

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

February 12, 2018

2:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Robert Carroll, Bobbie Dietz, Mike Hill, Larry "Doc" Miller, Buford Peters, Danny Ward and Charles VonCannon

ABSENT: Scott Simerly

CALL TO ORDER: Mike Hill, Chairman

- Motion was made by Bobbie Dietz, seconded by Buford Peters to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. By voice roll call vote motion carried.
- Motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Larry "Doc" Miller to approve the current meeting with an addition noted by Robert Acuff and entered as Item G under New Business. By voice roll call vote motion carried.
- PUBLIC HEARINGS: At this time the meeting was recessed into a Public Hearing by Chairman Hill on Wanda Marlow's request to name the bridge on Hwy 19E which crosses over Laurel Fork Creek after SGM James Carroll Gilbert. As there were no public comments, meeting was reconvened.
- The meeting was recessed into a Public Hearing on the request of members of the Church family to name the bridge across Elk River on Poga Road located between Ted Potter and Atlie Brown roads in memory of SP-4 Owen Ray Church. As there were no public comment, meeting was reconvened.
- The meeting was recessed into a Public Hearing on the petition of Linda Johnson to name the bridge located on Gap Creek road at the intersection of that road with Marion Branch road in memory of Gary D. Murphy. Commission Sonja Culler commented Mr. Murray was a fine member of the community and a deserving young man for this honor. As there were no further public comments, meeting was reconvened.

County Attorney, Josh Hardin, read the resolution honoring SGM James Carroll Gilbert and motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Charles VonCannon to approve the resolution for forwarding to the full Commission. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Aye	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

County Attorney, Josh Hardin, read the resolution honoring SP-4 Owen Ray Church and motion was made by Bobbie Dietz, seconded by Robert Carroll to approve the resolution for forwarding to the full Commission. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Aye	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

County Attorney, Josh Hardin, read the resolution honoring Gary D. Murphy. Motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Bobbie Dietz to approve the resolution for forwarding to the full Commission. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Aye	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

- OLD BUSINESS: County Attorney, Josh Hardin, informed the committee the resolution to approve the paving request at the alternative school was ready to go, needing only an estimate on the cost. Buford Peters stated they had not met with the school as yet and the matter was put off until the March meeting.

The County Attorney stated that an easement deed had been prepared for the closure of a portion of Lick Branch road and only needed the approval of the full Commission to go forward.

Supt. Colbaugh stated when there was proper weather to proceed with the closure of a portion of Carter Street at the Roan Mtn. State Park the matter would be taken care of.

After discussing the procedures for adopting a road in the county, motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Charles VonCannon to submit the request to adopt Hidden Oak Lane as a county road to the Planning and Zoning Committee for their input. By roll call vote as follows, motion passed.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Aye	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

Steve Bailey addressed the committee stating he was very satisfied with the curbing repairs on VonCannon and Blevins. He said he appreciated the repairs as they turned the water off of his property and thanked the committee.

Supt. Colbaugh addressed the request for ditching on Laurel Avenue stating the county had ditched all that they could. He said TDOT had been notified to clear the ditches on the State's Right of Way and felt once this was done the problem would be corrected. This project will be completed when the asphalt plant reopens.

Regarding the erosion issue of Karen Collins, Supt. Colbaugh stated they had nothing back from TDEC and it would be necessary for her to contact them before she addresses the issue on her own.

The issue of Michael Presnell regarding a name discrepancy of Bulldog Hollow Road/Will Blevins Road was postponed until the March meeting.

Rhonda Sawyer's donation of an unopened county Right of Way on Pike Street was postponed until the March meeting.

The committee was informed the donation of the Right of Way by the U.S. Forest Service to the County was completed and the County owned the Right of Way.

Chairman Hill informed the committee he had contacted 911 regarding the name change on a portion of Hogum Hollow Road to Old Mountain Road. This request was made by the residents there because of safety issues for 911 responses. He stated all affected by this change had signed off on it and only one (1) resident would have to make an address change but also agreed. Supt. Colbaugh agreed the change would reduce confusion. After much discussion as to the exact location (map attached) of the name change, motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Bobbie Dietz to change the name of a section of Hogum Hollow Road starting at Ripshin Lake Road and continuing to the end of the pavement on Hogum Hollow Road at the foot of the mountain to Old Mountain Road. This request was also set for a Public Hearing at the March meeting. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Aye	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

- **NEW BUSINESS:** In checking out the issue of adopting a section of Bob Taylor Road, Supt. Colbaugh stated he had located a deed dated 1948 to the county for this section and it appeared to already be a county road. Danny Ward asked a footnote be added to the County Road List reflecting this finding for future knowledge. After discussion by the committee, it was decided no adoption was necessary.

