

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, March 15, 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 Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the county commission courtroom at the courthouse in Dresden. Others present were Director of Finance John Liggett, Roads Supervisor Charles Ross, Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum via telephone, and a representative 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 February 21, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Owen made the motion to approve the minutes and with a second by Commissioner Doster, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Owen asked about if there were any updates regarding Zayo Group, the company who had approached the committee at the February 21 meeting regarding running fiber through sections of the northeastern part of Weakley County. Roads Supervisor Ross stated that he had not heard anything else back from the company about the project. Chairperson Westbrook mentioned that the group has been made aware of Resolution 2015-23, which outlines the regulations governing the use of the County right-of-way, and that they would have to follow all of the rules outlined in that resolution before they could proceed. Secretary Moore supplied the representative of the Zayo Group with a hard copy of Resolution 2015-23 at the February 21, 2017 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-36: This resolution authorizes the submission of an application for a Litter and Trash Collection Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the Highway Fund. Chairperson Westbrook stated that this is a grant that Weakley County applies for annually. Commissioner Vincent made the motion to recommend Resolution 2017-36 to the full commission and with a second by Commissioner Overton, the motion passed unanimously.

ROAD UPDATE

Supervisor Ross gave a short update, mentioning that the winter had been kind to the roads in regards to potholes, patch trucks were up and running, the asphalt distributor has been delivered, the replacement dump truck has been delivered and is ready for service, and that work is going well overall.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Westbrook asked whether the body had considered easement and right-of-way information that was discussed at the prior meeting. Discussion began that included an example of a local right-of-way situation and how it was handled, as well as federal funding and the specifics and stipulations in regards to bridge repair.

Chairperson Westbrook stated that adopting a policy for easements and right-of-ways was up to the committee, and he personally was neither in favor nor against it. Commissioner Dennis Doster mentioned that having a written document in place would aid in transparency and create a documented paper trail. Commissioner Owen agreed, citing that documentation would help protect the county from liability. Chairperson Westbrook agreed with Commissioners Doster and Owen. Supervisor Ross said it was a good idea, but said that there may be instances when it would create more problematic issues, such as in an emergency situation.

Conversation moved to whether a specific form should be created, or rather a general policy. Commissioner Doster stated that we shouldn't tie Supervisor Ross' hands with any policy that is set in place. Commissioner Vincent recommended that Supervisor Ross create a form for review and consideration at the next meeting. Commissioner Owen made the motion that Road Supervisor Ross create a form that outlines right-of-way and easement procedures for the committee's review and consideration at the next committee meeting, and with a second by Commissioner Vincent the motion unanimously passed.

Chairperson Westbrook mentioned some details of Governor's Haslam's gas tax proposal. There was brief conversation about the piece of legislation and sponsor, who was determined to be Representative Carr.

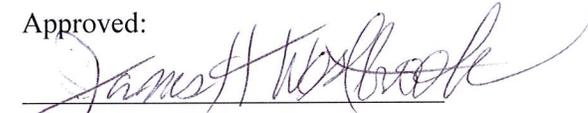
Having no other business, Commissioner Owen made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Chairperson Overton, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary
Public Works Committee

Approved:



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

Date: 4-24-17