I AM A LEADER (2018)
COMMUNICATING WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS GLEANED FROM KATHLEEN JONES’S, BURLEIGH COUNTY COMMISSIONER, INFORMATION SHARING SESSION WITH THE PILOT LEADERSHIP CLASS IN NOVEMBER OF 2018.
HOW TO BRIEF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS...

Be brief.
State the facts.

Be prepared for lots of questions from the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THEY ARE TRYING TO UNDERSTAND.
WHEN TO BRIEF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS...

When you have a new situation
Keep them involved
Keep them informed
HOW TO HANDLE COUNTY COMMISSIONER CHANGES...

Contact county commissioner(s)
Introduce yourself
Ask for advice or thoughts
Invite them to travel on the road, in a blade, snowplow, etc
Encourage a ride along
HOW TO HANDLE MEDIA INQUIRIES...

Smile at media when responding
If necessary, put in touch with the right person
SAFETY CONCERNS...

Safety is first and foremost
Remember to work with law enforcement
WHO IS THE BOSS?...

Road supervisor, engineer
If you get a call that you can’t or shouldn’t answer – get them in touch with the person that can help them
Remember to use humor
LEARNING...

Continuous learning – never stop
Continuous improvement
TEAM BUILDING...

Elected and staff need to work together
Know and work with your counterparts across the state.
SUCCESS STORIES...

Failures are the bigger success stories
Take things that are weaknesses and improve upon them
OTHER THOUGHTS...

Positive attitude
Be yourself, be positive
Public calls – address problem immediately
Let public know what is going on!
Emergency – keep all critical entities informed
LAST COMMENT…REMEMBER, “LIFE IS FULL OF STRESSORS — KEEP SMILING.”