

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Tuesday, February 21, 2017; 9:00 a.m.

Public Works Committee Members Present: Commissioners James H. Westbrook, Jr., Jack Vincent, Dennis Doster, Eric Owen, and Dale Overton

Public Works Committee Members Absent: Commissioner Tommy Jones

The Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the county commission courtroom at the courthouse in Dresden. Others present were Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum, Director of Finance John Liggett, Roads Supervisor Charles Ross, Justin Clary with Zayo Group, and representatives of the media.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairperson Westbrook called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called for the approval of the minutes from the January 17, 2017, meeting. Commissioner Doster made the motion to approve the minutes and with a second by Commissioner Vincent, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE ON BILLINGSBY ROAD

Supervisor Ross began by mentioning that the state contracts for the bridge repair project were being reviewed by the County Attorney, Allison Whitlege, and that he projected the roughly cost to be under \$1.75 million. He said that since it's a BRZ bridge with the federal government paying 80%, the county can use the state bridge grant funds for their portion of the cost, around \$6,000-8,000 of local monies from the Highway Department budget. Chairperson Westbrook asked about the general condition of the other bridges, outside of the main bridges that Supervisor Ross had brought forward. Supervisor Ross said that the ones he had disclosed were the priority trouble spots. Discussion was had about general project costs in terms of relative interest and percentages. Conversation progressed to construction timeline, the building components and structural integrity of bridges, and bridge ratings.

CONSIDERATION OF EASEMENTS FOR USE OF LAND WHILE WORKING ON COUNTY

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Chairperson Westbrook began by stating that he had spoken with the Road Superintendent in Tipton County about a successful system that they have in place. He said that they have two methods of formal documentation for maintaining public roads and bridges that cross private or personal property, with one being an easement and the other being a right-of-way purchase. Chairperson Westbrook stated that implementation of this method might eliminate future question in regards to work that crosses personal or private property. He went on to say that he had always heard that in the absence of county deed, the county's right-of-way is ditch-back to ditch-back. Discussion was had on easements, authority, responsibility and protocol, specifications of potential liabilities and projects in regards to right-of-ways. Commissioner Owen encouraged a signed agreement from any landowner whose lands must be crossed for road or bridge maintenance. Chairperson Westbrook recommended that Secretary Erica Moore send the information from Tipton County's Highway Department to the body for review and consideration.

CONSIDER ROAD NAME CHANGE TO CLARIFY THE TWO DEAD END PARTS OF STEELE LEVEE ROAD BY DIVIDING AND RENAMING THE SECTION INTERSECTING WOODARD ROAD AS NORTH STEELE LEVEE ROAD

Chairperson Westbrook recognized Roads Supervisor Ross who stated that at the last Public Works Meeting, Emergency Management Director Jamison Peevyhouse requested that Steele Levee Road be designated north and south on the road list to clarify the sections of road for emergency reasons. There was some discussion about whether a resolution is necessary to update the road in the system, and since there was no addition or subtraction to the road in the system, it was decided that a resolution was unnecessary. Commissioner Vincent made the motion to amend Steele Levee Road to distinguish the road's sections as North Steele Levee Road and South Steele Levy Road, and with a second by Commissioner Owen, the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERING REQUEST TO ALLOW PRIVATE CONTRACTOR TO USE COUNTY RIGHTS OF WAY TO BURY FIBER

Chairperson Westbrook once again recognized Road Supervisor Ross, who introduced Justin Clary, OSP Project Manager at Zayo Group out of Nashville. Mr. Clary explained that Zayo Group is a fiber provider that contracts out fiber installation, and is working on a project in Kentucky that needs to pass through sections of Weakley County to tie up in Fulton, Kentucky. Supervisor Ross listed the sections of road that the company would need to cross, totaling 9.8 miles. Chairperson Westbrook asked Mr. Clary questions regarding his company, fiber line inspection, permits, stipulations, the areas the company plans to travel through, and who is responsible for the upkeep and pay for costs in regards to repairs and maintenance after the fiber lines are installed. Chairperson Westbrook explained that, if the body should allow the company to cross into Weakley County, the Zayo Group would have to abide by the rules, regulations, and requirements outlined in Resolution 2015-23. A copy of that resolution was provided to Mr. Clary and the members of the body.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Vincent revisited the discussion regarding Billingsby Road, asking what could be done there. Supervisor Ross said that the bridge grant program contracts must be signed by Mayor Bynum, County Attorney Whitledge, and himself. Ross suggested a vote be had by the body regarding what further actions to take next for Billingsby Road.

Commissioner Vincent asked for thoughts and prayers to be with Mac Buckley, former County Commissioner, whose wife has recently passed away.

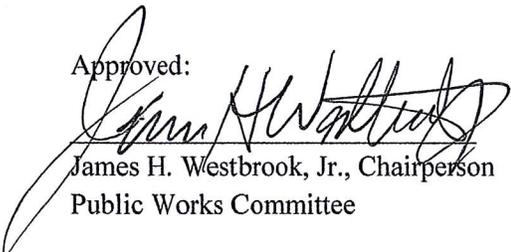
Having no other business, Commissioner Owen made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Chairperson Vincent, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary
Public Works Committee

Approved:



James H. Westbrook, Jr., Chairperson
Public Works Committee

Date: 3/15/17