

Carter County Highway Committee Meeting  
January 5, 2015

Chairman Mike Hill called the meeting to order by asking for an attendance roll call. Mrs. Bobbie Dietz, Mr. Mike Hill, Mr. Larry Miller, Mr. Scott Simerly, Mr. Jerry Proffitt, Mr. Danny Ward, Mr. Charles Von Cannon, and Mr. Robert Carroll sitting in for Mr. Robert Gobble-Eight committee members present.

A public hearing concerning the naming of one of the bridges on Heaton Creek Road in honor of Mr. Danny Ray Vance was conducted. Chairman Hill asked the audience if other nominations were forthcoming. No other names were offered.

Ms. Marylu Johns passed out a sheet indicating the reasons why Mr. Vance should be honored.

Ms. Kappie Vance read the reasons for the request (copy attached). The literature requested that the first bridge up Heaton Creek road be named the Dan Vance Memorial Bridge in his honor.

Ms Kappie Vance did state that naming the first bridge beyond McKinney Lane might be more appropriate since it was nearest his home.

The family had been informed previously about the cost of the sign and upkeep by the Committee chairman.

The motion to name a bridge in honor of Dan Vance was made by Danny Ward with a second by Jerry Proffitt-a roll call vote yielded all ayes

Old business

- The minutes for both the October 14 and the November 3 meetings were approved with a single vote. Mrs. Dietz made the motion with a second from Mr. Miller-all ayes

- The Blunden Lane investigation showed that the lane is partially in Washington County and serves only one mobile home.

Jessica Court does have two mobile homes in the right of way described by.

Mr. Ricky E. Harrell. Again this situation appears to be a civil case or at least a check by the Planning/Zoning department to see if the mobile homes are permitted.

- The committee chairman and one of the committee members have been in contact with Mr. Jim McGill of Aggregates USA. They passed on the word that their trucks would be willing to travel a route other than Judge Ben Allen Road if the residents agreed not to sue the company.

Since we understand that there is a judicial hearing scheduled, no action was taken on the information.

- A second discussion concerning a billing for survey work from Snyder Surveying company of Butler for work requested by Planning Director Chris Schuettler. The work was on a drainage problem along an alley running parallel to Dennis Cove Road and Melrose street in the Braemer area of Hampton. The committee voted at the November meeting for the highway department not to pay the bill. The roll call vote was 7 against paying and 1 for paying. A re-vote was called by the chairman. The roll call vote was unanimous. Eight votes for the highway department not to pay the bill

New business

- Mr. Roger Colbaugh in his report recommended that a request to place the entrance to TownView Estates on the Carter County road list for future paving.

After some discussion, A motion by Danny Ward and a second by Charles Von Cannon to table the request was passed, until a committee member could view the situation.

- A request was made by some residents of Herbert Taylor Lane to change the name to Mango Lane. Commissioner Ward motioned that the request be tabled until all residents both for and against be allow to address the committee.

A voice vote –all ayes A name change isn't simple-postal service notification, 911 notification, telephone book address change, new signage, etc..

- Mrs. April Grindstaff of Williams Lane off Cedar Grove Road requested to be placed on the road list for future paving. Mrs. Grindstaff was extremely well prepared with photo copies, residents signatures etc. She also pointed out that the adjoining road with the same number of houses is paved and county maintained, and on the road list. Ashlee Road is also a dead end road. A lengthy discussion concerning paving dead end roads was conducted. It was pointed out that many have been paved apparently based on how much clout you have with elected officials or you are or have been an elected official. Commissioner Charles Von Cannon pointed out that residents on a dead end road would never see any road results from their tax dollars and therefore made the motion to accept this request to add Williams Lane to the road list with the customary right of way donation, width, drainage tiles under each driveway connected to ditching for water control, etc. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Ward then suggested the county attorney look into dead end road situations. Mention was again made about the school bus stop for children of Ashlee and Williams Lane and the need for a guard rail above the steep drop off to the Tweetsie Trail.

- Commissioner Larry Miller addressed the issue of grading the White Oak road in the Elk Mills/Heaton Branch area. Only a few people live along the road it is used by hunters.

With no other business to come before the committee-A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Jerry Proffitt with a second by Mrs. Bobbie Dietz-all ayes.

Submitted by;  
Charles VonCannon  
Committee Secretary

January 05, 2015

Written by: Kappie Vance/Sister of Danny Ray Vance/ 828-733- 5072

**REASONS FOR A MEMORIAL BRIDGE FOR DAN VANCE**

*When you think of Dan you think of Heaton Creek.*

*Dan was brought home to Heaton Creek.*

*Dan died on Heaton Creek at the same house he was brought home to.*

*He never lived anywhere but Heaton Creek and only lived in two houses his entire life.....both on Heaton Creek.*

*Dan worked for the Roan Mountain State Park for thirty three years.*

*He was called the "GATEKEEPER OF HEATON CREEK".*

*He was called the " MAJOR OF HEATON CREEK".*

*He was quick to lend a helping hand to anyone and give from his heart. His garden was always plentiful and he always shared. He was always there to help dig graves, bring food or give an offering of money usually telling you, don't say anything but here is some money to put on whatever. He had a heart for senior citizens and would do for them when they had so little. He would always tell me there is no charge .....he did things by the HONOR SYSTEM. Never giving an amount even I his sister owed him. He was known for his outspoken way.....and if he liked you, he liked you and if he didn't you knew. He was full of humor and wit. His heart was humble.....often he was brought to tears. We came from a broken family, explaining Dan's heart for young people with no chance in this world of making much of themselves.. I figured up Dan lived 20,669 days before his life was taken, he probably crossed the bridges of Heaton Creek at least that many times.*

*As my heart is heavy along with many friends and family members, I hope you will consider making the first bridge at the entrance of Heaton Creek, the " Dan Vance Memorial Bridge" in honor of him.*