

**MINUTES OF**  
**FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**April 26, 2006**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – Warren Green Building*  
*10 Hotel Street*  
*Warrenton, VA 20186*

**Members Present:** Laurence Mason, Vice-Chairman, J. David Cubbage, Holder Trumbo, Ray Graham, Harry Atherton, and William Nace

**Members Absent:** Matthew Smith, Chairman, Sam Poles and Erich Meding

**Guests Present:** Captain Jeff Crane – Fauquier County Sheriff’s Office, Darryl Shifflett – VDOT, Chuck Medvitz, Linda Hyson, and John H. Spencer

**Staff Present:** Liz Cook and Stacey Pell

**1. Consider a Request to Extend the Length of Route 748 (Eskridges Lane) in the Six-Year Plan – Linda Hyson (Item #4)**

Mrs. Cook stated she spoke with Mr. Burke, the County Attorney, about the plat showing language related to right-of-way dedication. In his opinion, the plat is vague, and the County cannot deliver a clear title.

Mr. Cubbage stated this is a Six-Year Plan Project and the discrepancy in the right-of-way was just discovered. VDOT cannot go beyond the 0.600 mile without a resolution from the County.

Ms. Hyson stated the property owners are all in agreement to do what needs to be done.

Mr. Cubbage stated he does not need a plat as this dedication can be covered by deed. He will look back at early paperwork to determine the best spot for the cul-de-sac.

**ACTION:**

**Mrs. Cook stated she will contact the other property owners to ask them to dedicate the right-of- way.**

**2. Citizen’s Time (Item #12)**

Mr. Spencer inquired into the status of the Bear Wallow Road issue.

Mr. Atherton stated there has been some progress. A letter was written to Sen. Warner regarding this issue. VDOT is also doing a study on the possibility of a three-way stop at the entrance of the Warrenton Training Center. Mr. Atherton is also working with The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), a state agency for erosion and sediment control, but has not yet heard back from them or Sen. Warner. Sen. Allen’s administrative assistant is interested in this as well and will look into it. Nothing has been heard back from Sen. Allen’s office either.

Mr. Spencer indicated that he has his house to look at the curves, speed, and condition of the road. Mr. Spencer advised the road is in pretty bad condition especially related to drainage issues. VDOT will review and do further study in another month.

Mr. Atherton stated his hope would be that the Warrenton Training Center and contractors should assume some of the responsibility of the damage to the road. VDOT does what it can with no help from the Training Center.

Mr. Cabbage stated VDOT has focused more on the larger pothole repairs. He advised that the paving schedule is set 18 months in advance. When the construction is over, VDOT hopes to pave then, but is pointless to do it beforehand with the increased traffic on the road. VDOT tries to get to potholes within 24 hours.

Mr. Spencer stated the first major curve down the hill from the Training Center has a poor line of sight. The speed limit is 35 m.p.h. on the curve but very few drivers go the speed limit. There have been approximately 15 major accidents in the last 22 years in this area. One accident was due to the driver falling asleep and the other 21 accidents were speed related.

**ACTION:**

**VDOT will do a further study to determine the need for a three way stop at this intersection.**

3. *Approval of March 29, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes (Item #1)*

**ACTION:**

**On motion made by Mr. Atherton and seconded by Mr. Trumbo, it was moved to approve the March 29, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

4. *Consider a Request for “Road Narrows” Signs or Other Speed Reduction Measures Along Baldwin Street (Item #2)*

Mr. Cabbage stated VDOT is waiting for the speed reduction paperwork from Richmond.

**ACTION:**

**VDOT will place a “Road Narrows” sign when placing the new speed limit signs.**

5. *Consider a Request for a Traffic Signal at the Intersection of Route 17 and Route 245 (Old Tavern Road) – Arthur W. Arundel (Item #3)*

Mr. Cabbage stated VDOT has done traffic counts and is doing the accident count now. He will have the reports next month.

Mr. Spencer stated more people are using this road. There is more traffic due to increased enrollment at Highland School.

**ACTION:**

**This item will be considered at the May Transportation Committee Meeting.**

6. *Consider a Request for Signalization at the Intersection of Route 28 and Meetze Road (Route 643)(Item #5)*

Mr. Cubbage stated that this intersection does not meet the requirements for a traffic signal.

Mr. Nace stated that sometimes adding a signal actually increases accidents.

Captain Crane stated that the intersection of Route 17 and Route 28 is a good example of increased accidents with the addition of a traffic signal. The severity of accidents decreased, but the number of accidents increased.

Mr. Cubbage stated that VDOT responded to the letters requesting the signal they had but did not have all the letters.

Mr. Graham stated he will give Mr. Cubbage the rest.

Captain Crane inquired about the synchronization of the traffic signal on Route 28 near the Liberty High School entrance.

Mr. Cubbage replied that the school entrance is too far from the traffic signal and there are too many other entrances to have any effect. He also noted that in August with the signal upgrade to the Village Center Drive and Route 17 near Cedar Brook, VDOT may do a study to determine if that intersection will also warrant a traffic signal.

