Kaminski The first question is does Fleet Farm take Visa, if so, then I'd eliminate it.

General discussion on how they now have several different accounts (Staples, Fleet Farm, etc.) and then they could be combined into just one Visa account instead.

Kluck John, you were talking about sending this out to other banks. Isn't the interest rate the big issue?

Kruzicki The whole purpose is that we're going to pay our balance when the bill is due so the interest rate really wouldn't mean anything.

Holdridge We've had occasion where we've missed the deadline date and we had to pay interest.

Pederson Part of it is scrutinizing the invoices. Barb and you do that.

Holdridge I assume there's an upfront fee to join?

Kruzicki No, not at Chase.

Wilz Most places you can get a card for free now.

Kluck If it's not the interest rate, and I understand John you're reason for sending it out, but what are we going to get back from these other banks?

Holdridge We'll get a proposal.

Kruzicki But they won't be any different.

Holdridge But Jim, we don't know that. We do not know what is out there. If we called up 5 different banks, we might have 5 different responses. Now some of these banks might say, we'll get you a card but you've got to shift your funds. We'll that's a no deal. This idea of going with this person without surveying the market, it's a killer in government. I've seen it time and time again. If you feel comfortable, send it out, get back feedback and see what you have.

Wilz It's a transparency issue. I know what you're saying and I can predict what will happen too, but at least there's no question as to did we give everybody an opportunity to put their hat in the ring if they want to.

Holdridge Any other comments or questions?

Mel B. I don't want a card.

A motion was made by Pederson to send out a credit card request to 5 different financial institutions (including Chase and River City) and 3 credit unions and get their response as to what their credit card terms are for a municipality. It would include interest rate, liability, any membership fees, and limits.

Motion was seconded by Wilz.

Motion passed.

Holdridge The other part of this is the contract with the employee.

Pederson I think some of the things that Jim brought up on this memo are important to include in that questionnaire.

Wilz I don't know if you make phone calls Jim, but you could use your counterparts over at Portage County or the City. Portage County has a huge purchasing dept. and maybe

they can trigger a relationship over there and share a format they maybe already have put together instead of us trying to create things all the time. They're doing it all the time. It's just a suggestion.

Holdridge Remember now that interim purchasing manager was the one that was relieved.

Wilz I've learned that with the Parks. I've talked with people in the City and Portage County with stuff Pete and I and our Commission would talk about. They've been doing it so long, they've got it nailed.

Holdridge They've got full time staff working on it or dedicated to it.

Wilz We just need to remember there are resources out there.

Pederson They're willing to share?

Wilz Oh, yes.

Holdridge The problem we have with the County though is that they have 3 lawyers upstairs and when you read some of that stuff, it's overwhelming. Fortunately we just got a page and a half from our lawyer which is a little shorter.

7. Public Safety Task Force Goals/Objectives.

Holdridge This is the final charge here. It's a task force, Dave reminded me. It's for 6 months and on the second page we have a number of organizations we're going to look at. We included the Fire Dept./EMS.

Pederson One thing might be to offer fire inspections for people who want them.

Holdridge When I look at your reports, those CO calls you get, carbon monoxide, you had a number of them listed. Anything we can do to make the people aware of these things. A couple of them, the batteries weren't working. Using Hull roads as part of charitable events; we've had that before and have it in the spring. Town of Hull roads with legal speed limits and signage. That would be something we would take up. We've got some that really should be modified.

Pete K. I do have a list.

Holdridge That #9, lack of turning lanes on Hwy. 66, that was a big one 6 or 7 years ago. The DOT did a study and found out there's no problem. But the citizens were complaining about it, the safety committee endorsed us. So we're bringing those sort of things back up because they're still issues. Any questions about that? It's a public meeting which will be advertised. I've got to write up something for Janet to get something in the newspaper for people who want to participate. I know of 2 or 3 but we need a cross section as much as possible.

A motion was made by Mel Bembenek to approve the report on this and seconded by Dave Pederson. Motion passed.

8. Discussion of aspects of Hull Fire Dept./EMS operations and possible future directions.

a. Monthly reports of Fire Dept. and EMS activity for 1st quarter.

Holdridge I started out with what you had provided on a monthly basis. January 2011, you were busy that month with 10 calls. Structure fires are all building fires, right?

Kluck Correct. A chimney fire is considered a structure fire.

Holdridge January you had 3 or 4 auto crashes. Then February was a fairly light month wouldn't you say?

Kluck Compared to January, yes.

Holdridge One vehicle roll over and then this carbon monoxide call. What is a rapid intervention response?

Kluck Rapid intervention is where we deploy at a fire scene and we are there in case a fire fighter goes down. It's specialized training where we've had over 40 hours per fire fighter.

Holdridge Would you call that the backup row?

Kluck Yes, correct.

Wilz You're saving the fire fighters.

Kluck Correct and that's all we're there for.

Holdridge Then in March you've got 2 CO₂ calls and I think they were battery problems. So is this in the ceiling?

Kluck It could be anywhere. Ceiling, floor, I think you have one on the floor right there.

Wilz So what happens when they call?

Kluck They'll call 911. Some are combination CO detectors and fire detectors so when it goes off, it could be low batteries which could cause false readings. Some will actually give you the ppm.

Holdridge Who would go to that? Would a regular fire truck go to that?

Kluck Yes. We send a fire truck with 4 guys. They're in air packs and breathing apparatus because you don't know what you're walking into. You go in with a tester.

Holdridge You know that when you get the call, that the alarm went off? You know it's not a fire?

Kluck Correct, although if it's a combination smoke/CO₂ detector, you don't know.

Holdridge If you go back to February where you had a roll over on I-39, how many trucks did you send to that one?

Kluck Three.

Holdridge Are they all Hull?

Kluck Yes.

Holdridge You don't have any backup there?

Kluck No. We have backups that sit at the station in case....

Holdridge When would you use that mutual aid like where Dewey comes to help you?

Kluck A school bus incident or a 3 or 4 car pileup where you may have to do more than one extrication with the jaws-of-life.

Holdridge Here's one in January, #5 this happened on 1/17 Hwy. 66, 4 vehicles, 7 injured, that had to be a biggie.

Kluck It was, we had the Hwy. shut down out there for 3-4 hours.

Holdridge Who responded to that, just Hull?

Kluck Hull, Whiting came with their traffic incident management team and set up detours. I think we had 3 ambulances. Stevens Point was there. We actually had to pull some of the fire fighters off of the vehicles and have them help with EMS because there were so many injured.

Fritsche We have some people that are dual members. Both members of the Fire Dept. and EMS, dual trained so we pulled people off of the fire side and put them on the EMS side.

Kluck Some of it may be not any more than getting them on a gurney.

Holdridge How many have you had so far this month?

Kluck Fire? Accidents?

Matt S. Just a burning complaint, as far as I know, that's it for this month.