Chairman Hill asked Supt. Colbaugh how the Highway Committee could be of help to him during the budget process to get the funds needed for operations the coming year. Supt. Colbaugh stated that having the support of the committee was always helpful and gave them a handout of the pressing issues for his budget this fiscal year. He presented a Bridge Grant Project application that needed the approval of the commission before expenditures on the project could be made. He stated his budget needed to be increased \$230,000 and presented the line items requiring this increase. He presented a list of county roads that needed highway markings that totaled an amount of \$64,941.20. Each of the items presented were discussed, as well as current Highway Department projects. One main issue that was discussed was the need for a line item in the Highway budget for money up front to begin a project. As many projects performed by the Highway Department were reimbursed upon their completion, having the funds available to begin a project, get it completed and be reimbursed in a timely manner was actually a legitimate investment and needed to be explained to the Budget Committee in a way

that would justify the need. Supt. Colbaugh's hand out attached to minutes.

Supt. Colbaugh stated he figured the paving request on Five Sisters Lane in Roan Mountain would cost \$63,770.00. He said he planned to rock it this week to take care of some of the muddy places.

There were three (3) additions to the County Road List. These are Laurel Highland Drive, Rhododendron Lane and Lick Branch Road. Additions attached to minutes. Motion was made by Charles VonCannon, seconded by Bobbie Dietz to approve the road list as presented and advanced it to the full commission. By roll call vote as follows, motion passed.

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Absent	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

Motion was made by Charles VonCannon, seconded by Larry "Doc" Miller to refer the problem of parking in the Right of Way on Deloach Road to the County Attorney. The committee instructed him to draw up a legal procedural letter regarding this situation with the Sheriff having the enforcement responsibility. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried

Robert Carroll	Aye	Bobbie Dietz	Nay
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Absent	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

Donnie Cable of the Elk Mills/Poga area made two (2) requests of the committee. These were for the striping of Poga Road and guardrail placement on two (2) miles of the road on both sides. He cited both of these issues as dangerous, especially to the elderly traveling on that road. He then told the committee that a rock in a ditch in the area was blocking a culvert and the speed limit needed to be lowered on several roads. Chairman Hill asked for the location of the rock and told Mr. Cable that could be taken care of. He also told him that a speed limit could be lowered with a petition being presented to the committee by the residents of that community.

Dr. Robert Acuff presented a petition signed by residents of the Hunter community asking to extend Ron Royce Drive to Airport Road. He stated the request was based on the need for additional access of ingress/egress for 1<sup>st</sup> responders. He cited a couple of incidents blocking access of the road in the past. These were a house fire and the removal of brush/trees by the Elizabethton Electric System. Motion was made by Danny Ward, seconded by Charles VonCannon to hold a Public Hearing at the March meeting to allow the residents of that area to express their opinion on the possibility of this proposal going forward. By roll call vote as follows, motion carried.

Robert Carroll	Absent	Bobbie Dietz	Aye
Mike Hill	Aye	Larry "Doc" Miller	Aye
Buford Peters	Absent	Scott Simerly	Absent
Danny Ward	Aye	Charles VonCannon	Aye

At this time Dr. Acuff related to the committee that when the Electric System cleared the brush and trimmed the trees around the power lines, they severely cut the trees and the county would probably have them to clean up at some point in time. He also stated that the debris from the trimming and brush clean out was never cleaned up, but just left as a mess. Motion was made by Bobbie Dietz, seconded by Danny Ward to have the county attorney draft a letter to the City of Elizabethton/Elizabethton Electric System asking they clean up the debris that was left.

At the request of Supt. Colbaugh, motion was made by Bobbie Dietz, seconded by Danny Ward to approve the Application for Construction of a Bridge Grant Project submitted by him for the bridge in the Dennis Cove area. By voice roll call vote, motion passed.

- PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jim McGee addressed the committee asking if they heard the cursing he got at the last meeting and to let them know the dirt and the fence he complained about at a previous meeting was still a problem.

Chairman Hill was asked to bring the matter of the breaking pavement on Gap Creek Road for Mr. Johnson .

- COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: None
- ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Bobbie Dietz, seconded by Danny Ward the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzi Wallace

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Mike Hill, Chairman