

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 6, 2021 – 9:00 AM – Earl Wright Courtroom, Courthouse, Dresden, TN

Public Works Committee Members Present: Commissioners Dennis Doster, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Beth VanCleave, Roger Donaldson, Larry Taylor, and Colton Nanney

Public Works Committee Members Absent: None

The Weakley County Public Works Committee met on Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Earl Wright Courtroom in the Weakley County Courthouse in Dresden. Others present included County Mayor Jake Bynum, Finance Director John Liggett, Road Supervisor Charles Ross, and a representative of the media.

I.-II. CALL TO ORDER – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Doster called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked for the consideration of the minutes from the meeting that was held on March 2, 2021. Commissioner Donaldson made the motion to approve, and with a second by Commissioner Nanney, the motion passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Recording Secretary- Commissioner Doster called for a recommendation for Public Works Recording Secretary. Commissioner Donaldson made a motion for Kirsty-Rhe Janse to serve as the new recording secretary. With no other recommendations and a second from Commissioner VanCleave, Kirsty-Rhe Janse was unanimously appointed as recording secretary.

B. Update on roads and hot mix project bid- Charles Ross, Road Supervisor, was recognized and informed the committee that the repairs made initially on the roads have been undone due to the recent storms. There has been some progress, however, with crews cleaning up the roads.

Supervisor Ross then discussed the hot mix project bid. He explained that the state aid money was close to half a million dollars. The county has used the hot mix for a few years on some roads; however, Supervisor Ross explained that there were a couple of major routes where the hot mix had to last a longer. The plan was to scrub seal those into a thin lift and pour the hot mix over that. They received one bid at \$92.50 a ton, which caused concern for the department. Supervisor Ross expressed his concern for the price and that he may decide not to go that route. The last bid Weakley County had was \$82.50, and before COVID, it was much lower. Although Supervisor Ross expected the price to go up, he didn't expect it to increase that much.

Supervisor Ross mentioned that a neighboring county just did a project that cost them in the 60s. There was talk about what it would look like and how much it would cost to build a plant as other counties have done, but feasibility studies would have to be done to look deeper into that. There has been discussion about pursuing this idea in the past but never anything serious. Commissioner Doster voiced his support for the idea explaining that it would end up paying for itself. Supervisor Ross explained to the committee that even if there was a hot mix plant or a

lower bid available, there still is not enough equipment or people to get the projects done. Commissioner Westbrook suggested a motion to have CTAS do a study on the feasibility of building a hot mix plant, which was met with support from Commissioners Donaldson and Doster. The study would take about six months to a year; however, it could be longer if any problems arose. Regardless, the commissioners on the committee agreed that more options should be explored since prices could just continue to rise. At this time, Supervisor Ross explained that he would go a different route and cancel the contract.

There are a couple of bad bridge issues that have to be attended to. Half of the state aid money can be used for this problem; however, Supervisor Ross has not finalized any decisions. There are still several bridges in Weakley County that are timber supported and will remain a problem. Several commissioners expressed interest in having a conversation with Obion County and seeing if something can be done between the two counties about this issue.

C. Storm Damage on buildings and equipment- Supervisor Ross discussed the storm's damage to the new shop. There were three doors torn off and three doors damaged, and they all have to be replaced. The roof tore off, and a third of the tire shop will have to be fixed. A quarter of the old office's roof was torn off. He explained that there are two roof layers on the buildings, and the storm damaged the top layer. There were minor leaks, but nothing got destroyed. Some of the equipment was damaged and need replacement windows. Supervisor Ross informed the committee that the only thing left of the shed were the concrete walls. Electrical poles are down, the old fence was damaged, and trees had fallen around the property. There was minor damage to the gutters and parts of the new building. The repairs won't happen fast, but slowly, they will fix them.

D. Building project update-Supervisor Ross commented that they were in the new office, and they are a month and a half out from being able to move everything over.

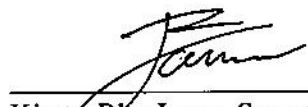
V. OTHER BUSINESS

Supervisor Ross mentioned that there were no transfers; however, there may be some before the County Commission meeting. He voiced his concern about the budget, saying there is a lot of money left in two of the lines, which will cause it to be unbalanced.

VI. ADJOURN

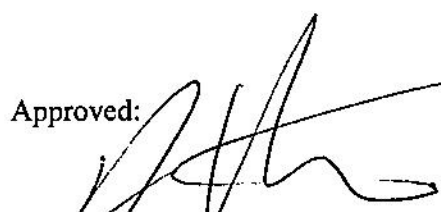
Having no other business, Commissioner Doster made the motion to adjourn, and with a second by Commissioner Donaldson, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kirsty-Rhe Janse, Secretary
Public Works Committee

Approved:



Dennis Doster, Chairperson

Public Works Committee

Date: 6-14-21