

**MINUTES**  
**JOINT MEETING OF THE TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF**  
**COMMISSIONERS AND THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF**  
**TRANSPORTATION**  
**July 15, 2009 – SPECIAL MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners met jointly with officials from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Services Building Conference Room. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the DOT's recommended program for secondary road improvements in Transylvania County for FY 2010.

Commissioners present were Lynn Bullock, Mike Hawkins and Darlye Hogsed. Commissioners Jason Chappell and Kelvin Phillips were absent. Also present were County Manager Artie Wilson and Clerk to the Board Trisha McLeod.

DOT officials present were Division 14 Board Member Conrad Burrell, Division 14 Engineer Joel Setzer, District Engineer Mark Gibbs, Division 14 Maintenance Engineer Brian Burch, County Road Maintenance Supervisor David Capps, County Maintenance Engineer Lori Jones, and Right-of-Way Agent Frank Dills.

There were 4 people in the audience. There was no media in attendance.

Commissioner Daryle Hogsed presiding called the meeting to order 3:05 p.m. and welcomed DOT officials and members of the audience. He turned the meeting over to DOT officials.

Division 14 Board Member Conrad Burrell presented the Secondary Road Spending Plan for Transylvania County for FY 2010. He explained that DOT revenues have decreased by more than \$250 million which has resulted in employee layoffs and delayed projects. He noted that the Secondary Road Program is not yet finalized; however based on cash availability the DOT plans to spend approximately \$2.2 million in Transylvania County in FY 2010 on backlogged projects.

Division 14 Engineer Joel Setzer explained that the DOT has not committed to any new projects because of the lack of funding and since the State's budget has not been finalized. The Secondary Road Program for FY 2010 consists of backlogged projects that have already been approved and is simply a spending plan from prior year allocations on prior year projects.

District Engineer Mark Gibbs reviewed the FY 2010 Secondary Road Spending Plan. He explained there is a backlog of projects totaling \$3.5 million; however the DOT plans to spend \$2.2 million on backlogged projects in FY 2010. He reviewed the projects as follows:

1. 14C.088024 – Funds to maintain gravel roads
2. 14C.088007 – Funds to maintain gravel roads
3. 14C.088023 – Funds for surveying roads on the backlog list and acquiring rights-of-way
4. Safety Signage – Funds to place safety signage on roads
5. SR 1301 Cold Mountain Road – Road built but slide areas need to be repaired
6. SR 1400 Ivy Lane Road Addition – Road built and in the process of being paved
7. SR 1556 Osborne Road – Involves widening, adding curb and gutter and drainage
8. SR 1348 Probart Street – Road complete except seeding, shoulder work and moving utilities
9. SR 1500 Holliday Road – Road improvement; will be funded with HB 750 funds which are funds that have been set aside to pay for projects after rights-of-way are obtained

The rights-of-way have not been acquired on the remaining backlogged projects, all of which are paved road improvements:

1. SR 1560 Reasonover Road
2. SR 1128 Whitmire Road
3. SR 1536 Cascade Lake Road
4. SR 1344 Cashiers Valley Road
5. SR 1143 Frozen Creek Road
6. SR 1533 Everett Farm Road
7. SR 1540 Wilson Road

### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

In a response to a question from Commissioner Hawkins, DOT officials explained that the backlogged list of projects were approved with the previous year's funds; however the projects will be expanded into FY 2010 because of the remaining work involved, such as utility work.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jean Plemmons: Ms. Plemmons inquired about the right-of-way obtainment on Cascade Lake Road and about placing signage on dangerous gravel roads. Mr. Setzer said speed limits are not posted on gravel roads but it is possible to place warning signs on them to encourage drivers to be more careful. Ms. Plemmons also commented about some intersection issues in the Little River community which she wishes to discuss further with DOT officials.

Steve Owen: Mr. Owen thanked DOT officials for their work on improving Ivy Lane.

Tim Ballard: Mr. Ballard commented about speeders on Kemp Road resulting in several accidents. He said he recently learned that the speed limit on dirt roads was 55 miles per hour. He also commented about problems on Glade Creek Road. Mr. Setzer said if the speed limit is not posted, the speed limit defaults to 55 miles per hour. He also explained it is difficult to post signs on gravel roads because of the constantly changing road conditions. It is expected that people will drive a safe speed according to the road conditions.

Jean Plemmons: Ms. Plemmons inquired about the use of federal funds for road projects. Mr. Setzer explained that all funds for scraping gravel roads, etc. come from State funds.

There were no further comments from the public or Commissioners.

**Commissioner Bullock moved to accept the Secondary Road Spending Plan for Transylvania County for FY 2010. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Commissioner Hogsed thanked DOT officials for being responsive to the Board of Commissioners and the citizens of Transylvania County. The motion was unanimously approved.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Commissioner Hawkins moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Bullock and unanimously carried.**

ATTEST:

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Jason R. Chappell, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

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Trisha D. McLeod  
Clerk to the Board

07/15/2009