

VIRGINIA: County of Lee, to-wit:

At the Public Hearing of the Lee County Board of Supervisors in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse on June 19, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. thereof.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Smith, Chairman
Nathan Cope
D. D. Leonard
Larry Mosley

MEMBERS ABSENT: Charles Slemp, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Allan Sumpter, VDOT
Dane Poe, County Administrator
Jeny Hughes, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT: Stacy Estep Munsey, County Attorney

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

SECONDARY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Virginia, in accordance with Section 33.2-331 of the Code of Virginia, conducted a joint public hearing in the General District Courtroom, Lee County Courthouse, Jonesville, Virginia on June 19, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

The purpose of this public hearing was to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2019/20 through 2023/24 in Lee County and on the Secondary System Construction Budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19.

Allan Sumpter, Virginia Department of Transportation Wise Residency Administrator, presented information on funding and projects currently on the Secondary Six-Year Plan. He stated that the purpose of this meeting is the allocation of funds for roads that are currently VDOT maintained.

He reported that Friendship Hollow Road has been completed, Dry Branch Road nearing completion, Greenleaf Road is under construction, Sigma Road is scheduled to start in the fall, Stone Mountain Road and Sigma Road are scheduled for this year, Martin Wolf Road is scheduled for 2019, McLin Hollow Road and Delvale Roads are scheduled for 2020, Lynn Flanary Road is scheduled for 2021, Reed Patch Road is scheduled for 2022, Lovelady and Maude Harless Roads are scheduled for 2023, Clear Springs Road is scheduled for 2024, and Back Valley Rd is not fully funded in this plan.

Mr. Poe stated that Lynn Flanary and Klondike Roads were on the Six-Year plans before and were taken off due to lack of funding, the remaining additional roads were able to be added to this plan.

Mr. Sumpter stated that doing the road by the Rural Rustic design has resulted in extra savings allowing for additional roads to be added.

Mr. Cope asked if the construction costs had been updated on the added roads.

Mr. Sumpter stated that the costs had been updated.

Mr. Mosley asked about State Route 604.

Mr. Sumpter stated that the list is created to get more projects done with the allotted amount of money. Route 604 is over 3 miles and would take a lot of money to complete.

Mr. Mosley stated that it would be cheaper for the State to tar and chip the road than to keep adding gravel.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

Gerald Cantrell, Klondike Road, stated that more people have moved onto this road resulting in increased traffic and he feels it would save the State money to hard top the road instead of putting gravel on it.

Mr. Sumpter stated that Klondike Road is on the plan for fiscal year 2022 – 2023.

Jean Rasnic, Klondike Road, stated that this road has been put on and taken off the list several times, and asked that it take priority over the other roads on the list.

Mr. Poe stated that in years past, people came to the public hearings and requested a road be added to the plan and, at a later date, the Board of Supervisors met to actually place the roads on the plan. Roads are not just added because they are requested at the public hearings. Klondike Road was actually one of the last roads put into the plan and when the road budget was cut, the State requested that the Board of Supervisors cut the list. When the roads were able to be placed back on the plan, it was done in the same priority order as they were added to begin with. The original plan for this road was to pave .03 of a mile, now that the road is back in the plan, it is in at 2.2 miles.

Melvin Collins, Route 604 Blackwater, stated that if money is the issue the State could pave this road in sections and complete it over a period of time. He asked that Route 604 be placed on the 6 year plan.

Robert Sumpter, Route 604 Blackwater, stated that he has had to replace and plug several tires over the years due the rough condition of the road. He added that the traffic is steadily increasing due to traffic being redirected because of the issues on the Tennessee side of the mountain on Route 70.

Jerry Collins, Route 604 Blackwater, stated that there is big farm equipment being taken up and down that road everyday that is causing dust issues, and asked that this road be brought into the 6 year plan.

Jess Livesay, Route 604 Blackwater, stated that if the State waits until there is enough money to pave the entire 3.7 miles, it will never get done. He asked that the road be brought into the 6 year plan and be done a little at a time.

Tim Sumpter, Route 604 Blackwater, stated that the dust is terrible and the gravel messes up tires and paint on the vehicles, there are also issues with steep curves.

Mr. Leonard asked Allan Sumpter how often the roads are treated for dust.

Mr. Allan Sumpter stated that treatment is done two or three times a year.

Mr. Leonard asked if there was a certain time of year it is done.

Mr. Sumpter stated that the time of year varies, depending on the weather and that the treatment is not done on the entire road, only in front of homes.

Mr. Mosley stated that these roads need to be addressed and especially the one in Blackwater.

There was no further public comment.

Mr. Smith closed the public hearing.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

CLERK OF THE BOARD