

Carter County Highway Committee Meeting of March 7, 2016

Seven regular committee members present plus Commissioner Cody McQueen filling the vacancy created by the resignation of 8<sup>th</sup> district member Mr. Robert Gobble

Approval of the minutes-Commissioner Ward requested an amendment to the February 1 minutes stating that a petition had been signed changing the name of Morrell Cemetery road to Sunview Lane. Since a public hearing had been conducted and no one showed up to protest the change the wording would have been redundant.

Agenda was approved with the addition of Steve Bailey and a nomination from the floor concerning the naming of the road presently known as old highway 143. Dietz-motion/second by McQueen

Chairman Hill opened the Public Hearing for naming old highway 143

Durward Julian had been previously nominated by Mrs. Clark. A nomination of Jim and Edna Potter was made by Commissioner Von Cannon. Commissioner Larry Miller concurred since both had been raised in his district. Two recommendation letters were presented and read to the committee. Before a vote was taken Commissioner Von Cannon recinded his nomination due to the fact that Jim and Edna Potter are both deceased and Mr. Julian who is nearing 100 years old is still alive. The purpose of a public hearing is give the citizens a chance to choose the best recipient. Paul Cates and Dan Winters were also mentioned as worthy candidates. Motion to name the road for Mr. Julian-Ward-second by Von Cannon

Chairman Hill will work with Mrs. Clark and County Attorney Hardin to develop the resolution.

The changing of Morrell Cemetery Road to Sunview Lane will be presented to the full commission.

The request by Doug Combs for the county to clarify the status of his driveway was deferred to next month.

Mr. Phil Fritts of Country Acres Drive had requested a no right turn sign be placed by the county at the back exit of Happy Valley High School thereby preventing students from using Slemp Lane/Country Acres Drive/Warrior Lane to the Milligan Highway. Mr. Fritts spoke at the February meeting of speeding and running across lawns by students. Chairman Hill had contacted Sheriff Lunceford and City Manager Jerome Kitchens, both said the school is within the city. Commissioner Von Cannon supplied a map of the city boundary showing the site where the sign would be placed is in the county. Commissioner Von Cannon asked Superintendent Colbaugh who paved and maintained Slemp Lane. Slemp Lane is on the County road listing therefore the county maintains the road. Happy Valley High School is not in the city, neither is the majority of the road leading to the front of the building. Powder branch road is now nearer the road to the front of Happy Valley High School than it was at the time the city annexed Powder Branch. The branch has been diverted and the road moved farther west, due to the new Hwy 321 (4 lane) to Johnson City. A detailed page of the research by Commissioner Von Cannon is attached as is the research conducted by Commissioner Hill. After reviewing the property map, showing Slemp Lane is a county road, Commissioner Von Cannon made the motion to place a do not turn right sign at the back exit to Slemp Lane-the motion for lack of a second died. A motion was made to ask our county attorney Josh Hardin to research the situation and also determine if traffic can be restricted. According to Chairman Hill's research shown in an E-mail, a sign can be placed (City Manager Kitchens relayed via E-mail through City Council Mr. Richard Tester) It appears a letter from Mr. Phil Fritts sparked a flurry of

Carter County Highway Committee activity. Mrs. Dietz Motion to ask our county attorney to research and resolve the problem was brought to a vote. The voice vote was 6 ayes and 1 no from Von Cannon.

Steve Bailey again appeared before the committee indicating he had not heard from a promise made by a committee member to check the past minutes for verification that the then County Attorney Bowers had made a commitment to permanently maintain curbing placed by the county to prevent flooding his rental cabins which are tourist attractions. Mr. Jim McGee was at the middle of the road meeting where this commitment was made.

A recent meeting with Mr. Bailey at the site following a heavy rain was attended by Chairman Hill, Mr. Chris Schuettler, and Superintendent Colbaugh. Steve Bailey had been shoveling mud and gravel from the road. Mr. Bailey was instructed by Chairman Hill not to do this work since it was the responsibility of [REDACTED]. After much debate, County Attorney Hardin said he would check Attorney Bowers records for verification of the letter.

The Harvey Tester problem on Hartley St. at Taylor avenue surfaced after it was studied and resolved by implementing an engineering study paid for by the previous Road Superintendent. Apparently the work recommended by the study was not performed. Commissioner Von Cannon suggested that Mr. Colbaugh contact Tysinger-Hampton- and Partners for a review of their recommendation(s).

Under new business-A discussion of the proposed REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY BY UTILITIES. This request by Road Superintendent is necessary to insure that a construction company hired to install utilities is permitted, bonded, and agrees to repair a road to an acceptable condition. The committee will study the 7 page resolution and amendment pages and vote to send the request in resolution form to the full commission.

Elizabethton Electric System request to cut down trees near Valley Forge School

Drainage problem on Sunrise at the Reed AND Townsend properties

Peters Hollow-a collapsed drainage pipe

Guard Rail on Bishop Bridge Road-This road is not on the road listing; therefore it may be private property.

Proposed 4 way stop-Sunrise and Dawn a cross street-Mr. Colbaugh didn't seem to support these signs

Lane Hill- culvert replacement

The previous 5 items have been corrected or they are under review

Superintendent Colbaugh provided cost sheets showing sign replacement expenses during the several weeks since the Christmas holidays. The Christmas expense was in the Roan Mountain area. The current sheets show \$922.00 expended in the Hampton area.

The repaving of Cedar Grove road will begin shortly-there are no plans to widen the road. With no other business to come before the committee. Motion to adjourn/all ayes