

CLARKE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
May 4, 2009 Adjourned Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Main Meeting Room

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, Virginia in the Main Meeting Room in the Joint Government Center, 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia on Monday, May 4, 2009.

Board Members Present

Barbara J. Byrd; J. Michael Hobert; John R. Staelin; David S. Weiss

Board Members Absent

A.R. "Pete" Dunning, Jr.

Staff Present

David Ash, Chuck Johnston, Lora Walburn

Also Present

Anne Caldwell, Laura Oleniacz

Call To Order

Chairman John Staelin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Vice Chair Hobert requested to add:

- Review of Use of Main Meeting Room by Clarke County Library

Supervisor Byrd moved to adopt the agenda as modified.

The motion carried by the following vote:

John R. Staelin, Chair	-	Aye
J. Michael Hobert, Vice Chair	-	Aye
Barbara J. Byrd	-	Aye

A.R. Dunning, Jr. - Absent
David S. Weiss - Aye

Continued Discussion VDOT Secondary Six-Year Plan for FY 2009/2010 through 2014/2015

Unpaved Roads

Jeff Lineberry, with Bob Childress, appeared before the Supervisors to provide additional review of the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for FY2009/10 through 2014/2015 scheduled for public hearing on May 19, 2009 at the Supervisors' regular meeting. Mr. Lineberry briefly recapped the impact on local priorities of funding reductions and VDOT restructure.

Bob Childress reviewed the unpaved roads priorities advising that current funding totals approximately \$815,000.

Chairman Staelin confirmed that the Supervisors were being asked to define a program that could utilize the existing funds.

Bob Childress and Jeff Lineberry answered questions on potential options.

Supervisor Weiss commented that he was not opposed to the projects proposed in his district; however, he would request that some way be found to complete the projects in Chairman Staelin's district due to the number of years these projects have been on the schedule.

Bob Childress explained that while he, too, found it difficult to leave the previous priorities incomplete the available funding was insufficient. He put forth that he would prefer to see these funds spent in Clarke County before they were pulled for projects in other jurisdictions.

Chairman Staelin opened up to the audience for technical questions

Joe Clotzman: asked questions concerning right-of-way on Route 607. He said that he had been talking with a landowner that had previously been reluctant to give the necessary right-of-way.

Anne Caldwell: noting recent traffic counts on Route 604 asked for this new data was available.

Jeff Lineberry advised that it was not yet available.

Dr. Caldwell inquired as to whether it would be appropriate to pursue a Rural Rustic Roads Designation for Route 604.

Jeff Lineberry explained that Rural Rustic Roads advising these roads are done "as is"; and with Route 604, this designation would be made more difficult due to road alignment, hills, curves and drainage issues. He noted that the 30-foot right-of-way would still be necessary for structures must be situated in the right-of-way.

Bob Childress added that VDOT had not yet received all the right-of-way at the north end of Route 604. However, he said that he did find that property on the other side of the road had been dedicated, which might allow for the needed fifty-foot right-of-way.

Joe Clotzman: asked if the bridge are could be addressed opining that this was the worst part of the road.

James Payne: questioned the road counts citing previous studies that indicated that volume was higher between Route 607 north to Route 7.

Jeff Lineberry stated that traffic counts are performed in three-year cycles and the current information was at least three years old.

Chairman Staelin asked where counters were placed, which was answered by Dr. Caldwell.

Phillip Bowers: asked about replacement of the double culvert with a box culvert.

Ken Sherper: noted that there were 23 houses on Route 604 adding his support that it made sense to focus on the part of Route 604 going south. He asked questions regarding current and future funding.

Jeff Lineberry explained that funding was limited and future funding uncertain.

Unidentified Man: asked if Mount Weather could be approached for funding assistance He further noted that their emergency vehicles service the area.

Jeff Lineberry stated that he could not speak to this without knowing the overall mission.

Kim Stafford – contributed that Mount Weather did respond to emergency calls in the area.

Supervisor Byrd asked about the ability to replace the culverts without paving the road.

Jeff Lineberry advised that this might be possible but right of way would still be necessary.

Chairman Staelin asked if the SSYP could be written in such a way as to allow improvements to Route 604 to the extent the funds were available. He also inquired whether the project could be moved if the property owner would not grant the right of way.

Jeff Lineberry responded that the SSYP must state a plan. He suggested that the project be constrained to the most difficult part of the road in the area of the first culvert. He advised that some estimating would need to be done to make a determination as to how much could be done if construction was concentrated to that end of the road.

Bob Childress added that it would probably be much easier to define project from Route 607 Sawmill Road .35 mile south to address the drainage structures as far south from Sawmill as VDOT could with the available funding. He said that if there were any left over funds, VDOT would come back again and revise the plan to pick up the next section of Ebenezer Road.