7. *Consider a Request for Parking Limits and Pavement Striping in Marshall – Holder Trumbo (Item #6)*

Mr. Trumbo noted that in the weeks before Easter there was a Jeep parked with a “For Sale” sign within his sight distance in Marshall. He called the Sheriff’s office and was informed that there is no time limit on parking. The Sheriff called the owner and notified them the Jeep was creating a sight distance problem.

Mr. Trumbo inquired how to limit parking in the area, and suggested having two-hour parking.

Captain Crane inquired how to enforce the parking.

Mr. Trumbo stated that the Marshall residents would not mind similar striping to what is already in place in The Plains.

Mr. Cubbage will visit Marshall and try to come up with recommendations.

Mr. Atherton stated there are all kinds of vehicles semi-permanently parked along the road.

Captain Crane stated in the commuter lot there are signs posted “No Vehicle Sales.”

Mr. Cubbage stated the commuter lot is regulated by VDOT. For the first violation, the owner is called. For the second violation, VDOT contacts the State Police.

Captain Crane stated that at one time it was costing the County more money to issue parking tickets than the fines received from the tickets. He also stated that the Sheriff’s Office can contact the vehicle owners.

**ACTION:**

**Mr. Cubbage will visit Marshall and walk the street with Mr. Trumbo.**

8. *Discuss the VDOT Public Hearing on the FY 2007-2012 Six-Year Improvement Program Working Draft to be Held on May 3, 2006 (Item #7)*

Mr. Cubbage stated there has been a change to the location and time and will send Mrs. Cook the update. He also noted that the budget is the same dollar amount as last year.

Mr. Graham stated the proposed budget was holding this year’s dollars.

Mrs. Cook noted this is a public hearing if anyone is interested in attending.

**9. *Discuss Safety Concerns at the Route 17/Luckstone Entrance (Item #8)***

Mrs. Cook stated she visited with Mr. Cabbage on this matter.

Mr. Cabbage stated the accident that recently occurred near this intersection was due to operator error.

Mr. Atherton stated that Supervisor Stribling said the accident did not involve the entrance to Luckstone.

Captain Crane stated it is still undetermined about the vehicle at fault. The driver may have had a seizure and lost control of the vehicle and drifted into the other lane.

**10. *Discuss Speed Limits Within the County (Item #9)***

Mrs. Cook stated that it appears the County has the ability to regulate speed limits within Service Districts with proper signage.

Captain Crane cautioned that this not give a false sense of security to the community. The State Police do not work radar in reduced speed zones.

Mr. Nace stated that when speeds are reduced, it is teaching people to disrespect the law as they still exceed the speed limits.

Mr. Trumbo stated that in the Service Districts, the County tries to channel the growth areas. He also suggested trying to tie the speed limit policy to the land use policy.

Mr. Atherton stated he thinks it is reasonable and prudent.

Mr. Graham and Mr. Atherton suggested a work session with the Board of Supervisors on a program to reduce speed limits in Service Districts.

**ACTION:**

**Mrs. Cook will find out when is the next available Board of Supervisors Work Session.**

**11. *Consider a Request to Support the Governor's and the Virginia Senate's Transportation Plan (Item #10)***

Mrs. Cook stated that if there needs to be cuts, the Committee needs to start thing where the cuts need to happen.

Mr. Cabbage proposed to look at the different projects and see what has been in the plan for a number of years already. He asked the Committee to familiarize themselves with the Six-Year Plan and to discuss it more in depth next month.

Mr. Atherton stated there are a lot of projects in the plan that have been there forever and no one is sure how they got there or why.

Mr. Cabbage suggested the focus could be more on Service Districts and such areas. Let citizens show up for Transportation Committee meetings. There are issues getting right-of-way from citizens on some projects.

Mr. Shifflett suggested identifying unpaved roads up front, send out questionnaires to property owners to see if we can obtain right-of-way. Move on to the next roads if right-of-way is not obtainable.

Mr. Atherton stated that property owners change their minds, and property owners themselves change.

Mr. Cabbage stated the turn around takes 24-36 months once the road comes into the plan.

Mr. Nace stated that we could start by accepting right-of-way and then putting a project into the plan.

**ACTION:**

**This item is to be discussed at the May Transportation Committee Meeting.**

*12. Discuss and Consider Giving VDOT Direction on Unpaved Road Funds*

**ACTION:**

**Postponed until the May Transportation Committee Meeting.**

*13. Other Items (Item #13)*

Mr. Cabbage stated he has a paving schedule for the Bealeton area and moving up north from there.

Mr. Cabbage noted speed reductions going into effect for April:

Halfway Road reduced to 35 m.p.h. for 0.39 miles through Halfway from ½ mile north of Route 679 to Route 706.

Old Busthead Road has been reduced to 35 m.p.h. for a mile from Route 628 to one mile east of Route 628.

Mr. Atherton asked if the Tapps Ford bridge opened.

Mr. Cabbage stated it opened officially on Friday at 11:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held May 31, 2006.