

MINUTES OF THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMISSION MEETING

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The Williamson County Highway Commission met on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. at the Williamson County Highway Department facility at 302 Beasley Drive in Franklin, TN. Commission members present were: County Mayor and Highway Commission Chair Rogers Anderson; and Commissioners Charlie Bennett, Dick Fowlkes, Renis Baker and Stan Tyson.

Also, present were: Eddie Hood, Highway Superintendent; County Commissioner Cheryl Wilson; David Coleman, Budget Director; Nena Graham, Assistant Budget Director; Joe Horne, Community Development Director; Floyd Heflin and William Andrews, Engineering; Michael Matteson, Planning Department; Greg Boll, Randy Hickman, Elaine Vasquez, and Ray Campbell, Highway Department; Randy Carroll, Collier Engineering; County Attorney Bobby Cook, Buerger, Moseley and Carson; Dorothy Baker; Carol Edwards, County Mayor's Office; and other interested and concerned individuals.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. and asked for approval of the March 3, 2010 Highway Commission minutes. Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. Chair Anderson welcomed the attendees and thanked the Highway staff for the use of their facility for all future meetings. Mr. Boll explained how to use the microphones.

Special Announcements: There were none.

Citizens Communications: Chair Anderson gave an overview of the intersection improvements at Clovercroft and Oxford Glen before inviting Alderman Beverly Burger from the City of Franklin to speak.

Alderman Burger stated that there had been numerous accidents at this intersection over the last several years and the installation of two stop signs with flashing lights helped to improve the situation. The city agreed that reducing the hill height would help with the sight distance issues especially at night. Alderman Burger asked if the County would consider lowering the hill first and wait to see if the traffic signal is still needed. She suggested that a four-way stop might also be an alternative to the traffic signal. Residents in the area have concerns about the traffic volume piling up in front of their homes and driveways, she stated, and that perhaps with the opening of McEwen Drive the high volume of traffic in the neighborhood will diminish.

Supt. Hood stated that the project will be outsourced and will take approximately \$500,000 to the grade the hill as well as install the traffic signal. There are a few temporary construction easements to be obtained. Supt. Hood stated that he believes there would be liability issues if a serious accident occurs. Mr. Cook concurred stating that the engineer concluded that lowering the hill and installing a signal was the best solution and to act in contradiction may open the County to liability. Mr. Carroll stated that the bids are due to open on April 29th.

County Commissioner Cheryl Wilson stated that she was aware of severe injuries at this location and with her engineering background she doesn't believe that a 4-way stop sign will work in this heavily traveled area. Commissioner Wilson stated that she personally thinks a traffic signal would work best and that the safety of the citizens is most important.

There was further discussion about the intersection with a general consensus to continue as previously planned. Chair Anderson thanked Alderman Burger for her attendance and remarks.

There were no other citizens to speak.

Elections and Appointments: There were none.

OLD BUSINESS: Chair Anderson stated that Headmaster Hugh Harris of Franklin Christian Academy was asking for a speed reduction on the remaining portion of Bethlehem Loop Road in a letter dated March 5, 2010 (Attachment A). The school zone warning devices as required by the Planning Commission and County Commission have not been installed as of this date. Chair Anderson stated that a letter would be sent to Mr. Harris (Attachment B) requesting that the school zone flashing light be installed prior to any further discussion of speed limit reduction.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 5-10-2. **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ROADS IN ABINGTON RIDGE, SECTION 1 AS A PART OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE BY THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT LOCATED OFF ARNO ROAD.** Commissioner Fowlkes moved to recommend approval, seconded by Commissioner Bennett.

Mr. Andrews stated that the staff recommended approval. Supt. Hood stated that he also recommended approval.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Highway Commission District Reports. Commissioner Fowlkes stated that there was to be a meeting concerning Beechcreek Road later in the month. There were no other district reports.

Highway Superintendent Report. Supt. Hood referenced the March 2010 Activity Report and stated that they had begun paving for the year. Further, he reported that they were due to start bush hogging on April 19th and that the current construction projects were looking good. Supt. Hood stated that a couple had called about holding a wedding on the lookout area at Pull Tight Hill Road and he had asked them to come to the meeting today to provide additional information, but they did not show up.

Highway Chairman Report. Chairman Anderson had no report, but stated that there had been numerous calls about pot holes and wash outs due to the harsh winter weather.

Legal Issues. There were no legal issues.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:08 a.m., upon duly made motion and second, as there was no further business.

/ce

Rogers C. Anderson
Chairman and County Mayor