

November 14, 2013

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

A Transportation Committee meeting was held on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building, Quorum Court Meeting Room, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas

Committee Members Present: Curry, Adams, Sandlin, Moore
Absent: McKenzie

Others Present: JPs Hernandez, Meyers, County Judge Bob Clinard, Public Service Director Terry Nalley, Director of Road/Bridge Construction Jeff Clark, Road Department Asset Control Coordinator Cindy Jones

Media: Tom Sissom

JP Curry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that he was pleased with the work that Administrator of Public Services Terry Nalley and the Road Department's other new administrators have done in a short time on the job.

Administrator of Public Services Terry Nalley stated that the Road Department is still working to repair damage from the spring flooding. He stated of the 54 sites identified as damaged in that flooding, that repair work is done on 39. He added that dirt crews are working on 10 sites and the department's bridge crews are working on five sites.

Terry Nalley stated that the repair work on the August Flood sites will take at least 16 months to complete, and that they are considering contracting out the repair work from the August flooding which will speed up the process and allow county road crews to return to their normal work schedule. He stated that the county has 24 bridges that were damaged in the August flooding, and that he estimated repair work to those bridges will take about a year to complete.

Road Department's Asset Control Coordinator Cindy Jones presented a power point presentation of the State and Federal Flood events.

Terry Nalley reported that in 2014 the county plans to complete three major bridge projects. He said the county is planning to replace the Stage Coach Bridge, southeast of Gravette at a cost of about \$115,000. He stated replacing the Wildcat Bridge on old Highway 68 is expected to cost about \$1.2 million and that replacing the Corinth Road Bridge which was washed away in the August flooding, is estimated to cost \$60,000.

Terry Nalley stated the Road Department's paving plans calls for a total of 29.56 miles of county roads to be paved in 2014. He stated according to the 2014 plan, that 71 miles will be paved with a single layer of chip and seal paving, while 8.96 miles will be paved with double chip and seal paving. He added that asphalt paving work is planned on 13.5 miles of county roads. He stated that he could not give the justices of the peace any schedule on when the 2014 projects might begin or be completed.

Cody McSperitt, with Pinnacle Propane in Hiwassee presented a power point presentation of the benefits of propane fuel systems in vehicles. He said that saving on fuel costs is the biggest attraction of the hybrid fuel systems that allow vehicles to burn propane fuel and gasoline. He stated on an average of 30 percent can be saved on your fuel costs for a vehicle per year and that the county could also see savings on vehicle maintenance, since propane burns cleaner than gasoline. He said that the cost to convert vehicles from burning gasoline to the hybrid fuel system is about \$4,500 per vehicle.

JP Curry stated that the county might be interested in setting up a pilot program if Pinnacle Propane is willing to bear the startup cost while the county gathers information to evaluate the effectiveness of the system. He stated that if Pinnacle Propane was willing to foot the bill for a Pilot Program and convert a couple of county vehicles to propane and set a tank at the Road Department or Sheriff's Office, that the county might be interested.

Further discussion was held on Pinnacle Propane setting up a pilot program, and the costs involved converting county vehicles.

Adjournment

After motion and second the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.