Holdridge I find these reports very helpful in trying to understand your workload and more detail to what happens. Typically, somebody calls 911 and then the dispatcher down there decides where this is and who to send and then you guys get paged?

Kluck When you dial 911, if you dialed it from your house, it would show up as John Holdridge, your address, it'll say your fire dept. is the Town of Hull and your EMS is Portage County and the Hull unit and that's all there as soon as you dial it and they pick it up. You have a City dispatcher that picks it up and a County dispatcher that picks it up who are in different buildings and they determine whose it really is and then one will hang up.

Pederson There was something a while back about the City taking over part of the I-39 corridor.

Kluck That has happened.

Holdridge Highway 10 too.

Kluck If you take a look at that colored map up there that says City and Hull, you'll see what they took back and we don't have any more.

Fritsche When you're traveling north on I-39, after you cross the railroad tracks south of Hwy. 10 and continue north up to the other side of Second Street, you enter the Town of Hull 5 different times.

Kluck And you enter the City 5 different times.

Fritsche So we had a dual response agreement that with anything on the interstate, they just page both of us and when he (*firefighter/EMS person*) got there, he didn't need the other one so he just turned him around.

Kluck Part of the issue is, if you're driving and you call 911 on a cell phone and you keep going, you went from Hull to City to Hull to City, they're tracking you going along the interstate. That's why we had to do a response. Now the responses have slowed down. They're trying to figure out who and where you are. We actually took a step back about 15 years. In fact we had an issue last night with a big grass fire. It was on Glenwood Drive. Well if you look at Glenwood Drive on the map, this section is in Hull and this section is in the City. So where is it? They paged the City.

Holdridge Once the dispatcher gets you through your pager, then you head for the fire station, right?

Kluck I go direct to the scene but the other fire fighters go to the station.

Holdridge So all the rest besides you are you then the incident commander?

Kluck Yes.

Holdridge So all the rest would come to the fire station, get their gear, get their trucks and head out. Any questions about this?

b. **Report of fire rescue/EMS services – 2010 comprehensive study by Dave Wilz, Hull Supervisor, Mark Kluck, Fire Chief and Mark Fritsche, Assistant Fire Chief, dated March 2011.**

Holdridge Then we have the EMS, lots of activity. Looking at January, there are 11 incidents, pretty confidential. These are also when they called into the dispatcher and then he got the EMS person and they went to the location. In the meantime, the ambulance is being rallied and then they would come. Typically the EMS gets their first, right?

Fritsche Not under every circumstance. If Jill is on shift tonight, she lives over by your (*Holdridge*) house, and I'm using her as an example because you know where she lives and if the call is on North Second Street and Woodview, the odds are she'll get there right behind the ambulance. But if somebody on that side of Town is on call, they'll get there before the ambulance arrives. I would say it's about a 50/50 mix.

Wilz Where it says dispatch and service, that's gone through the 911 operator, right?

Fritsche Yes. The dispatch time is the time the dispatcher logs the time the call comes in.

Wilz Someone responded at 9:05 saying, "I'm on my way." That could be either us or Portage County?

Fritsche No, that is us.

Kluck You're looking at Hull.

Wilz Arrival is us. That's when our EMS person arrives.

Fritsche I played around with March's numbers a little bit and our in-service times. We had 2 of the 13 calls which were within the same minute of the dispatch. That dispatch time is what time they hit the pager. We had 7 of the 13 calls where we were in service within 1 minute of the page time and we had 3 calls that we were in service within 2 minutes of page time and 1 call where it took 3 minutes to go in service.

Kluck Now the other thing you need to understand is that the time they got there depends upon what the call is. If it's a heart attack, you're going. You're probably speeding. If it's grandma that has fallen down and just needs to be picked up, you're not going as an emergency so you take your time. So that time you get paged until the time you get there could be an expanded time. So the call dictates how quick you go and it's the same with the fire dept.

Holdridge Are these 24 hour clocks?

Fritsche Yes, it's on a 24 hour clock, military time.

Holdridge Where it says 3:33, that's 3 a.m.? In March, the bottom one.

Fritsche Yes, that was 3:33 a.m.

Holdridge Somebody had to get out of there early and they really got out.

Mel B. You had 33 dispatch calls in the month.

Fritsche Yes we had. We've only gotten 6 so far this month.

Holdridge When those people go, do we cover their expenses? Mileage?

Kluck That's all on the pay system, gratuity, point system.

Holdridge I find this pretty interesting.

Fritsche The first 3 months we did have 34 calls or averaging 11 per month. So that puts it at about 126 for a year if you stayed at that pace. Last year we had 97 total calls that we responded to.

Holdridge So does it pick up in the summer?

Fritsche It goes up and down. I was surprised we had 3 busy months in a row. Stuff that I saw last year, we had 1 or 2 where we had 10 but we had a lot of 6 and 7's last year.

Kluck It's kind of like the fire one. January of 2010 we only had 2 calls. This time we had 11.

Holdridge Are these folks also trained firemen?

Fritsche Not all. Some are and some aren't. We have 8 on the roster right now and we have 3 out of the 8 that are non-fire dept.

Holdridge I find this very interesting. I didn't know that there was that much activity. A number of these are critical.

Wilz The problem is they don't know. What happens when a person dials 911; that person considers it scary when they call.

Fritsche If you look at January's, the first one, the nature of the call is a seizure, that's critical. Fall, bleeding from the head, it could be. Lift assist is probably not. Difficulty breathing, you can last 3 minutes without air. Abdominal pain, probably not. Motor vehicle accident, that was the same one the fire dept. had in their January one. We pulled people off a fire. We had 2 EMS people respond with their personal vehicles directed to the scene and when the trucks came, we pulled the EMS people off the fire side and put them on there as well.

Holdridge What's MVA?

Fritsche Motor vehicle accident.

Kluck A lot of the information you get from the initial dispatch like “fell down”, “bleeding from the head”, okay, maybe that’s not so serious. But if it’s somebody on Plavix or something like that, now it’s serious. You really don’t know; everything is a judgment call.

Wilz A lot of this stuff on here wasn’t known at the time of the call. I recognize one on here and it says what was actually known or what was resolved but I can tell you, when they dialed 911, they thought he was dead because he was unresponsive.

Fritsche If you look at February, the 3rd, 5th and 6th call were all unresponsive patients so you don’t know if it’s drug related or accidental over medicated or under medicated. Maybe it’s somebody who has a diabetic condition and they are passed out. They’re unresponsive. There are multiple reasons why someone could be unresponsive.

Holdridge Your people have a bag full of stuff I suppose.

Fritsche The EMR, emergency medical responder is the new name for them. Last year they were called first responders. For the first responder level, to be trained takes 70 hours of training before they can get their license. We have 3 EMR’s out of the 8 right now. We have 5 EMT’s, emergency medical technicians. Their training is 144 hours; classroom plus they also take a national registry exam. They also do a national registry practical hands on skills test. So before they can even respond, if they’re going to respond at the local level, they need 70 hours of schooling.

