

Public Works Update

December 4, 2024

1:03 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Becky Butler, Geoff Soderquist, Wes Anderson, Josh Metcalf

Guest(s):

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

Geoff Soderquist provided updates on Public Works hiring and projects:

Recently filled three positions

Completed construction projects in 2024

- Graf Road culvert replacement
- Logan Hill Road
- Shorey Road Bank stabilization
- Lucas Creek
- Centralia Alpha Phase I
- North Hamilton culvert
- Haywire Road

Commissioner Swope, Ryan Barrett and Becky Butler left around 2 p.m.

New revenue through levy rate plus a portion of the banked capacity.

Upcoming maintenance/construction project status update

Current/Upcoming grant pursuits

Current challenges

- Filling vacant positions: making progress but will continue to be a challenge
- New/inexperienced staff internally
- New/inexperienced staff at regulatory and granting agencies
- Revenue
- Consultant vs County costs Geoff outlined the costs associated with serving as the pass-through for area entities' Community Development Block Grants, etc., especially for entities that don't support county roads. He noted that those projects will cut into work the department can tackle.
- Staff morale

- Contractor Claims

Expectation for communications and planning efforts in the future

Josh Metcalf and Wes Anderson left at 2:22 p.m.

Geoff said he will begin providing a quarterly newsletter of sorts to outline Public Works's projects.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.