

**Chippewa County
Highway Committee
Regular Meeting
February 25, 2026
Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 302
10:00 AM**

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

2. Roll Call

Members Present:
James Flater, Peter Gehring, Matthew Peterson, Joseph Roshell, George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Members Absent:
None
Others Present:
Chris Elstran, Shane Birtzer, Fred Anderson, Joe Gutowski, Marla Prissel, Nicole Bitzan, Charlie Parkhurst, Paul Krumenauer, Traci Bremness, Leah Simington

3. Members of the Public Wishing to Be Heard

(Comments will be limited to 5 minutes per speaker.)

4. Consent Agenda

(Unless separation of an item is requested, all items will be adopted under one motion.)

Motion:	Approved
Result:	Passed (5 - 0)
Mover:	Matthew Peterson
Second:	Joseph Roshell
Ayes:	James Flater, Peter Gehring, Matthew Peterson, Joseph Roshell, George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

1. Approve the Agenda
2. Approve the Minutes - January 28, 2026
3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - March 25, 2026 10:00 AM

5. Reports

1. Highway Commissioner Report — Chris Elstran

A. Dashboard Review

Highway Commissioner Elstran reviewed the Highway Department dashboard.

B. Financial Reports

Elstran gave reports on highway funds, highway construction, bridge construction, and county aid bridges.

C. Highway Department Spring Safety Day

Elstran reminded the committee of the Highway Department's upcoming annual Spring Safety Day.

2. Spring Weight Restrictions — Chris Elstran

Elstran noted that spring weight restrictions are coming up, though an exact start date is not yet known.

3. Sustainable Funding Presentation — Chris Elstran

Elstran presented updated information on Sustainable Highway Funding, emphasizing rising expenses and the need for new revenue sources. The committee also reviewed potential benefits and concerns related to a vehicle registration fee. After discussion, the Committee agreed to spend the next month reviewing available options and will discuss the matter again at the next meeting.

6. Business Items

1. 2027–2031 Highway Department Capital Improvement Plan Request — Chris Elstran

Elstran reviewed the 5-year capital improvement plan for the Highway Department. Elstran presented his recommended rankings, but stated the committee could change the ratings. Elstran's recommended ranking Highway and Bridge construction first, Machinery second, Buildings and Grounds third and Non-Highway Fleet fourth. Peterson made a motion to approve the CIP with presented rankings. Gehring seconded.

Motion:	Approved
Result:	(5 - 0)
Mover:	Matthew Peterson
Second:	Peter Gehring
Ayes:	James Flater, Peter Gehring, Matthew Peterson, Joseph Roshell, George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

2. Resolution to Adopt the Chippewa County Safety Action Plan — Fred Anderson

Project Manager Anderson and Nicole Bitzan from SRF Consulting reviewed a presentation outlining the steps taken to develop the Chippewa County Safety Action Plan. Anderson also highlighted a potential safety improvement on CTH S near the Fest Grounds. Supervisor Peterson made a motion to forward the Chippewa County Safety Action Plan to the County Board. Supervisor Flater seconded the motion.

This item was reviewed by the committee and will be forwarded to the County Board for review at the March 10, 2026 meeting.

Motion:	Forwarded to the County Board
Result:	(5 - 0)
Mover:	Matthew Peterson
Second:	James Flater
Ayes:	James Flater, Peter Gehring, Matthew Peterson, Joseph Roshell, George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

7. Agenda Items for Future Consideration

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at: 12:22 PM

Result:	(5 - 0)
Mover:	George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Second:	Joseph Roshell
Ayes:	James Flater, Peter Gehring, Matthew Peterson, Joseph Roshell, George Rohmeyer, Jr.
Absent:	None