Holdridge It should be that way because that’s an important function. I notice Jill is up there, she gets out and about. Let’s go to Dave’s report which we handed out last week. This is as good a description as I’ve seen of a payroll process. It looks like the Fire Dept. was on a point system and you went to an hour system right?

Kluck Right. We brought that up to the Board a few years ago. It’s a fairer way to pay.

Wilz It actually does track time. Unlike EMS, the Fire Dept. has it built in to track. Whereas EMT’s are gone; there’s one person where the Fire Dept. has built in systems to track the time very accurately so it’s good that they rolled over to an hourly system. Any questions about this? We went through this very briefly last meeting and we bring it up today and are here to respond to any questions you may have or any things we may need to clear up. The next step is to take this information we’ve got, I’ve got a survey put together with Mark’s and Mark’s help. If you feel comfortable in understanding how we work here, I’d like to pursue finding out how other people do it.

Pederson I had a couple of questions. I was curious as to what “10-22” is.

Kluck I means “disregard”. If you’re into CB handles.

Fritsche Actually there are 10 codes; law enforcement uses them. Part of the training is going back to plain text English. We’re “in route” not “10-8”. We’re “on the scene”.

Pederson The pay record information proposal on the second page, second paragraph, there’s something about that sentence that just wasn’t clear. “Fire fighters that do not make the assigned response apparatus on a call ‘must are’ required to man the station.” It’s on pay record information, 3rd page from the back.

Kluck What we're saying Dave, is we've had situations in the past where let's say you send out one truck on a CO call and I'll use an example we had: you get out there on a call and it's an illegal day care center that's set up in home and they're having carbon monoxide issues and there's 13 kids inside that house. By requiring the crews that come in later on the call and don't make the initial truck out, we require them to wait 30 minutes. By that time, we know if an event is going to escalate. If it does, we have those guys in reserve and we don't need to repage or call new people. They are there and we can count on them and they can immediately come. In that case we did, we had an ambulance come out also.

Pederson I'm just taking issue with the sentence itself, "must are" doesn't make sense.

Wilz Dave, the pages that you're reading are pages that are pulled from their protocol manual to back up page 1 and 2 which is the written summary of how this works and then backup guidelines and protocol status with actual sheets. Then the last sheet is the actual compensation dollars and cents spreadsheet. As long as they understand it, right Mark?

Kluck Right. What Dave's referring to was a typo. You could cross out the word "must".

Holdridge On the 3rd page, regarding payment of EMS, it says the other source of funding comes from Portage County. I think that funding may be of some question. We got into this whole thing when we were talking about the Sheriff's Dept. The County is currently funding an ambulance service. That's supposed to be pretty comprehensive, all over the County. They currently fund the Sheriff's Dept. The Sheriff's Dept. has problems because they need to be all over the County. They have to be equitable. So we suggested that we really need more service than that. We get this from citizens, we have records and we can show them to the committee. They've supplemented the ambulance service with these people. That's not much different than what we're talking about with the Sheriff's Dept. except the issues may be more critical. If they start looking at this and say well, we are providing a basic level of ambulance service, because all of these calls you respond to eventually need an ambulance to take them off to where ever. That would seem to be a concern because these people, their finance people and Patty Drier will take a hard look at where they can cut. If they need to trim back, where would they trim back? This could potentially be an area. Is that a 50/50?

Fritsche Last year, in 2010 it was a 50/50. We have \$5,000 in the Town of Hull budget for gratuity. Last year we had \$5,000 that we took from the Portage County grant and put it towards retention and recruitment which was the other part of the gratuity. This year there's only \$4,000 budgeted because the grant this year went down from the previous year from Portage County. So we have \$9,000 to work with this year instead of \$10,000. We have more calls. The amount each point is worth, theoretically, could be less this year than what it was last year.

Holdridge Over on the next page, there are administrative guidelines. "Points shall be awarded as follows, meeting attendance is 1 point, responding to a call is 1 point (*see page 3 of report*) (*end of tape*).

Kluck Without that training, that's just the way that we designed it. You're actually looking at an old copy.

Fritsche We updated this April 1st and meeting attendance is 1 point, training is 1 point, responding to a call is still 1 point, signing up for weekday shifts is 2 points, signing for weekend

shifts is 3 points. The whole thing with the point system is that we want these people to sign up for shifts. When they are on a shift, they are required to attend the call.

Holdridge How long is a shift, 8 hours?

Fritsche It's a 6 hour minimum and right now we have an 18 hour per month requirement. If you do the minimum shift, you need to sign up for at least 3 shifts during the month. I give them more points if they do it on a weekend. But the reason we want more points for signing up for shifts than for calls is that everybody that goes on call gets a point. But, how do you get people to calls? If nobody is on shift, it's by gosh and golly, who's home and who's available. Whereas if they sign up for certain times, we have another guideline that says if you sign up for a shift, you must respond to all calls during that 6 hour time period.

Mel B. Is meeting attendance still 1 point?

Fritsche Yes. We added training attendance as 1, responding to a call is 1, signing up for a weekday shift is 2 and 3 remains on weekends.

Pederson So responding to a call might be coming to the dept. but if you don't have to go out, you still.....

Fritsche These people do not respond to the Fire Dept. They keep the defibrillator and bag and keep it right with them.

Holdridge Do they have a fire (*flashing light*) that goes around in/on their car?

Fritsche Some do. The ones that are on the Fire Dept. that have authorization to run a red light with a siren, they have. They all have one for when they arrive on scene because according to Wisconsin state statutes, the only way you can park outside of the codes is to have a 360 degree revolving red light on your vehicle. So they all have one.

Holdridge Does that also signal to the person involved that this is an official vehicle?

Kluck Yes, that plus it helps the ambulance or whoever to locate the site.

Holdridge Do they carry a badge or anything?

Kluck No.

Fritsche They have their uniforms on. It says Hull EMS on it. They also carry their Portage County ID cards.

Kluck They also have blood-borne pathogen protection. They need to meet the state DOT standards when on the road at night.

Fritsche Just as an F.Y.I., when you were looking at those reports, when there's a vehicle accident with injuries, most of the time they respond. The Fire Dept. for rescue and fire suppression and they respond EMS to care for the patient. So if you go back through there, a lot of the accident calls, you'll see my EMS people were there at the same time on the same day.

Holdridge On the 2009 Hull Fire Dept. report on the top it says structural fires, 11, then you have 6 in Hull, 5 out, 2 in Rosholt, 2 in Stevens Point, 1 in Dewey. So that means our group went to Dewey and Rosholt and Stevens Point?

Kluck A certain truck.

Holdridge These 6 in Hull, how many people from Dewey or from Stevens Point came to it, how many trucks?

Fritsche Point was here with the aerial for a chimney fire.

Holdridge So sometimes they do?

Kluck Yes. I would say on the garage fire, 3 house fires and 1 chimney fire I would say we had other departments come in.

