



HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

June 4, 2020

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mark Blevins, Nancy Brown, Charles VonCannon, Jerry Profit, Layla Ward, Sonja Culler and David Miller
ABSENT: Gary Bailey
CALL TO ORDER: Mark Blevins, Chairman
ROLL CALL: Quorum Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by David Miller seconded by Charles VonCannon to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020, meeting. By voice roll call vote, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Nancy Brown to approve the agenda with the addition of a flooding issue on Gap Creek Road. By voice roll call vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jim McGee living at 127 Ridgecrest Drive in the Central community addressed the committee at this time. He stated that all County and State documents called for Ridgecrest Drive to be a 50 ft. wide public street. He said it was only paved 12 ft. and the road was blocked off at the end where the cemetery was by the person who built there years before. He stated he had talked to Supt. Colbaugh and came before the Highway Committee and the County Commission in the past with nothing being resolved. He informed the committee a neighbor had build a fence on the roadway four (4) years ago that obstructed the roadway where he would back into his driveway. He said his complaint was that Sheriff's deputies kept coming to his home stating he was trespassing and wanted him to move his vehicles. Attorney Hardin, who had already looked into the situation, stated the Road Superintendent and the Sheriff were the only ones with authority to enforce the obstruction of right-of-way issues and Mr. McGee's other complaints. Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Jerry Profit to make a recommendation to Supt. Colbaugh that he move the vehicles and the fence off the right-of-way the County owns. By a roll call vote of all Ayes, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: At the March Highway Committee meeting, Joseph Colbaugh who lives on Admiral Avenue where it crosses Roosevelt Avenue and dead ends into a bank, asked that approximately 10 ft. of the road from the pavement to the bank be shut off and deeded back to him. Chairman Blevins stated Supt. Colbaugh had no problem with this issue and a Public Hearing was set for next month's meeting.

Sonja Culler stated the flooding issue on Gap Creek Road where the river was shallow was still a major problem. She asked the County Attorney what the procedure would be to contact the EPA to look into the situation and ask to dig the river deeper. He stated they would have to be contacted by the Highway Department for the necessary "permitting". As Supt. Colbaugh was not present at the meeting, Ms. Culler asked this matter be addressed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: The developer of the subdivision at the end of Southgate Road addressed the committee asking the extension to this road be adopted by the county. Chairman Blevins stated Supt. Colbaugh had approved the adoption and Attorney Hardin stated the same process approved by the County for road adoptions needed to be followed for adopting an extension. Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by David Miller to schedule a Public Hearing for the adoption of Southgate Road extension at the next meeting. By a roll call vote of all Ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Blevins presented the petition of resident's of Chase Drive asking that it be adopted as a County road stating Supt. Colbaugh had approved the adoption. Motion was made by Nancy Brown, Sonja Culler to schedule a Public Hearing for the adoption of Chase Drive as a County Road for the next meeting. By a roll call vote of all Ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Nancy Brown, seconded by David Miller to schedule a Public Hearing on the adoption by the County of Hyder Cemetery Road for the next meeting. By a roll call vote of all ayes and 1 abstaining vote by Sonja Culler, motion carried.

Chairman Blevins stated last fall they had approved the bridge off Hwy 91 be named the J. N. Taylor Bridge. He said it had been brought to his attention by Supt. Colbaugh that the petition had not yet been turned in for this dedication as

they were waiting for the road to be finished. He further stated that Freeman Taylor had donated land at the bridge and wanted to have the bridge named for both J. N. Taylor and Freeman Taylor. He said he had talked with both of their family members and they had given their approval. Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Nancy Brown to have the County Attorney redraft the petition to include both J. N. and Freeman Taylor in the naming of the bridge. By a roll call vote of 6 ayes and 1 nay from Jerry Proffitt, motion carried.

Chairman Blevins informed the committee log skidders were parking on the right-of-way on Elk Mills Road causing a problem and suggested "NO PARKING" signs be placed there. Charles VonCannon stated he had researched the Elk Mills School property and the deeds passing ownership of that property over the years. He said the present owners were of the assumption they were the owners of the right-of-way but in fact it was a County road and on the County Road List. Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Nancy Brown to have the County Attorney draft a letter to the present owners informing them of the County's ownership of this road. By a voice roll call of all ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Blevins informed the committee he had been asked to address the situation with the bridge on Smalling Road. He stated the bridge was closed to school busses but was being crossed by tractor trailers. He said they were getting stuck on the bridge causing a mess. Motion was made by Sonja Culler, seconded by Nancy Brown to have Supt. Colbaugh place "NO TRUCKS" signage on Smalling Road. By a roll call vote of all ayes, motion carried.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Supt. Colbaugh was not present and no report was given.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Chairman Blevins thanked Layla Ward for stepping up and helping with the minutes during the absence of the secretary at the previous meeting.

ADJOURN: On motion by Sonja Culler, seconded by Nancy Brown and by voice roll call vote, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved for entry:

Suzi Wallace

Mark Blevins, Chairman