

CARTER COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES-MAY 2, 2016

Roll Call-Commissioner Tim Holdren filling in for Bobbie Dietz -welcome to our new member Ms. Kelly Collins

Amendment to the April minutes to be supplied to the Secretary for correction

Approval of the May agenda-all ayes

Old Business

The proposal to place Hyder Cemetery Road on the Carter County Road Listing for paving has been set aside by the Harlan Guinn family

Steve Bailey water issue-Von Cannon Drive at Blevins Road

Two issues have surfaced on this problem-The first problem began many years ago when Mr. Bailey attempted at his expense to asphalt curb along Von Cannon Drive to protect his garden. Water from the north side of the road is crossing the road to the Bailey property, due to a ditching project never being completed by the highway department when the road was widened and paved. By adding additional curbing some 3 or so years ago, the water now in very heavy rains undermines Mr. Bailey's rental cabins. The County planning department approved the location of the cabins without considering water problems.

Some thirty minutes were spent on the history of the problem dating some 25 or so years ago. Along the long history of this problem Mr. Bailey was promised that the curbing would be county maintained.

Commissioner Von Cannon offered the motion for County Attorney Hardin to draft a letter stating that the Carter County Highway Department would permanently maintain the asphalt curbing-a second by Commissioner Ward- a roll call vote was conducted-all ayes

The discussion continued concerning a more permanent solution. Two expensive options had been offered by Superintendent Colbaugh requiring Mr. Bailey to buy metal tile and furnish a survey. Mr. Bailey correctly stated that he had given approximately an acre of land to widen the two roads while no one would give land on the north side of road eventually named Von Cannon Drive. The road along this section is very wide compared to the mid-section of the road. The discussion ended with Commissioner Von Cannon volunteering to persuade 4 residents to allow a ditch to be completed carrying water to Watauga River. This would involve cutting 4 driveways and installing tile at their expense. This still would not negate the need for the curbing. It would reduce the risk of undermining the rental cabins.

103 Hartley Road problem-Shane Tester property-The Tysinger proposal to correct this problem was estimated to cost \$23,000+. Commissioner Larry Miller stated that we should not spend this amount to correct one problem. Commissioner Von Cannon asked Superintendent Colbaugh to visit the site again and look at the rain water source which is Cunningham Dr, which has no ditching. Our revisit indicates the problem can be solved for approximately \$2,500. The homeowner Mr. Shane Tester was present and in agreement with the proposed solution.

The Sunnyview road widening petition is short by two residents who may not be willing to sign off on widening the narrow section of the road. Commissioner Acuff inquired of our county attorney the use of Eminent Domain. Commissioner Acuff is continuing to work toward a solution.

Committee Chairman Hill closed the meeting for a public hearing concerning placing a 4 way stop sign at Sunrise and Dawn.

Mrs. Cynthia Fritts spoke against the placing of the signs which would stop speeding on Sunrise. She reasoned that a vehicle travelling toward highway 91 (down Sunrise) would come upon a stopped vehicle and rear end the stopped vehicle. Sheriff Lunceford also spoke against the signage. Commissioner Von Cannon has visited the site and believes more warning or signage of a more urgent nature would be a better option. With no other comments Chairman Hill closed the public hearing.

A motion by Commissioner Ward with a second from Commissioner Acuff to place the 4 way stop signage was voted on-results-7 ayes and 1 no (Von Cannon)

The Combs family quit claim deed is being prepared by County Attorney Joshua Hardin.

The ceremony for naming a portion of old highway 143, the Durward Julian Drive will start at approximately 1PM Sunday May 29 in the vicinity of the former elementary school.

Mr. Paul Lane of the Braemar section of Dennis Cove road asked the committee to lower the posted speed limit. He spoke of issues concerning accidents that caused him to replace fencing at his expense. Mr. Lane was advised to develop a petition with a recommended speed limit.

Tim Cross of Heaton Branch was updated by Shannon Burchett of the highway department about the grading schedule of the unpaved roads on Walnut Mountain and the roads leading to the mountain. The reasoning for when the roads are graded is seasonal. Commissioner Von Cannon recently travelled the Heaton Branch, Walnut Mountain, and little Stoney Creek Roads in the area and found them to be in excellent condition, with the one exception of a large mud hole at the entrance to Little Stoney Creek road.

Carter County Attorney Joshua Hardin presented procedures for :

Naming roads and bridges and procedures for placing a road on the Carter County Road Listing for upgrading or paving.

Superintendent Colbaugh gave a short report of ongoing projects.

Public comments/Commissioner comment

Motion to adjourn/all ayes

Submitted for approval ~~6/6~~ Date approved June 6, 2016

By Charles D. Von Cannon

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