Mr. Erickson interjected that the section of Mountaineer Lane was already dedicated and platted asserting that he had surveyed this land and that it was recorded. He said that there was a 50-foot right away, dedicated 25 feet out from the centerline, along Route 604 on right side.

Bob Childress asked if the easements were enough to place the necessary drainage structures. Mr. Erickson responded that the necessary easements were probably not available.

Bob Childress advised that the public hearing notice would run in the newspaper on Wednesday.

Schools

Jeff Lineberry advised that VDOT had received the Traffic Impact Analysis from the Town of Berryville. VDOT planning staff have studied the TIA and determined that a roundabout could be an option. He said that a very preliminary estimate of project would be in the range of \$4 million to \$4.5 million covering the extension of Mosby, construction of a roundabout, and tying in Westwood Road. Mr. Lineberry stated that VDOT was very conservative when determining costs and that approximately \$1 million in contingencies was included. He stated that more detailed estimates were needed noting that utilities needed to be moved and utility easements secured. He stated that he had not reviewed the Gannet Fleming estimate.

Jeff Lineberry asked if the school was considering, planning, or constructing a portion of the road project as part of their construction project.

Supervisor Byrd said that it was her understanding that the Schools would just be paying for entrances. She mentioned an entrance at AP Hill, Westwood signalized and a Westwood roundabout.

Jeff Lineberry said that VDOT would consider the costs with and without curb, gutter and sidewalk on one side. He further noted that VDOT start any work on the project without being able to show how it could be funded. He speculated that VDOT could add

approximately one million over the next five years. Chairman Staelin added that this would bring project funds to about \$3.85 million.

Supervisor Byrd suggested using a 4-way stop to get the project started. Jeff Lineberry stated that it was a possibility that could be explored as an interim measure.

Supervisor Weiss asked which option would require the most in right of way: a traffic signal or a roundabout. Jeff Lineberry stated that a traffic signal would require turn lanes. Bob Childress added that installation of a signal would increase utility costs.

Supervisor Weiss asked if there were restrictions on the roundabout. Jeff Lineberry responded that one school entrance would need to be relocated.

Supervisor Byrd queried Mr. Lineberry on land appraisals. He advised that the right-of-way division had appraisers on staff to determine fair-market value. Disagreements are handled through an appeals process.

Vice Chairman Hobert asked if VDOT knew if the skating rink owner had any problem with the roundabout. Jeff Lineberry replied that further review was necessary.

Supervisor Byrd asked if a map of the proposed design could be provided. Jeff Lineberry said that until VDOT got into the actual design this would be difficult for them to do. Chairman Staelin interjected that the Schools had something similar in the TIA.

Chairman Staelin asked Keith Dalton if he had any questions. Mr. Dalton replied that he had no questions of VDOT. He added that Town Council had no objections.

Jeff Lineberry explained how the project could be identified on the SSYP. Chairman Staelin restated that VDOT would identify this as one project with three components.

Vice Chairman Hobert urged VDOT to submit the plan for federal approval as soon after the beginning of the coming fiscal year as possible.

Supervisor Byrd expressed concern regarding access to the school in the interim. Jeff Lineberry said that a temporary entrance could be given. Bob Childress added that the Schools could have a construction entrance off Route 7 putting forth that Mr. Echols, when developing the subdivision, was given construction access off of Route 7. VDOT assured that this matter could be worked out.

Vice Chairman Hobert asked if VDOT could review their estimates against what others had proposed in an effort to move forward with preliminary engineering design. Jeff Lineberry said that this could be done but much depended on the type of estimate performed.

Supervisor Byrd asked if VDOT would be willing to meet with representatives from the Town of Berryville, the Schools, and the Supervisors. Jeff Lineberry responded that such a meeting was scheduled for tomorrow.

Bob Childress explained that estimates could go down noting a 52% reduction in the current fiscal year, which could happen again next year. He said that the secondary system was the last branch on the funding tree. He told the Supervisors that the SSYP had reduced from 27 projects in 1988 to 3 projects in 2009.

Review of Use of Main Meeting Room by Clarke County Library

Vice Chairman Hobert put forth for consideration the use of the second floor meeting room space by the Clarke County Library for the children's summer reading program. He said that the Library was requesting use for a two-hour period each Monday for an eight-week period from June to August.

Highlights of the discussion include:

- A policy on use of room needs to be developed ensuring use is strictly controlled and government operations are given first priority.
- Concern for the appropriateness of the activity.
- Concern for safety and cleanliness.

No action was taken on the matter.

Adjournment

Chairman Staelin adjourned the meeting at 6:53 pm.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Clarke County Board of Supervisors is set for 1:00 pm, Tuesday, May 19, 2009 in the Main Meeting Room at 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia.

ATTEST: May 4, 2009

John Staelin, Chair
Clarke County Board of Supervisors

David L. Ash, County Administrator

Minutes Recorded and Transcribed by:
Lora B. Walburn
Deputy Clerk, Board of Supervisors