

Carter County Highway Dept. Committee
January 14, 2013

Approved 2/11/13
Joel K. Street
APPROVED

Members present and vice chairman Joel Street presiding in the absence of Chairman Ernest "Gebe" Ritchie, Steve Lowrance, John Lewis, Sonja Culler and Secretary Charles Von Cannon. Members Absent: Chairman Ritchie, W. Patrick Hicks and the 5th District resignation filling in were Lawrence Hodge and Jo Ann Blankenship.

A prayer was offered on behalf of Chairman Ritchie by Commission Vice Chairman: Lawrence Hodge. It was also pointed out that Committee Member Steve Lowrance also has a very serious health issue.

The minutes of the previous two meetings were approved as written.

Old Business

- Planning Director Chris Scheuttler brought to our attention that several months ago the committee voted not to close Ohio Street just off Sunny View Court (3rd District). The undeveloped street had been requested to be closed by Mr. Cliff Davis who lives on the east end of Ohio Street. We voted to leave the street open since the driveway of Mr. Thurman E. Caldwell; 133 Sunny View Court turns off Ohio and in fact is a part of Ohio Street. The Carter County road report needs to reflect our vote to permanently keep Ohio Street open.
- Vice Chairman Street gave update on the 19E curve near the northern mouth of Simerly Creek. The bid has been let for a completion date late this year. The 19E project study at Hampton High School (to slow traffic, etc.), is ongoing and has a potential resolution by 2014.
- We did not discuss the Harvey Tester situation on Taylor Ave. Mr. Ritchie had requested that Mr. Perkins look at all drainage on Taylor Ave. to the Watauga River.

New Business

- The naming of the new Siam Community Bridge over the Watauga River was on the agenda. County Mayor Leon Humphrey brought the name of John L. Curtis to the meeting at the request of Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis, daughter of Mr. John Curtis. Mr. Curtis was one of the original visionaries that raised money via stock sales to develop Horse Shoe Dam that eventually provided electricity to Elizabethton and the surrounding area. A second name was proposed by the Allen family (long time resident and farmer who gave some land for the bridge approach(s)). This request to name the bridge William (Bill) Allen Bridge was accompanied by a petition signed by over 300 people. A public hearing on the bridge naming will occur at the February 11, 2013 Carter County Highway Committee Meeting. Vice Chairman Street asked Jo Ann Blankenship to contact TVA and see if the bridge over Horse Shoe Lake could possibly also be named.
- Commissioner John Lewis reminded the Committee that we had voted to name a bridge in his district Robert Rainbolt Bridge, but the request was never brought to the full Commission.

All parties were reminded that sign expenses are passed along to the families involved.

- Dip in the pavement just east of Sinking Creek Baptist church on Highway 67. Mr. Joel Street had called TDOT and they are working on corrective measures. The box culvert has developed a sagging in the roof of the culvert.
- Mr. Scott Snell again pointed out that the land at the end of Monument court (Pinecrest 5th District), according to the plat plan from the Assessor of Property Office doesn't belong to the County.
- The Highway Committee had previously voted to send the ownership problem back to the Planning Dept. for clarification.
- Mr. Larry Brown with the National Little League again came before the committee with a change in his request for assistance in developing additional parking at the Buffalo Creek baseball fields. Mr. Brown has previously asked for gravel hauling assistance since Summers Taylor will provide free gravel hauling. Mr. Brown will need gravel smoothing and compacting. The gravel will be bought with a \$5,000 allocation from the Carter County Parks and Recreation Committee subject to full Commission approval.
- Charles Von Cannon had been asked by Planning Commission member Mr. Bob Townsend about placing speed bumps on Weaver Hill Rd. just off Sinking Creek Rd. Mr. Townsend was told that speed bumps or humps are not allowed on County roads due to regulations and snow removal problems. Mr. Townsend then complained that if speed bumps were allowed on Dalewood why not on Weaver Hill Rd. Mr. Townsend and I drove to Weaver Hill and Dalewood to view the speed bumps which turned out to be ½" high rumble strips. Mr. Townsend indicated he had been told the strips had been placed there by the Middleton Family. We also came upon a tractor-trailer turning around on Dalewood Drive. This had also been pointed out by Mr. Townsend that GPA error and driver error places trucks on this road. I asked the driver his destination; he was going to the Mullican Flooring Factory (formerly Superior Wheel) on Woodlyn Dr.
- Mrs. Pat Middleton was present at this meeting and she indicated that the Middleton's had asked Summers-Taylor Const/Paving Supervision to obtain permission to place the rumble strips on the right side of Dalewood going toward Washington County. Permission was granted by the Carter County Highway Dept. Mrs. Middleton says she has lived twenty plus years on Dalewood and has never seen a snowplow.
- Commissioner Von Cannon then suggested a trip to view the Highway 67 Dip, the narrowness of Weaver Hill and Sinking Creek Rd. along with the speed bumps on Dalewood Dr. After the meeting Commissioner Joel Street, Chris Scheuttler, Commissioner John Lewis and Commissioner Von Cannon made the trip. Commissioner Von Cannon visited Mullican Flooring to alert their personnel, since it was lunch time a note was left for the site manager, (see hand written attachment).
- During the time allotted for visitor comments, Mrs. Middleton again reiterated that the Middleton's had permission from the Carter County Highway Dept personnel through Summers-Taylor Supervision to place the rumble strips on Dalewood.
- After four accidents of which running through their vinyl fencing this was their solution.

Motion to adjourn by Sonja Culler, second by Steve Lowrance motion carried all ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by

Charles D. Von Cannon
Charles D. Von Cannon, Secretary

Joel Street, Vice Chairman

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1/14/2013

The GPS Systems on some
Tractor-Trailer trucks ~~are~~ sending
trucks to Mullicon Flooring ^{Factory} via

Red Row Rd to Dalewood. The drivers miss
the woodlyn ^{SR R. Road} crossing and continue on
DALEWOOD. The drivers then realizing their
error try to turn around thereby damaging
fencing in Carter County -

We are ASKING for your company to
issue a flyer bringing the trucks all the
way down WATAUGA RD (STATE Route 400)
to Woodlyn Road (~~left~~ ^{Right} turn - since there is
no left turn) to the factory -

CARTER County can not place
a sign at Dalewood/Woodlyn since
the intersection is in WASHINGTON
County -

Please Advise how we can help
each other. Charles W. Cannon

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