Fritsche The one chimney fire, when one truck pulled up on the scene, neither of us were on the scene yet, but when the first truck pulled up, it was a 2-story structure and it had a roof sloped like this and they said, "We aren't going up there." They called him on the radio and said, "You'd better get the City out here with an aerial". We did and they came out and put the aerial up to the roof to get a safe access to the back of the chimney.

Wilz The purpose in doing this was to understand and get a baseline at least financially, what we're doing here and how it works. So this becomes the preparation document that we use to go out and survey other townships and see how they do it and compare.

Holdridge What's the next step David?

Wilz If you accept this report and we've got all your questions answered, we're going to start the survey process. Sometime next week I'll try to get a date with Mark and myself and show them the survey I put together with their help and I'm thinking about actually doing the survey by phone and having conversations. Calling people and asking if they would like to be part of it and would they like the results of what we find. They'll want to participate at that point. Then try to build a relationship and try to do it over the phone with the right people. One thing I learned by doing this with all their help, it's not a matter of filling the box. Depending upon how they answer, there's other questions you need to ask and you can't do that on a survey form but you can do that in a conversation.

Holdridge Are you going to target towns of our size?

Wilz Yes, and we're also going to get our neighbors from around here. But Mark has provided a list of villages and townships throughout the state that have populations similar to ours. A lot of them will be urban.

Holdridge How big is Grand Rapids?

Wilz That's a good size.

Holdridge Those ones would tend to have some of our challenges.

Wilz Those are some of my questions, like how many miles of roads do you have, how do you consider yourself, urban or rural, how do you look at yourself, do you have businesses, do you provide services? In the Town of Menasha where I grew up, half the town is commercial and they have services, sewer and all that stuff. And yet they probably would be similar in size to us but completely different.

Holdridge This is useful because towns never do this stuff. They never get any surveys. You never know what your neighbor is doing. So anything you do, you're breaking new ground.

Wilz Over the last few times we've gone to the Wisconsin Town's Association meetings, we grab at opportunities and even John has, before the meeting, asking questions. I want to know too, how many other things I put down, how active is your dept., how many volunteers do you have, how many active volunteers because you could have 30 people in your fire dept. but if there's only 4 guys that are active, you've got 4 guys.

c. Report on Metro Fire operations dated March 31, 2011.

Holdridge I read it before I came over here and I don't know what we're trying to do. It's not the political leadership. So you guys are trying to put this together. That becomes a problem if somebody leaves. It loses some momentum. If this idea has any legs, investigators ought to be political people so it's a mistake to have all political people do this. By political I mean elected officials. It may be a mistake to have the firemen try and do this. You do have a real self-interest. You generally would like to see this. Now the outcome may not be too appealing to you. As I think about this, if you had one in Point, in this area, somebody will probably need to be the chief. If you integrate it, somebody will need to run the show. You'll probably need some kind of multi-governmental board to oversee it. You'll need to look at equipment. What you've written here, you've talked about these savings but I'd like to know what is this going to do to those trucks you've got sitting down there?

Kluck I think you're operating on a different wave length. There won't be one specific chief. You won't lose control over the Town of Hull Fire Dept. We will remain the Town of Hull Fire Dept. The Metro—the political part would be the mayor, Jerry Walters or Paul Zdroik now I think it is. Nobody is giving up their status. Nobody is combining fire depts. That's not even close, has not even been talked about. This is about being able to provide fire departments with adequate man power; the quickest response possible to the Town of Hull, which may not be by our Fire Dept. If it's possible to work out a deal where people can save money like Plover and Whiting did in getting rid of some vehicles, hey, more power to you. I have no problem with that. Our main thing is the manpower. Monday morning, 9:00, I can't tell you I can put any more than 10 people on a house fire with vacations, holiday, work.

Holdridge How do you change this? You've got mutual aid now.

Kluck This is automatic. This is not mutual aid.

Holdridge Why can't mutual aid be automatic?

Fritsche That's what it is, that's the next level. That's what Metro is. What you were describing before about an overseeing, intergovernmental body, you were describing a fire district.

Kluck That's not what this is.

Holdridge Maybe it ought to be.

Fritsche That's what Rosholt has.

Kluck With the Town of Alban and the Town of Sharon, Village of Rosholt.

Holdridge Why wouldn't that make sense?

Kluck You'd lose some control over the Fire Dept. because you would sit on a board and be one sitting on a board with Plover, Whiting, and Stevens Point.

Holdridge There some questions in the past about what control we have. Despite what anybody says, the Fire Department was pretty much running their own operation until recently. Recently we've gotten far more involved in it. That's largely because of the budget and some insistence on budget items. The audit said we should have some involvement. Now we're getting much more involved than we've ever been. Does anybody disagree with that?

Pederson I don't disagree.

Holdridge So now we're getting more involved and the pennies are being pinched and I have to think, what is the advantage to the Town of Hull to go into any Metro or any system where the City is having a hard time finding a fire chief? I suspect because any chief that comes in here is going to look at a department that they've trimmed back. We have volunteers who make a stipend. I'm just trying to think, where does this thing go?

Wilz I guess the way I'm looking at it is forget that it's a fire department. Its' the concept of sharing services so you don't have to duplicate services and duplicate costs. Governments and organizations are going to need to do that to become productive. If you wrap your arms around the concept of, for example, Pete plows snow up near Dewey and they plow snow in Dewey and for a extra few bucks, Pete could plow all of Dewey and they could get rid of it, wouldn't that save everybody money. If you can understand that concept, then you'd say, let's at least investigate it and see how it might work. Like you said, it's bringing all the resources together so there are enough personnel. Nobody has enough personnel, but if you put them all in one group, you probably have enough or have a better chance of it.

Kluck Let me use an example of the Fritsch fire on Lakeview Drive. There's no doubt in my mind that we would have lost that house without Point, Plover and Whiting being there. We don't have the manpower.

Holdridge That's my point, you already have that. They come now.

