



MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
June 23, 2009
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

The Transportation Committee met Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, Kendra Brown, Interim Administrator & Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent & Carlos Galarza – Daily Journal

Call to Order:

Chairman Thrift called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2009 Committee meeting as presented.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve the minutes from the May 30, 2009 Committee meeting as presented.

Discussion of Requests by Citizens:

Coneross Point Subdivision Sign Agreement

Mr. Van Fair, Treasurer, Coneross Point POA, addressed the committee and provided a handout [filed with these minutes] regarding his communities desire to have installed signs of their design. He stated that after discussion with Mr. Mack Kelly, County Engineer, that his POA was unable to sign the Agreement as presented as they were not able to adequately insure themselves for the liability. Mr. Kelly reviewed his concerns as outlined in his June 23, 2009 memo [filed with these minutes]. Discussion followed.

It was the recommendation of the committee that the issue will require consultation with the county attorney before a decision can be reached. Mr. Thrift stated that the POA would be notified of a decision regarding this issue.

Tree Cutting / Mr. Ed Pugh

Mr. Ed Pugh addressed the committee regarding his request to have several trees in the county right-of-way saved from being cut down during road construction. Mr. Pugh read from a statement [filed with these minutes] which outlined his concerns and requests of the committee to include altering the deed for the right-of-way and the removal of additional trees in the right-of-way. Mr. Pugh also stated that he had contracted and had a recent survey of the property done in order to address the tree issue. Mr. Kelly reviewed his concerns as outlined in his June 23, 2009 memo [filed with these minutes]. Discussion followed.

It was the recommendation of the committee that Mr. Kelly meet again with Mr. Pugh and make a recommendation if a waiver should be granted. Mr. Kelly noted that a waiver would have to be approved by Board of Zoning Appeals and that he would provide the necessary information to Mr. Pugh.

Cedar Creek Lane / Mr. Don Murray

Mr. Don Murray, a representative of the Cedar Creek POA, addressed the committee regarding his request to have the county accept Cedar Creek Lane into the county road system for county maintenance. Mr. Kelly reviewed his concerns as outlined in his June 23, 2009 memo [filed with these minutes]. Discussion followed.

It was the recommendation of the committee to have Mr. Kelly provide Mr. Murray with a copy of the pertinent ordinance [#2008-19] and have him address the necessary issues outlined in the ordinance at the next POA meeting.

Reid Drive, Salem

Mr. Kelly reviewed his memo of June 23, 2009 [filed with these minutes] that outlines a request by Mr. James Reid to have the county give him a 4' diameter pipe to repair his washed out private driveway. Discussion followed.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to deny Mr. Reid's request for assistance with his private driveway.

Road Paving Expenditures:

Mr. Kelly reviewed with the committee his memo of June 23, 2009 [filed with these minutes] regarding road paving capital projects. Discussion followed. Mr. Thrift noted that the present wish of Council is to receive a paving list and allow Council to decide how to fund versus the prior Council's plan to build up capital and then decided on appropriate projects.

Old Business:

Merry Branch Road

Mr. Kelly noted that we are still awaiting a definitive recommendation from the attorney.

COE Request for County to accept Choestoea Road

Mr. Martin Dotson, COE, addressed the committee and outlined the Corp's position and request that the county take over this road after it has been upgraded to current county road standards. Mr. Dotson provided the committee with documentation [filed with these minutes]. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift requested that Ms. Hulse add this issue to the July 7, 2009 Council meeting for discussion and action. In addition, he requested Mr. Kelly to follow up with Mr. Dotson after the council meeting regarding the outcome of the vote.

Bennettsville Road / Update & Options

Mr. Kelly addressed the committee regarding the status of the culvert pipe issue noting that problems have arisen after installation 12 years ago as the arch pipe was placed on solid rock. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift requested that Mr. Kelly explore various options and obtain cost estimates for discussion at a future meeting.

Jenkins Bridge Update

Mr. Kelly addressed the committee regarding the history of this project and the results of the requested traffic study [which resulted in 188 average daily trips]. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift requested that Mr. Kelly explore various options and obtain cost estimates [to include a hollow core bridge] for discussion at a future meeting.

New Business:

No New Business was discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council