

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

May 6, 2021

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:	Mark Blevins, Nancy Brown, Jerry Proffitt, Mark Tester, Gary Bailey, Sonja Culler, Layla Ward
ABSENT:	None
CALL TO ORDER:	Mark Blevins, Chairman
ROLL CALL:	Quorum Present

AGENDA: Motion was made by Gary Bailey, seconded by Mark Tester to approve the agenda as presented. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Nancy Brown, seconded by Gary Bailey to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021, meeting. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Blevins informed the committee the drainage issue on Grindstaff Road was being addressed by Chris Schuettler according to the County Attorney. He stated they were planning to put a ditch in within the next couple of weeks and would put it on the agenda for next month for an update.

At the last meeting the committee voted to approve Shalom Drive as a county road contingent on a proper survey and right-of-way. Chairman Blevins stated Josh Hardin had prepared the survey and was to do a deed from the property owners for the right-of-way. Chairman Blevins stated he felt it was better to wait until all the proper paperwork was in hand before presenting the matter to the full commission for approval.

Sonja Culler questioned the status of the three (3) houses on Gap Creek that lose their bridges everytime it floods. Supt. Colbaugh stated they had been working with those residents to get pipe and concrete removed and a river clean was scheduled for maybe next week.

Jerry Proffitt questioned the status of the issue on Wilbur Dam Road he had brought to the committee a few meetings ago at the request of the property owner, John Allen. Supt. Colbaugh stated they had looked into the matter and he and Chairman Blevins would get in contact with Mr. Allen soon.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Blevins stated he was contacted by a resident of Bull Dog Hollow Road/Garland Cemetery Road concerning a flooding issue. He said he and Supt. Colbaugh had looked into the situation and found there was a really bad flooding issue. The resident stated when there was flooding, the water went under her home and destroyed the insulation and heat pump. She stated years ago there had been a bridge there and when it was destroyed it was replaced with a tile. She said the tile was no where near big enough to carry all the water and when the water came through it would shoot at her house. She said she had lost 6' of property in the last two (2) years due to flooding. She requested at least one (1) new tile be installed, possibly two (2). Supt. Colbaugh informed her a "letter of agreement" would have to be signed by the property owners and they would also be responsible for purchasing the tile. Supt. Colbaugh asked for a phone number where she could be reached and told her he would be in touch soon.

John Lewis addressed the committee concerning an alley way between his property at the old Hampton Tire building and the house and garage next door. He informed them the house and lot was up for sale and had no idea who owned it now or may own it in the future. He asked if the County was willing to give the alley to him. He was told that it was the county's policy when dividing an alley to give ½ of it to the property owners on both sides. Chairman Blevins said the first step was finding out who the owner of the property was regardless of whether anything could or would be done and asked Mr. Lewis to report any information to the committee at the next meeting. Mr. Lewis also informed the committee of a "hump" in the road behind the old barber shop in Hampton causing a drainage problem from water coming off the state highway. Supt. Colbaugh stated he would look into this issue.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Supt. Colbaugh presented a recap of the bridge program for the committee to review and a list of Carter County Highway Activities for April 2021. These are on file in the Clerk's Office. He told the committee the flashing caution lights to be placed on Minton Hollow Road had come in and TDOT had given them the poles to put them on. He stated there were a few preparations needed, such as calling 811 to make sure there were no underground plumbing and such where they decided to place the signs and getting the caution signs printed. He said that would be started next week.

He reported some of the P.O.'s for the parking lot paving at several schools had been submitted and the deadline for the remaining P.O.'s was May 20, 2021. He said the plan was as soon as school was out the paving would begin, hopefully by June 1, 2021.

Supt. Colbaugh once again related to the committee the replacement of vandalized road signs was a real problem. He stated 328 signs had to be replaced all over the county. He stated it always seemed to be worse around graduation.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Chairman Blevins reminded the committee Billy Cole donated the land in Stoney Creek to the county to build the fire hall and Little Sandy Bridge. He stated he would entertain a motion that the bridge be named in honor of Billy Cole. Motion was made by Gary Bailey, seconded by Nancy Brown that Big Sandy Bridge be named for Billy Cole. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried. Motion was next made by Kelly Collins, seconded by Layla Ward to hold a Public Hearing at the June meeting for dedication of the bridge as the Billy Cole Bridge. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried. Motion was then made by Gary Bailey, seconded by Mark Tester to request the county to pay for the sign for the bridge due to the fact Billy Cole had donated the property. By a voice roll call vote, motion carried.

Mark Tester reported he had received several calls about the pot holes caused from the expansion of Smalling Creek. Supt. Colbaugh said he would put some asphalt on it when the temperature changes.

Sonja Culler questioned when paving may begin on Gap Creek Road. Supt. Colbaugh stated the coating the State put on the road would have to be removed but it was on his list of roads to be paved at some point.

Supt. Colbaugh informed the committee that his department had paved a very bad "section" of Teaberry Road and was now getting calls from people who wanted to know why Teaberry Road had been paved instead of other county roads in as bad a shape. He told the committee members if they received any calls regarding this matter to inform them only a "section" of the road had been paved on the Hampton Creek side and not the entire road.

Several committee members expressed their gratitude for the work the Highway Department was doing and Chairman Blevins reported the dedication of the J.N. and Freeman Taylor Bridge was May 22, 2021, at 2:00 P.M.

On motion by Jerry Proffitt, seconded by Gary Bailey the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzi Wallace

Approved for entry:

Mark Blevins, Chairman