Fritsche Let's say we were part of the Metro group. Whenever there is a call for a structure fire, you page the Metro page then Hull, Point, Whiting and Plover all get paged. The other departments all send 1 vehicle. Where Dave Wilz lives, the first truck that comes rolling in to his house will be from station #2 out of Stevens Point because he's only a stone throw away from it. Even if we had people sitting inside our fire station and they got called to his house, they're still going to beat us there just because we've got to go out Hwy. 66 all the way to the Interstate and up to Hwy. 10, get off, and back in on Country Club Drive. So there's a good possibility that Point will be there first. When he gets there, he's still in command. There is no "we are one department". Whoever's there first, sets up and starts the attack. We provide the

backup crews for them. There are areas where other departments will beat them to the fire. Fairview Village for example, there's a good likelihood that we would get there before the City does. We start the attack and they would be in there to support us. Right now, with NFPA codes and state codes from the Dept. of Commerce, I can't put anybody inside that house to fight a fire or look for somebody who didn't come out until I have an equal number of people on the outside of that house as a backup team. So to send 2 firefighters, you need to have 2 outside with a line charged waiting ready to go in case they have problems. If I don't do that and it flashes over and I burn those 2 firemen, I'm going to jail. So you've got 2 in and 2 out. So my ability to take and quickly get into something and start something is hampered because you've got waves of people coming in from our department and I might have people on scene with the first truck but I don't quite have enough. So now we sit around and we wait for the second truck to get there and start putting our team together. When you have 3 municipalities responding at the same time, that action starts quicker because you have the manpower on the scene. What they're looking at is how we stage these guys in case we have too much to begin with until we need them. The other part is once firefighters go into an interior structure, I need to have a rapid intervention team on the scene. That's 4 personnel. So I've got my 2 inside and my 2 outside and now I need 4 more to rescue the firefighters if the firefighters go down. Rapid intervention, that's the only thing they do. If there are residents to be rescued, the firefighters that are making the interior attack, going in and doing the search, they're the ones rescuing them. If something catastrophic happens and it goes down, the RIT team is only there for firefighter intervention. Now I need to have 8 people on the scene.

Kluck The incident commander, pump operator, drivers, it pretty much boils down to a manpower issue. The other thing is what are we able to provide to the citizens of Hull? Quicker response. Faster service. Lifesaving service. Joe Blow who lives in the Town of Hull doesn't care if it's a Town of Hull fireman, a Whiting fireman or a Plover fireman that pulls him out a burning house. If they get there quicker, by all means, why not do this for the residents?

Fritsche The way the ISO stuff is set up, if you have this automatic aid, not only do we get to count all of our people and equipment, we get to count the other departments' people and equipment and that should substantially improve our ISO rating which will reduce everybody's homeowner insurance.

Holdridge What do you do with all the equipment? Do you still need all those trucks down there?

Kluck In theory, no. But you need to understand that the City, Plover and Whiting work off of hydrants. We carry our water. Can we reduce, absolutely. I would say probably 1 vehicle for sure and when replacing vehicles, I don't think we would need to spend the same amount of money. You know what kind of shape the van is in. That thing is going to get somebody killed very soon. The problem we have with that is if we go to replace that, and I put this in a report, we're looking at probably \$150,000 to bring it up to where it needs to be. It's a 1979 so it's done it's time and served its purpose. If we go into Metro, we would be able to use the command center that's in Plover automatic response first out. Now we still need something to haul our people around, haul our fire hose or haul our generator. But rather than going for a \$150,000 new vehicle, we could buy a used ambulance for \$30,000 and make it work. And there's your savings there on one vehicle.

Pederson I have a concern. Say the other departments show up but our department has water trucks. City Fire Dept. is on hydrants so they don't have water trucks, so we're going to need to hang onto water trucks to serve any fire in the Town of Hull.

Kluck Pretty much. But we can reduce the number of trucks. We can reduce the fleet. Right now, we've got a 1963 tanker and a 1987 so those two trucks within the next 6 years will need to be replaced or when we run out of water, we just run of water.

Pederson How much do those 2 trucks hold?

Kluck 2,800 gallons between the 2. To give you an example, about 5 years ago we bought a Kenworth chassis that held 2,300 gallons of water. If we bought one of those, we could get rid of 2 trucks.

Pederson But we're 500 gallons short then.

Kluck I think we could live with that. Our automatic response with Metro, with Plover, Plover also covers the Town of Plover, our automatic response is going to be for a water truck out of them immediately. That's what we need from them.

Pederson We wouldn't abandon mutual aid with Dewey?

Kluck Absolutely not.

Amman Can you use a City hydrant if a City hydrant is close by, like it is near my house?

Kluck Absolutely. We are fully trained on it.

Holdridge You've got to pay for it though.

Kluck We pass it on to the homeowner who passes it on to their insurance.

Fritsche So does the City Fire Dept. The City Water Dept. charges the City Fire Dept. for use on every fire call as well.

Kluck To give you an idea, we used 30,000 gallons of water on the shed fire over on Willow Springs and it cost us \$45. That was where the lightning struck the shed up by Pioneer.

Matt S. About 40 acres south of Pioneer.

Wilz Dave, were you here when they presented Metro the first time?

Pederson Yes. Part of what I was concerned about originally was some financial obligations we were taking on with this kind of arrangement. I guess now, I don't really see us having additional financial obligations. In fact, it might reduce our own expenses.

Kluck Correct.

Wilz I remember how they opened that presentation and how they closed it with this same line, you get more for less. If it doesn't work that way, we can't be a part of it. We would get better service for less dollars and we've got to make certain it works out for where we are located. I'm not suggesting that we commit to this, but we can commit to letting their study happen so we can find those sorts of things out. I don't think we just say "we're in" without knowing we are getting more for less.

Holdridge I want to know what we are getting from this. What's it going to cost us? What do we save? What is the service? We are still considered an urban town which means we've got rural. Those other 3 including Park Ridge are urban communities. So there's a difference there. It sounds great. The argument is we're going to get better service. That's good. What is that going to cost us to get better service? What do we do with the building down there that has a lot of fire trucks? I get feedback on those things. Do they need all those fire trucks? They're trying to get their fire uniform on between the trucks. What if they got rid of one, could they dress safely? Then you've got to talk about does that change the whole nature of doing something to the fire station? It sounds great but I have a hard time when somebody says it's going to save us \$200,000. Well, I don't know.

Wilz My understanding from you and from Chief Kluck, Kontos and Zynda, was that they would do an exploratory investigation and they would see how this could be integrated community by community. It wasn't just a matter of saying, "yes we're in" and leaving all these unknowns. It was really to start a study to identify clearly the savings, what you could sell and what you had to purchase.

Fritsche A lot of the unknowns would come out of that.

Wilz That's my question. Is that still the process involved here without jumping off the cliff? John's afraid of jumping off the cliff and all of a sudden people will start dictating we've got to open the checkbook here and buy this and that and we don't want to lose control.

Holdridge Remember we were told one time that we should come up with \$125,000 for a training facility in Whiting. I'm reading about the dynamics of that. That's in deep trouble. Citizens don't want it. The guy that promoted it is no longer the president and the guy who's the fire chief is probably not going to be the fire chief. Because Dan's probably going to move up. So I'm saying these are nice ideas but what are we going to have when we get through?

Kluck We started this back in July. The Board has asked for a written report as to exactly what the benefits were. I sat down with Chief Kluck, Chief Zynda and Chief Kontos and put together that report which you have. Then we came back in February after Stevens Point got indoctrinated and we said we want to kick this up a notch. We're getting to the point where we'd like to be the next one in. We'd need to actually declare that if that's the route we're going to go. The Board said they wanted bullet points on specific things, which we gave you. I'm not sure what else to give you. What else do you want?

Wilz That wasn't my question. My question was what is the process for the next step?

