

July 6, 2015

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

A Transportation Committee meeting was held on Monday, July 6, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building, Quorum Court Meeting Room, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas

Committee Members Present: K. Harrison, Moore, Adams, Meyers, Slinkard
Absent: Anglin (she did not receive notice of meeting)

Others Present: County Judge Bob Clinard, Administrator of Public Services Jeff Clark, Chuck Wipf, Crafton & Tull, and Jason Sivils, Grand River Engineering

Media: Tom Sissom

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

Discussion of Spavinaw Bridge on Stagecoach Road

Administrator of Public Services Jeff Clark explained that county ordinance No. O-2000-20 was adopted several years ago which established minimum design standards for bridges in the county. He stated that this ordinance prohibits the road department from installing a new bridge on Stagecoach Road unless they can raise the bridge to be 4 feet above the Q25. He explained that they are damming up the area and that the engineer suggested that they build it at least 2 feet above the original height because it has been topped. Jeff Clark stated that he agrees it needs to be higher but not the 4.6 feet height that it requires to reach the Q25 standard.

Further lengthy discussion was held on the height needed on this bridge and the need to do a variance immediately to move this project along, and that perhaps a change could be made to allow an Engineer and the County Judge to allow variances from the original ordinance. It was discussed that the existing ordinance could be revised but that it should not be completely eliminated. JP Moore suggested taking the time to review the existing ordinance that established the minimum standards for bridges on county roads and then reworking it.

JP Adams suggested asking County Attorney George Spence to draft a variance to ordinance No. O-2000-20 for this particular project and then to prepare a draft ordinance that would supersede the existing one.

JP Moore made motion to do a variance from the Q25 standard requirement for the Spavinaw Bridge project and forward to the next Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP K. Harrison.

Show of hands vote recorded as follows: 3 yeas, 1 abstain (Meyers).

JP Meyers stated that he does not have enough knowledge on this issue to vote.

Motion passed.

JP K. Harrison then made a motion to have the County Judge and County Attorney draft a revised ordinance and have it presented at the next Transportation Committee meeting, seconded by JP Moore.

Show of hands vote recorded as follows: 4 yeas

Motion passed.

War Eagle Bridge Project:

County Judge Clinard introduced Jason Sivils of Great River Engineering, the engineering firm that has been selected to do the work on the War Eagle Bridge project.

Jason Sivils stated that his company has a location in Kansas City, Missouri and one in Springfield, Missouri. He reported that his company has experience in working on truss-built bridges that were built much like this one. He reported that a majority of his experience with these types of bridges are ones located in Missouri. He explained the different phases of this project and stated that his firm will also help to seek funding.

After some further discussion by the committee members, Judge Clinard stated that Jason Sivils would be giving a presentation at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 14th.

JP K. Moore asked Administrator of Public Services Jeff Clark to give an update on the road projects.

Jeff Clark reported that the Road Department is about four weeks behind on paving due to the rain, and reported that they laid the base on Y City Road today. He stated that they have had three annual bridge inspection reports and that there were no previous deficiencies on them. He stated that he is very proud of his crew for their dedication.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

After motion and second the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.