

CARTER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
March 14, 2011

- Attendance

Present: Ernest “Gebe” Ritchie, Richard, Steve Lowrance, Sonja Culler, Pat Hicks, Joel Street, Charles Von Cannon, John Lewis and Mayor Humphrey

Ernest “Gebe” Ritchie – Committee Chairman called the meeting to order. The committee approved minutes from February 2011 meeting.

The committee addressed continuous concerns regarding water drainage problem, deterioration of a county road and several other areas of concerns.

- Chairman Gebe Ritchie brought before the committee the need to resolve water problem regarding Lynn Valley Baptist Church. He asked that Jack Perkins, Superintendent, get permission from residents to run a valley ditch which would connect to existing ditch. This would resolve water running across road, also would take care of the safety issue of water freezing and causing auto accidents.
- Chairman Ritchie addressed the 255 Jenkins Hollow Road water run off . He stated that he and several of the committee visit the site and determined the water problem does not involve CCHD, but must be resolved between Steve Melton and Gloria Jenkins. Commissioner Steve Lowrance informed the committee that he had talked with both residents and they have agreed to work together to resolve.
- Scotty Minton – Icehouse – Hampton – Mr. Minton was represented by Attorney at Law – Ken Hale who requested 25 foot alley on his property be opened to allow more parking spaces. Chairman Ritchie stated that he has researched all deeds of the property and there is no 25 ft right of way and the unnamed road is actually John Lewis Road. Chairman Ritchie stated he would put this issue to rest, because the county does not own property and until it is proven otherwise. The committee voted 100% in agreement with Chairman Ritchie.
- John Shepherd –Phone #542-4255 – 142 Runion Street – Once again address the committee about paving the portion of Runion Street which was left unpaved causing his property to flooded. Committee Chairman Gebe Ritchie informed Mr. Shepherd that he would meet with County Attorney for his advice in this matter.
- Trudy Brumitt – Wild Rose Lane located off of Rockhouse Road - Addressed the committee requesting update on CCHD pave and upkeep road. Committee Chairman Gebe Ritchie told Ms. Brumitt the County Attorney, Keith Bowers would have to advise committee on this matter and he will meet with him before the next Highway Committee Meeting.

- Steve Bailey, Sr. / Commissioner Charles Von Cannon – No drain tiles installed when previous Supt. Roy H. Taylor paved road. The residents paved over where ditch should be and water is flooding his property. Commissioner Von Cannon presented photo taken 3/01/11 showing water standing on property. He stated that of the eleven driveways only three were tiled. He said 300 feet of ditch line not completed and would need to be taken to the river. Also two residents refused to install tile. Commissioner Von Cannon suggested building 120 feet more curbing to solve part of problem; however Mr. Bailey's would still have water running to his cabins. Mr. Bailey stated he gave the county one acre of land to build road and county will resolve or he will sue the county. Chairman Ritchie said he will meet with the County Attorney regarding this problem and see if county can force the two residents to install tile to resolve water problem on neighbor's property.
- Jean Rhea – A resident of Dennis Cove Road stated that this road is in terrible condition. She has lived on Dennis Cove Road for 15 years and road has not be resurfaced since before she lived there. She states it has been patched many times, but the road has deteriorated to the point that road is breaking off in chunks. Ms Rhea said the road is very narrow with no stripping and road condition makes it unsafe to drive on especially if you meet another vehicle. Also she said guardrail is needed in certain places. Ms Rhea stated that Superintendent Jack Perkins will do nothing to improve the road and that the residents on Dennis Cove Road get no service from CCHD. Superintendent Perkins respectfully disputed this claim and stated he had a crew who maintains the road during the winter weather, he could show her work orders where road had been patched and he also met with her after meeting introducing the driver who pushed snow and salted Dennis Cove. He told her this road was on the list to stripe. Ms Rhea stated the road needs to be paved before striped.
- Commissioner Joel Street – Addressed the committee regarding a steep curve on SR037/Hwy 19E within one mile north of Simerly Creek Road/ SR173 Intersection. He recognized this is a state road and presented to the committee a data report from the Department of Safety showing vehicle crashes from 2003 – 2010. He stated since this is a huge safety issue he recommended the committee approach TDOT by writing a letter requesting this safety issue be resolved.
- Motion made by Sonja Culler to adjourn, second by Joel Street, approved by committee.