

Energy Subcommittee Minutes, Brown County
Thursday, September 30, 2021, 5:30 PM
Room 200 305 Walnut St, Green Bay

Present: Chair Supervisor Suennen, Vice-Chair Supervisor Friberg, Jenny Brinker, Robert Kosky,
Nathan Carlson, Kyle Zimonick

Also attending; Public works Director, Paul Fontecchio

1. Call to Order by Chair Suennen
2. Approve/Modify Agenda
 - a. Motion by Friberg to Approve, Second by Zimonick
 - b. Motion unanimously carried
3. Motion to Approve/Modify Minutes of August 26, 2021 meeting
 - a. Motion to Approve by Friberg, Second by Kosky
 - b. Motion unanimously carried
4. Comments from the Public
No Public present
5. Welcome/Introduction of Members
 - a. First meeting for Rob Kosky, experience in Nuclear and Natural Gas
 - b. All members gave a brief introduction
6. Introduction and Update from Director of Public Works
 - a. Director Paul Fontecchio introduction – Civil Engineer for 30+ years
 - b. Overview of Public Works responsibilities:
 - I. County Building Maintenance
 - II. Housecleaning
 - III. Large Capital Projects – HVAC, Boiler, Building construction, Highway projects
 - IV. Highway maintenance and snow/ice removal
 - c. Airport, Zoo, Solid Waste, Port & Resource are outside of Facilities domain
7. Discussion with Paul Fontecchio:
 - a. Majority of county vehicles are diesel
 - b. Suennen asked what are some recent projects Public Works has been involved or will be involved in? Director state the
 - I. Court House will need to be modified for secure entry points
 - II. Old jail will need to be demolished
 - III. Construction of new jail pod almost complete
 - IV. Coroner's office almost complete
 - V. Fairground's will needs new buildings
 - c. Kosky asked about the functionality of Sherriff's Office solar panels.
Fontecchio stated that he has parts to fix the solar panels, but lacks the time/manpower to replace micoinverters.
 - d. Suennen asked about conversion of Diesel fleet to CNG (compressed natural gas)
Fontecchio replied this was looked at in the past, but due to a variety of factors; inadequate space in mechanic bay, current mechanics not specialized in CNG engines, they never reached a cost/benefit analysis.
 - e. Friberg asked about energy loss from Mechanic Bay. Is it heated?

- Fontecchio replied, yes, the Mechanic Bay is heated and there is a massive amount of energy loss due to
- lack of space and
 - multiple vehicles having to be moved in and out to reach other equipment.
 - would like to have a new Mechanic Bay constructed (possibly consolidate from 4 to 2 locations)
- f. Suennen asked about the county owned asphalt plant.
Fontecchio replied, large revenue savings have been realized by constructing the county's own asphalt plant. No longer have to pay market rates (\$10/ton less than private sector). Can change the mix of asphalt to suit various projects.
- g. Suennen asked about recent energy upgrades to county facilities.
Fontecchio replied,
- I. high efficiency LED lighting retrofit has been going on over the past 1.5 years.
 - II. Replacement of old lighting is on an incremental basis as it would be too expensive to replace everything at once.
- h. Carlson asked are County facilities utilizing Focus on Energy rebates?
Fontecchio replied, Yes
- i. Brinker asked about current building controls (Smart thermostats, etc)
Fontecchio replied,
- Building controls are so old that the parts aren't readily available from manufacturers and have to be sourced from Ebay.
 - Various improvements to existing fleet like towed blades/plows for snow removal have the added benefit of reducing the amount of trucks needed to complete snow removal and reduced man hours.
- j. Friberg asked what on the Public Works side can be upgraded or replaced to improve energy efficiency.
Fontecchio replied,
- Replacing old buildings would be the biggest area for improvement.
 - Utilize energy consultants/audits to identify inefficiencies in current buildings.
- k. Frigerg asked how much work is done in conjunction with the State of Wisconsin.
Fontecchio relied,
- 40% State,
 - 40% County maintenance,
 - 20% Capital Improvements
8. Discussion among committee
- a. Friberg stated
- I. With the objective of the subcommittee being to identify areas of improvement to present to PD&T,
 - II. the mechanic bay is a large source of inefficiency and should be considered for future projects by this committee.
 - III. Meeting with other department heads should help us identify other projects and inefficiencies to address.
- b. Suennen stated
- I. the County will first need to address projects of greatest need (i.e. New jail pod), before moving on to new projects.
 - II. The highway department is very inefficient.
 - III. Sophie Beaumont building is very inefficient.

- IV. With the sales tax ending in 2023, it will be difficult to start new projects unless the sales tax is renewed.
 - c. Brinker stated, design of new buildings will need to be focused around energy efficiency.
 - d. Zimonick stated, it is usually cheaper to build new buildings than retrofit old ones.
 - e. Carlson stated, energy assessments/audits should be done on inefficient buildings. Energy savings and utilizing rebates should allow for a relatively quick payback period on initial investment.
 - f. Brinker stated, has the County considered working/coordinating with the City of Green Bay? They have their own energy goals and is working with Johnson Controls.
 - g. Suennen stated, providing PD&T/County Board with a rough cost and ROI of proposed projects will help move ideas along. County Board is very finance oriented.
 - h. Brinker stated, Savings from improvements can be used to fund future projects
 - i. Suennen stated, Something to keep in mind is that since we are working as a governmental entity, some tax rebates may be unavailable.
9. Discussion about Energy Data

Suennen stated, Energy data is coming in from providers/utilities and should have most/all of the data within a few weeks.
10. Discussion re: Purpose, Goals and Objectives of Subcommittees
 - a. RS - Financials will be key in convincing the board of future projects.
 - b. Zimonick stated, Financing will be an important tool that the County can utilize.
 - c. Suennen stated, Homework assignment for all committee members:

Create list of ideas for future projects and discussion. All ideas are welcome.
 - d. Friberg asked, Can the natural gas production from the new landfill be sent directly to county facilities (i.e. asphalt plant)

Suennen replied, Landfill is currently connected to the natural gas system, metered.
 - e. Brinker asked, What is the cost that it is being purchased at by the utility?

Zimonick replied, Depends on the contract, but it should be near market rate.
Contract should be looked at for prices.
11. Such other matters as authorized by law

Suennen, Gave overview of walking quorum and how to avoid.
12. Discussion re: Future Agenda Items, Dates and Times

Next meeting set for Oct 28th at 5:45pm
13. Adjourn , motion at 7:05 PM

Motion by Friberg, Second by Brinker
Motion passed unanimously