Kluck The process for the next step would be to formally get a letter to the mayor of Stevens Point, the Village President of Plover, and the Village President of Whiting stating that the Town of Hull would like to begin the indoctrination process into Metro. Once that is done, they would come back to us and say we will begin that process on such and such a date at such and such a time and that process you understand could take as long as 2 years. There is an actual agreement; a Metro agreement that you all have copies of, that would need to be signed. That agreement says nothing about money having to be put out, or anything like that.

Holdridge I'd like to see the finished product as viewed by those people who are promoting this. What is the finish going to be? What is going to be the scope of the services? What services can we expect as a result of this? How much is it going to cost us? What does it do to

the equipment and facility? Here's the possible outcome. What you're talking about Mark is process. I'm saying somebody should sit down and think about this and determine what the big picture is. Are we going to have the urban communities plus Hull involved in this? What will be the various roles as you see it? What's is it going to do to the real crucial issue of staffing? That's a big one because you guys are having a tough time getting volunteers. People are getting older, etc. That's probably happening with others too.

Kluck It is.

Holdridge Then this whole question of this equipment issue. I still don't understand why we need so many trucks and we started looking at these incidents that you go to. Why do we need all these vehicles? Now we obviously need water trucks because we don't have hydrants and you need something to get the firefighters to the incident. I'm trying to figure out the big picture here rather than going through a process that keeps growing and we're dragged into something. I say dragged in but maybe it's not that.

Kluck The big picture on the fire trucks down there is we have 5 fire trucks that carry water. The other 3 fire trucks carry personnel and one is a rescue vehicle, the van. A utility type vehicle. We're saying we can give up a truck by getting one truck to replace two and on the other truck, which is the van, rather than having to spend \$150,000 to replace the thing, we can get by with spending \$30,000 on a used ambulance and do the job that we need to do.

Holdridge We have a volunteer fire dept. and the City has a paid fire dept. How do you integrate those 2 groups? Plover has a paid chief with a paid-on call. How do all these things get integrated?

Kluck We've been integrated with the City of Stevens Point Fire Dept. for 15 years. They have areas that don't have fire hydrants. A good example is Oxbow off of Brilowski Road. We have areas that we go in and help them. Quite often they come in and help us with the ladder truck, especially with chimney fires. We have worked with those guys annually many times over the years.

Holdridge It goes back to we're already doing this stuff. What are we going to change that's going to substantially improve this thing by being in the Metro?

Matt S. Basically it boils down to your firefighter safety. The guys out there on the front line busting their backs for you guys providing the service for the people. If you can't provide us with a safe working environment, start killing firemen, where have you gained anything?

Kluck We have fires where I won't risk them. I don't care who's in there. I'm not putting firefighters in there until I have that backup crew.

Wilz To respond to that, when they did the Metro presentation, they went over that and how difficult it is for all communities to have enough fire fighters, to respond safely and we understand that. I'm listening to the debate here and it still gets back to I know where you're coming from. You can't predict what it's going to look like. They've got to go through the process to find out the result. But I'm saying, what is the process? Is there someone there we can talk to so we understand that we're not giving up control here? We've got to become a player and if it doesn't work out for us, then we're not in.

Kluck I can propose this: would we have time in either meeting in May to bring in those other fire chiefs and lay this all out on the line for you again? What I would ask though, is for you to read the agreement you all have, the updated one, because that pretty much spells it out exactly how the process works and how it will all work out in the end. At some point, somebody from the Town of Hull Fire Dept. would need to sit down with the other fire chiefs or whoever their designees are and say, we have a structure fire in the Town of Hull, what do you want from us automatically? What do you want coming right at that first phase? We would say we want something out of Plover, engine out of Point and I don't even know as I haven't thought this over, something like manpower out of Whiting. They would say, okay on a structure fire, what would you provide us? We'd say, we have availability because of our manpower issue to give you one engine, 4 firefighters and that may be all they need because they're going to get 4 out of Whiting, Plover and Point each. But that's a process we can't get into until the Board would decide to move forward on it.

Pederson So you would draw up different scenarios on what you would need to respond to.

Kluck You draw up a rescue from the structure fire, chimney fire, carbon monoxide call, just the main or big ticket issues, wild land grass fires.

Holdridge This is how the Metro system including Hull would respond?

Kluck Correct. It's put down on paper. How many people you'd be sending, exactly what trucks you're sending. On a wildfire, you want a brush truck.

Holdridge Isn't that going back to what I suggested 15 minutes ago? We need to know a scheme of what's going to happen.

Matt S. They won't do it unless you've committed to them. They're not going to waste hours and hours. It's not a small process to develop.

Wilz I understand that it takes a lot of commitment on everybody's part to see if it's going to work. And they want to know that you're committed up front but you've got to understand where we're coming from. Somebody comes in and says, we're going to give you more for less. We're saying, prove it. That sounds great and I want to believe it but what if we don't get it?

Matt S. I understand what you're saying. You need to watch your pennies.

Wilz It's not just that. If you jump in and they say, you've got to trust us and we go down and we start making decisions and we get rid of trucks and selling this and all of a sudden it's done and then we find out we're not getting more for less, we're getting less for more and now we just sold a whole bunch of trucks, now what do we do? So I guess I want to talk philosophy with the people that are doing this. Hold my hand on this because in theory, who wouldn't want to be a part of something where people would be safer and get better service for less money. Of course you'd want to do that.

Holdridge Is it an all win-win situation?

Kluck In my opinion it's all win-win for the Town of Hull, either way you look at it. There is no cost.

Syens If we go into this agreement and we sign it, is there an escape clause? If at some point in this process, it doesn't work out? I read it Mark and I don't remember.

Kluck I would think if there isn't, I wouldn't have a problem putting that in there, an escape clause, I think we should. I bet there is. There may be a certain period of time notice to give everybody time to react. I guess I've been involved in it for 2 ½ years and I've seen it. We actually meet quarterly with the other departments that are in the Metro and actually sit down and talk to them and discuss it and all our officers and Matt's been there. We've been to their area and they've been to our area. Maybe my explanations aren't right but it isn't going to cost us a penny. If you need somebody else to tell you that, let me bring them in. I'd be more than happy to. And they'll be more than happy to come in to do this. In fact they were saying do we need them here tonight and I was saying no, we don't, we're not at that point yet.

Wilz Maybe we need to do that again.

Kluck It's been 2 years since you've seen the presentation.

Wilz They now have another department in the fold so things may have changed.

Fritsche They've expanded from the point since the first time they were here to talk to us.

Wilz That makes sense because Stevens Point entered between us and them.

Fritsche As far as how they integrate with the rural environments, they've already integrated as Mark has said. Those rapid intervention calls, we're the ones providing rapid intervention any Metro calls. We're already on their list.

Holdridge Any calls these firemen are called out with, we have to go to?

Kluck No, only structure fires that are actually what you call a working fire. Where there is flame and smoke.

Holdridge Not an automobile fire?

