

Environmental Committee
September 5, 2023 | 4:30 pm
Room 310 of the old Cumberland County courthouse

Members Present:

Dewey Walker (ABSENT)
Tom Isham
Darrell Threet
Charles Seiber (ABSENT)
Terry Lowe
Wendell Wilson (ABSENT)
Jerry Cooper
Greg Maxwell
Colleen Mall

Others Present:

Donny Hall, *Crossville Chronicle*
Torey LaMontagne, Mayor's office, minutes
Conrad Welch, Director, Solid Waste
Stanley Hall, Road Superintendent
Sue York, 1st district
Mark Baldwin, 7th district
John Patterson, 9th district
5 constituents related to items on the agenda

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Chairman Terry Lowe called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 in Room 310 of the old Cumberland County courthouse.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Colleen Mall made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Greg Maxwell, none were opposed, and the motion carried. The previous set of minutes was approved as presented.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA

A gentleman named John was present from Cumberland Cove with comments regarding the roads on the Cumberland County side of Cumberland Cove. He stated that he had compiled a list of 51 roads back in March 2022 that needed attention. In June of this year, that list had grown to 54 roads and was sent to Commissioner Mark Baldwin to forward to the Road Superintendent. A couple of residents asked about the criteria to have a road paved rather than gravel. Stanley Hall answered that through roads are better candidates for hot mix paving because they see more traffic. John asked Stanley if he had any plans this year for Cumberland Cove and Stanley replied that he did not. Terry Lowe stated that the meeting needed to move forward.

BEN LOMAND EASEMENT APPROVAL (3)

The easements each come with ninety-nine (99) years of free fiber to the parcel from Ben Lomand for use of the easements. A motion was made by Tom Isham to approve all three (3) easement requests from Ben Lomand. Jerry Cooper seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to approve the three (3) easements carried.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY ROADS

STANLEY HALL

Road Superintendent Stanley Hall was present with an update on County roads and a handout for how he planned on spending funds. He noted that he took over last September and that the roads were not prepared for the rapid growth we are experiencing. He mentioned that his plan for the extra 2 million dollars in road funding would be used as an "emergency response kind of thing." He gave figures on what it costs to pave

and stripe, per mile. He mentioned wanting to use the funds as emergency paving, and culvert and bridge repair. He also mentioned that there is currently a homemade bridge sustaining a community in Cumberland Mountain Retreat, and a bridge on Garrison Lane that both need repairs. He noted that there is a culvert on Bowman Loop and a few in Tansi that are about to fail that are in need of immediate repair. He is planning on spending 1 million dollars per year for 3 years on tar and chip costs. He mentioned splitting the tar and chipping with a contractor. He also mentioned a new type of culvert that he is interested in that is coated in tar in the event the culvert will be sitting in water for most of its life. They don't make plastic culverts over 5 feet, but he uses those where he can. Tom Isham mentioned that it seems like we don't have rain anymore, we get floods.

Colleen asked if the current over 3-million-dollar budget will be tapped before the ARPA funds are used. She stated that she likes to know what to tell her constituents when they are asking. She also asked if there were currently two teams working on culverts and bridges. Stanley stated that he has around 15 people when he would like to have at least 20. He also mentioned that he is taking 3 trucks out tomorrow to get some workers trained. Terry Lowe praised Stanley for doing an excellent job with priorities. Stanley mentioned the acquisition of a brand-new dump truck for \$185,000. He mentioned that most of the roads in subdivisions were built well with the exception of Tansi.

Mark Baldwin, John Patterson, and Jerry Cooper all suggested that Stanley and the road crew take advantage of Facebook to let people know what's going on. Stanley said that he does not like social media and its politics. John Patterson suggested a weekly report to people who sign up for it. Mark Baldwin reiterated that the communication is awful, and that his constituents feel like they can't find Stanley. Colleen suggested that at a minimum, he get back with the Environmental Committee periodically with updates so that they can pass it on people. Stanley mentioned that things change from day to day, and that things got off to a slow start.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATES ON SOLID WASTE

CONRAD WELCH

Conrad Welch, Director of Solid Waste, was present with updates from his department. He began by stating that the new location of the Woody Center has power and that we are waiting on final approval from the State, but hope to have it open by the end of this month. He mentioned that they were awarded a grant that should be in next month that will help with the cost of fencing the new center. He noted that the old center's property will be cleaned and returned to Mr. Stout as it was leased. He also noted that we are losing the front of the Rinnie center to the State for the highway.

Conrad also mentioned that the culvert at the land fill on Flynn's Creek has collapsed and it is on County property. We are currently working with a company named Tri-Ad to develop a plan to gravel the sides so the water will run through the lime, neutralizing and acid in the water. We can't stop the water from leaving, so we must develop a plan to neutralize it. Conrad stated that if we could make it two calendar years with no issues on the landfill, we can close it for good and get our money back.

Last, Conrad brought up an issue with tire pick-up and recycle for businesses. Our Recycling Center currently picks up loads of old and used tires from businesses that amass them, in exchange for the fee that it costs us to recycle them. The cost per load has gone from \$69/ton to \$145/ton. Conrad noted that we pick

up roughly 500 tires a day from local businesses, and we will be passing on the cost of picking up and recycling the tires to those businesses.

NAME CHANGE ON KILBY FARM ROAD

Terry Lowe stated that this is the only 911-addressed property currently on Kilby Farm Road. Lee Daugherty was present and stated his intent to make the parcel his primary residence, with the wishes of naming it Daugherty Lane. A motion was made by Jerry Cooper to approve the name change on the County Road List. Greg Maxwell seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to change the road name of Kilby Farm Road to Daugherty Lane on the County Road List carried.

Jerry Cooper asked who is in charge of the new signage and was told that the resident pays the costs on that.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Jerry Cooper. The motion was seconded by Colleen Mall, none were opposed, and the motion to adjourn carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:33 pm on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 in room 310 of the old Cumberland County courthouse.

Recorded and submitted by Torey LaMontagne

Approval:

Terry Lowe

October 5, 2023
Date