



Menominee County Highway Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRAVE ISLAND BRIDGE REPAIRS

KESHENA, Wis. – At a special Town Board meeting held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018, the Town Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution that (1) declared the damage to the Brave Island (a/k/a “Hump Back”) Bridge to be an emergency; (2) authorized repairs without advertising or competitively soliciting for proposals; and (3) authorized \$80,000 in appropriations for the repairs. The Town Board also met with representatives of Lunda Construction Company, a bridge construction company based out of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, to discuss repairs needed to the bridge. On Thursday, January 25th, a contract was entered into with Lunda to conduct the repairs, namely, the removal and replacement of the two damaged timber beams supporting the bridge deck on the west side of the bridge.

Lunda promptly ordered the beams on January 25th. The beams will take four weeks to manufacture and approximately five to seven days for Lunda to install. The contract requires all work to be completed by March 31, 2018, but the work should be completed in advance of that date. The work will result in complete yet brief closure of the bridge at times. This may result in minor inconveniences to Brave Island residents. In the event of a law enforcement, fire, or medical emergency, however, the one-lane safe for traffic can be quickly re-opened. Additional details concerning the actual start and end of construction, planned closures, and other project details will be communicated in advance to Brave Island residents once that schedule is finalized.

As was previously reported, a post-damage inspection was performed by bridge engineers. The inspection found that traffic can continue to safely cross the bridge on the east (north-bound) lane. The posted weight limit of 45 tons remains in effect on the east lane. Additional details concerning the bridge damage, repairs, and inspection findings can be obtained by contacting Jeremy C. Weso, Menominee County Highway Commissioner, at 715-799-3369.