Matt S. Our tones may go off for it but if it's on Hwy. B, we're not going to send a truck all the way down to Hwy. B That's all part of that matrix of response that Mark was talking about.

Kluck We want to get the biggest bang for our buck coming out of those people. If you look at the houses over at Bukolt Ave., Point will get an engine there long before we do. They carry a minimum of 500 gallon on their truck. Even 500 gallons, it holds it from expanding. That's exactly what they did out by Mark's house on Second Street by Evergreen Villa.

Fritsche That was Lassa's house out by the corner of Florence and North Second.

Kluck That was a fluke. That was a dispatch error. Point should not even have gone. They did. They were dispatched. They got on the scene first. We had them go right through the front door, spray that area and hold it back. We were about a minute and a half behind with our first engine. We had to put down a dump tank, we had to pull lines, etc. They're holding that back. What does that do for the homeowner? It saves a whole lot of property, clothing and that type of thing.

Holdridge You say that the City has 500 gallons in their trucks?

Kluck Some of their trucks have 500 gallons. Some are 250.

Fritsche They don't need to carry boatloads of water. They have hydrants. That is one of the differences you'll see between an urban engine and a rural engine. We carry a lot more water in our trucks than they do because it'll be a long time before we see....

Holdridge It's the only way you get the water.

Wilz If getting them in here again to represent and to clarify, because there's some new members here that didn't see it the first time, if that's going to get us past debate stage, I'm suggesting we do that.

Kluck I think the questions you're asking are legitimate and need to be asked.

Wilz There's been resistance for a variety of reasons, in Whiting, the training facility. I think he figured it out. It can't just be fire dept. or political, it's got to be both because when things change or the dynamics change, it'll all implode.

Kluck Let me suggest this: by all means I think you should call the mayor and Dan Schlutter, Jerry Walters and ask him how this has gone from their standpoint, from a political standpoint. *(end of tape side)*

Wilz ...if that's the answer

Mel B. I would make the suggestion that we have the presentation not on a regular meeting night. It could take some time.

Kluck I think their PowerPoint presentation took a half hour or 45 minutes last time then you had a lot of questions.

Mel B. If you have it on the regular agenda, people are waiting for their other stuff to be done.

Pederson These NFPA standards, are those statutory standards that we need to meet or is that recommended standards?

Kluck NFPA is National Fire Protection Agency. They're not statutory.

Pederson Is it a quasi-government agency or is it an actual government agency?

Kluck They set policy for all the fire departments on how to operate safely across the nation. They're the ones that came up with smoke detectors in every house, CO₂ detectors in every house. If your building is a certain size, it must be sprinklered. That is the agency that controls all that stuff.

Pederson If we don't meet those standards.....

Matt S. As long as nobody gets hurt, nothing will happen. As long as you don't kill somebody or hurt somebody, it doesn't matter.

Holdridge How do you know that, Matt?

Matt S. Because that's how it operates right now.

Fritsche When you read the articles that charge the fire chief with negligence on a fire scene because 2 firefighters died, those are the standards they're charging him against and those are the ones that are finding him guilty against.

Holdridge Frankly Mark, I hear this liability stuff tossed out all over. We had the question of what's the liability of a credit card and now we know it's \$50. These are individual situations that probably depend upon state law, in a lot of cases. There may be gross negligence.

Fritsche The Department of Commerce is the overseer of the fire departments in the State of Wisconsin and there are statutes that we need to follow and a lot of those are adopted from NFPA. So yes, some are statutory and some are not.

Wilz I'm going to suggest we set a date to re-kick this thing. Bring in the parties again, ask them if they'll do that so we can have all our questions answered. Because it seems like we're not getting anywhere here tonight. You want to get a hold of some of those folks and get back to us with some possible dates?

Kluck Sure, I can do that. I can give that to Barb and she can get it on the schedule.

Holdridge I suggest you stay away from Thursdays. We've got some committee's we're going to kick off then. Some Tuesdays would work. But Planning Commission meets on Tuesday.

Syens The 3rd Tuesday of the month doesn't work for me.

Kluck Even if we need to go into June, I'll get them two months worth of dates to work with.

Holdridge Tell them when they come that they should have specifics. How does this process work? What are the steps to get to some kind of decision making? I think we need specifics and cost. How is this going to positively affect the Town of Hull? How do you reconcile the issue of urban and rural? A paid dept. with volunteer departments? Those questions should be answered instead of just a presentation like everything is great. Maybe it is great but we're in a stage where we don't have much money and we don't know what or how we're going to operate this thing.

Pederson Right now when you respond to a fire in another municipality, you don't clock your time against their department or they don't clock time against ours?

Kluck Correct.

Pederson They respond.

Holdridge There's no trade off.

Kluck The only trade off is manpower back and forth.

Wilz That's the benefit, and potentially equipment (*sharing*).

d. Report of Fire Dept. building information dated April 4, 2011 detailing conditions at the Fire Dept. structure.

Holdridge I did talk with our engineer and what I requested was that he identify somebody who has expertise and knowledge on septic systems. Somebody that's worked in the field. We'd have to pay him and then have him come in and give us an evaluation on what the septic situation is there. When I get this guy and ask him the cost, I'll probably call you two guys and confirm that. We'll find out what we've got there and then we can decide what our options are. Because that has got to be looked at.

Kluck Absolutely.

Mel B. That was top on my list. I agree.

Holdridge Somebody from either Amherst or Rosholt. Once we know that, then we'll know more than we used to know. That it's in bad shape. You want to mention anything else about the structure Mark?

Kluck I appreciate you coming down and taking a tour through that place. We've got a lot of safety issues down there, people that have almost been run over. I didn't have Mr. Hoffman there whos fire coat was torn as an engine was driving out.

Holdridge Let's just say we know we've got a problem.

Pederson We've got to look for ways to mitigate them.

Holdridge Mitigate and resolve some of those issues. We'll start with that septic.

2. Walkush Road condition due to flooding and request for repair.

Kaminski If I can repair it when we've got time. We had 3 washouts out there from our last flooding. Last Thursday I dropped in one load of riprap. The guy that lives out there, Grubba, so he could drive in and out of there. But I would like to get permission from you that when I get time, I'll go out there and build it back up to how it was last fall.

Holdridge What happens this fall if we get a lot of rain and it washes out?

Pederson Tom Witt called me and I had a couple of conversations with him about it. I think Nick called me first and then I called.....he had some people, engineers go down there and look at the situation. Nick had mentioned putting in additional culverts. I talked to him about that and he got back to me today. He said they'd be willing to put in 2 more, 30" concrete pipe. 24"-30' feet, whatever is needed there.

Pete K. They would actually pay for that?

Pederson Yes. If the existing one can be used....

Pete K. The existing one can be re-used but we need to reset it because the frost pushed it up.

Mel B. A sewer pipe is what it is.

Pederson They want to hire the work to be done.

Pete K. That's okay.

Pederson They will pay for it. They'll use County Concrete and Hazley out of Wausau.

