

CARTER COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 4, 2016 MEETING

The roll call found all committee members present

The current agenda was approved while the meeting of March 7 were deferred due to a change made to correct an error caught by Commissioner Von Cannon and to changes pointed out after the March 21 Commission meeting by Commissioner Ward. Committee members are encouraged to bring the minutes from their packets to the following committee meeting for final approval.

The Slemp Lane/Country Acres has been "taken care of" according to the Chairman. Commissioner Von Cannon pointed out that this was not the case since we as a committee had via a motion by Commissioner Dietz requested that County Attorney Josh Hardin research the legality of the proposed no right turn signage during restricted hours at the back exit of Happy Valley High School and whether the City of Elizabethton or Carter County would be responsible for placing the signage. The placement responsibility would be determined by whether the proposed sign location is in the city or the county. County Attorney Josh Hardin indicated that traffic can not be restricted. Attorney Hardin will draft a letter to the residents of Country Acres Drive with his findings.

Doug Combs request: County Attorney Hardin will handle, by executing a Quitclaim deed for the two property owners on a driveway off Cedar Street. The driveway is mistakenly shown as county property.

Tester property drainage problem- Taylor Ave. and Hartley Road-Superintendent Colbaugh discussed the Tysinger, Hampton, and Partners report developed for the highway committee several years ago but never acted upon by the former superintendent. The cost to implement the TH&P report would be several thousand dollars. Commissioner Larry Miller objected to spending a large sum to correct a problem for one family when more productive projects needed attention. Commissioner Von Cannon suggested one more look at reducing the water volume flowing across Taylor Ave. to the property facing Hartley Road by ditching both sides of Cunningham street. Superintendent Colbaugh will report on the findings during the May meeting.

Water drainage issues-Steve Baileys tourist cabins-Blevins Road-This problem has been on and off for nearly 7 years. The minutes of September 24, 2009, a year before any of the current committee members were elected, show that Mr. Bailey complained of his water problems. We are now into our 4th Carter County Highway Committee Chairman and still no resolution. Mr. Bailey wants, in writing assurance that the asphalt curbing put in place by him and the road department will be maintained. At our March meeting, Mr. Jim McGee stated that he was present at one of the site visits where Mr. Bailey was promised a letter by the former county attorney. Attorney Hardin inferred that some paperwork existed but was never executed.

TDOT signage and location of signs on Highway 321-two locations warning motorists of school bus stops. Commissioner Larry Miller and Superintendent Colbaugh will work with TDOT on this project.

Resolution to name a portion of old highway 143-Durward Julian Drive will be developed and presented to the full commission for approval.

Sunview Lane is the new name for Morrell Cemetery Road. The name change passed committee 2 months ago; however in order to widen a narrow section of the road, a survey, possibly additional land to meet width specifications must be developed before this work can be performed. Commissioner Acuff is continuing petition work on this project.

Four way stop sign Dawn and Sunrise-Sunrise is the thru-street while Dawn is the cross street. The stated purpose of these signs is to slow speeding traffic. Commissioner Von Cannon stated that there must be a cheaper solution. We would have 4 way stop signs all over the county if this method is used to stop speeding. It is time for our law enforcement to step up and address this county wide problem.

Highway Department Resolution On Utilities Regulation-The purpose of this resolution is to bind construction companies to repair roads damaged while placing utilities along or across county roadways. A \$100 application fee to cover the processing expense would be required by the highway department, while a bond would also be required. Motion by Von Cannon/Second by Ward-motion passed

Elizabethton Electric System request to cut trees from county right of way near Valley Forge School.

Tim Cross-Walnut Mountain Road Washouts, etc.- This road is graded approximately 4 times per year-one time usually occurs just before Memorial Day-On Memorial Day weekend, the Walnut Mountain Cemetery Association holds a service and picnic which attracts nearly 100 people. Since the road as well as the White Oak road goes through and leads to U.S. government owned forest, should Carter County be partially reimbursed for maintaining these roads.

Paul Lane-speeding on the Braemer portion of the Dennis Cove road-The Commissioner for the area should look at the situation and make recommendation(s)

Conn Nave-flooding-South Gate and Western-upper Lynn Valley-Mr. Colbaugh discussed various ways to resolve the problem.

Request to find a suitable structure, road, or bridge to name in memory of the citizenship displayed in the lives of Jim and Edna Potter. Placed on hold

Harlan, Jane, and Shannon Guinn-requesting paving via adoption of Hyder Cemetery Road. The dead end road serves five houses, some of which house elderly residents. Superintendent Colbaugh supports the adoption which would mean the committee would need to liberalize our requirements for adoption. We as a committee have instituted procedures which will make our work consistent for our citizens. As we discussed procedures, our county attorney indicated our adoption procedures may be illegal, because the full commission has not approved them. Attorney Hardin was asked to look into the adoption requirements so we could vote up or down to present them to the full commission.

Kimberly Wise wrote her valid reasons as to the merits of Broad Band service for our area. Chairman Hill will in the interest of saving paper present her concerns during his committee report to the full commission.

Report from Highway Superintendent Colbaugh-The paving of Cedar Grove Road is completed. Mr. Colbaugh praised Mayor Humphrey for his work in helping obtain funding for this needed project. The county highway department could have paved the road cheaper and planned to utilize the remainder of the money on another project. The funding source required that a private company perform the work.-
adjourn