

VIRGINIA: County of Lee, to-wit:

At the Public Hearing of the Lee County Board of Supervisors in the Conference Room of the Lee County Courthouse on June 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. thereof.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Crabtree, Chairman
Carl Bailey
Larry Mosley
Charles Slemp, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Allen Sumpter, VDOT
Jackie Christian, VDOT
Dane Poe, County Administrator
Jeny Hughes, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT: None

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

SECONDARY SYSTEM SIX-YEAR PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Virginia in accordance with Section 33.1-70.01 of the Code of Virginia, conducted a joint public hearing in the Conference Room of the Lee County Courthouse, Jonesville, Virginia on June 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of this public hearing was to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2013/14 through 2018/19 in Lee County and on the Secondary System Construction Budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.

All projects in the Secondary Six-Year Plan that are eligible for federal funds will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which documents how Virginia will obligate federal transportation funds.

Allen Sumpter, Virginia Department of Transportation, Wise Residency Administrator, presented information on funding and projects currently on the Secondary Six-Year Plan and explained that in the last General Assembly session, a new Transportation Bill for the 6 year program has passed which means that new programs will begin to have funding coming available in the future. He explained that the Transportation Bill is going to add to the overall transportation program, which will move projects forward and help with maintenance; allocations from the program will be seen in Fiscal Year 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Mr. Sumpter stated that there are three projects on schedule to begin with the next fiscal year, which are Route 683, Raymond Carter Rd; Route 656, Friendship Hollow Road; and Route 688, Dry Branch Road. The funding for the projects is projected to increase over the next few year with the estimated allocations for upcoming years being \$83,650.00 in fiscal year 2014; \$146,912.00 in fiscal year 2015; \$181,569.00 in fiscal year 2016; \$443,231.00 in fiscal year 2017; \$501,315.00 in fiscal year 2018, and \$562,331.00 in fiscal year 2019.

Regina Egan, District 4, asked where these three roads are located.

Mr. Sumpter stated that Raymond Carter Road is in the Ewing area, Friendship Hollow is in the Jonesville area, and Dry Branch Road is in the Western end of the County.

Mr. Slemper asked about the car count on Friendship Road.

Mr. Sumpter stated that it has to be at least 50 cars per day.

Ms. Rowe entered the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Jackie Christian, Assistant Residency Administrator, stated that the car count for Friendship Hollow is 91 cars per day.

Ms. Egan asked if there is any county funding for these projects.

Mr. Sumpter stated that VDOT receives funding gas and fuel taxes, and the tax and title fees paid on vehicles, and that local property tax does not apply to anything VDOT related.

Mr. Sumpter opened the floor for any further public comment

A citizen from District 4 asked how and when the car counts are taken and stated concerns about Country Cove Road, Route 763, with gravel washing out from heavy rains and clogging the drainpipes.

Mr. Sumpter stated that the count is taken at different segments on the road and the count is captured within 100 feet of intersections and is based on cycles. He also stated that VDOT would come out and check the road to see if there is maintenance issues that can be corrected to keep this from happening.

Ms. Egan stated that she is having the same issue with Route 805 being washed out from heavy rains.

Mr. Sumpter stated that as a Board, the Supervisors need to decide where these roads fit on the priority list.

Mr. Poe stated that the plan has been on hold for the past 10 years, and that the projects that are on the list now were probably added in the early to mid 1990s.

Mr. Slemp stated that he has concerns about the vegetation growth on the roads.

Ms. Egan asked if the roads with less than 200 vehicles per day are off the list.

Mr. Sumpter stated that that in coming years, more money will be available for road with 50 vehicles, but not until 2017.

Mr. Poe stated that in 2003 the State said to purge the list and only include the roads that could be funded in a 6-year period. The estimated cost that is on the list was obtained at that time, and is inaccurate now. Mr. Poe stated that another thing that is confusing is that citizens would request their roads to be put on list, but not every road that was mentioned met the qualifications to be on the plan.

Eddie Thomas thanked VDOT for what has been done on the maintenance of his road.

Mr. Sumpter stated that they will do what they can maintenance wise to help with the issues on these roads.

Mr. Crabtree closed the public hearing.