Holdridge Tom Witt is our guy on the Pipe.

Pederson Yes, same guy. He's involved with this kind of stuff. He would put down some fabric around the culvert so it wouldn't wash out and then riprap on top of that. I also discussed with him putting down granite or road mat and he is kind of in favor of the 3/4" - 1 1/4" road mat with the fines in it because when it gets driven down, it packs tighter and it won't wash as easily as the granite which washes out. I tend to agree with him. That's the part they would do and they would cover the cost of materials and installation of it. They would rough grade it back to where it was and they would ask that we do the finished grading. He also asked the Town to take care of getting the DNR permits to do the repairs because if they put in riprap and stuff to hold the sides, the DNR might have a problem with that.

Mel B. He's from Consolidated? Yes, we can get a hold of Consolidated and the DNR.

Holdridge Is this something we ought to have Glodowski do? This permit business?

Pete K. He's always done them in the past.

Pederson Just ask him. He has the contacts and knows the process.

Holdridge They would pay for the engineering and pay to put the culverts in and the material.

Wilz They ask us to get the permits and pay for the cost.

Pederson Theoretically their on the hook for that too because of that court decision they're obligated to maintain that road.

Mel B. They're obligated to maintain Walkush Road?

Pederson Yes. 1934 supreme court, State of Wisconsin.

Pete K. Whatever maintenance I do on that road, I send them a bill once a year.

Holdridge That changes the complexion a little bit.

Pederson He said that the culverts will help as long as there isn't a flood that crosses....

Mel B. When we looked at it last week, we knew there needed to be more culverts there. It's not a promise that it's going to be okay.

Pederson If you get flooding like we've had,

Pete K. If we were to even stick in one culvert, the last time now, it flooded out 3 areas, if we put in one culvert maybe next time it'll only flood 2 areas. If they want to put in 2, let's put in 2 by all means.

Holdridge Let's let the engineers decide.

Pederson But he was suggesting the road mat would probably also promote the grass to grow on the roadside to hold it a little better too. Longer range it might help stabilize the road. I was talking with Mike and he said the Pipe was within 6" of what it was last spring or last fall when it flooded. He asked for approval to go ahead with this and he'd take care of it.

Syens moved to approve the above recommended action. Seconded by Wilz.

Holdridge So we'll get a hold of Glodowski, first of all he has to get the permit, and he'll probably be in contact with the engineers from Consolidated, make sure we've got the right site.

Pederson Tom knew it would probably take 2 or 3 weeks just to get the permit. And for the road to dry out too.

Holdridge We're going to get more snow or rain? All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. *Motion carries.*

Holdridge Before we adjourn, I would suggest that in the fall we had some issues with culverts and roads, now we have some issues and I think we ought to have Pete and Melvin identify the areas. Where do we have a problem? List that and figure out how we're going to do that. One of the areas is clearly along where Rich Zurawski, Joe Studinski live, and Ted Stoltz was in today, we've got to look at that drainage.

Mel B. I agree.

Holdridge Do you guys still have the capability of blowing out those pipes?

Kluck We can push water through them but how long are the pipes?

Pete K. One is 150' long. One is 75'.... one is 200'

Kluck I can't shoot water 150' through a pipe that big, it's not going to work. We had talked about it the meeting before, getting a funnel type thing where we would take a tanker with 2,300 gallons of water and open it up and let that water push through there.

Mel B. If we could get a hold of you Thursday or Friday, either Pete or myself will take you out there and show you the footage and what we're talking about. Early next week? Like Monday?

Holdridge The feedback that I'm getting back is that Max Rutta used to do it. They say why should you guys have to go out and whatever you estimate....

Pete K. I got a \$630 estimate.

Holdridge So I think it would be in the Fire Depts.' interest to make a real effort there. If it doesn't work, then we've got to go out there.

Mel B. On Monday? What time?

Kluck How about 4:00?

Pete K. You can take them but we need to get it blown out as soon as possible.

Mel B. Definitely on Monday, the 25th at 4:00 then by Tuesday I can get to Pete and get something rolling here to see what we can get going.

Holdridge We need to look at those areas and see what happens this fall and what happens next spring.

Pederson We engineer something different. We're not going to handle the big floods.

Mel B. As long as our ditches and culverts are working, we need to make sure our equipment is working.

Pete K. There are a few ditches I'd like to clean out this year to get the water moving quicker.

Holdridge The president of Mid-State Technical College will be here on May 2nd. I gave you guys a memo and what I'd like you to do is to read over those questions. I'm going to be up front with them and tell her what questions we're going to ask. We just want to know some answers. So as you read those, if you think of some other questions, get back to me and I'll send her a confirmation letter.

Pederson Did we include the idea of fire training?

Holdridge Yes, I think that's on there. Mark, did you say that Mid-State helped finance a training facility in Marshfield and Rapids?

Kluck Yes, they built the one in Rapids at their Mid-State Technical College campus. The Marshfield one, I'd need to double check but I think it's on that campus also. I want to thank Pete and Barb for keeping us up-to-date on the road closures. That helped out a lot. The Sheriff's Dept. appreciated it. Sandy Curtis appreciated it. So they could get that stuff published. Then one last question, with your vote tonight on the capital outlay, are those projects on hold? Officially on hold?

Holdridge Yes.

Kluck Okay, I know the guy on Wilshire with the pond had wondered if that had been approved.

Holdridge Didn't you send me a lease or something?

Kluck I did.

Holdridge I think Dave raised a good question last time. If we're going to do some work with this guy, we'll need to have a lease or....

Kluck I understand. I just wanted to be able to tell him.

Pederson We're building him a pond with government money so we need to have something in it for us.

Holdridge That's one of those case by case situations. You guys make the argument that we need to have that and we work out the lease thing.....I'm going to send the Board a copy of what Konkol drew up on Firkus Road. We have a regular development agreement there and I'll put that in the mail to you. Glodowski has forwarded a memo in which he has the commitment of those 4 parties for the cul-de-sac, but one of the deals here is we have a guy up there who has a lawyer and so what I'm going to suggest, and I'll do it in that memo, is we have an executive session after our meeting on the 2nd and talk about Firkus and talk about the cul-de-sac and potential suits. I'm not so sure we're going to do anything with a cul-de-sac there if we've got one of the participants who wants to sue us. We've said, they give up a little bit of the land and we would put the cul-de-sac in. Now our finances have changed. Melvin's got on May 5th they're going to have a session. Two, one for beginners and one for old timers and it's at the Holiday Inn and I would say (*he handed out form*) anybody who wants to go to that, get a hold of Barb. It's in Stevens Point. It would be a good refresher.

Amman A session on what?

Holdridge For elected officials put on by the Wisconsin Town's Association.

3. **Adjournment.** *Motion made to adjourn by Dave Wilz, seconded by Dave Pederson.
Motion passed and meeting closed at 9:20 p.m.*

Respectively submitted,

Patty Amman
Hull Recording Secretary