

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MAY 25, 2005**

7:00 P.M.

*2nd Floor Conference Room – Warren Green Building
10 Hotel Street
Warrenton, VA 20186*

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman, Laurence Mason, Vice-Chairman, Harry Atherton, J. David Cubbage, William Downey, Erich Meding, Holder Trumbo.

Members Absent: William Nace, Sam Poles and Mark Van de Water

Guests Present: Dr. Anthony Wells, Gina Farrar and Mark Nesfeder

Staff Present: Liz Cook

1. Approval of April 27, 2005 Committee Meeting Minutes.

ACTION:

On motion made by Mr. Downey and seconded by Mr. Atherton it was moved to approve the April 27, 2005 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider a Request for the Placement of Stop Signs (Three-Way) at the Intersection of Route 626 (Halfway Road) and Route 679 (Landmark Road) – Dr. Anthony Wells. (Item #5)

Dr. Wells expressed concern about vehicles traveling at excessive speeds at this location resulting in a series of accidents over the past few years. Many vehicles making the left turn from Halfway Road (Route 626) onto Landmark Road (Route 626) fail to slow down or stop when doing so. Dr. Wells stated that there have also been several near misses when groups of cyclists have almost been hit by vehicles traveling at a high rate of speed around the bend. Dr. Wells stated that pedestrians are also at risk.

Mr. Cubbage stated that he has requested recent data for this area including current traffic counts, accidents reported within the past three years with damages totaling \$1,000. or more, sight distance profiles and grade assessments. Mr. Cubbage hopes to have this information within the next 60 days.

ACTION:

On motion made by Mr. Downey and seconded by Mr. Trumbo it was moved to put this item on the July agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ***Consider a Request to Improve Route 798 (Dulins Ford Road) – Gina Farrar. (Item #6)***

Ms. Farrar expressed thanks to VDOT for the recently completed work on Leeds Manor Road (Route 688).

Ms. Farrar stated that she and her neighbors who have signed the recently submitted petition would like to have Dulins Ford Road (Route 798) graded and then tarred and chipped while not expanding the existing 25 foot right-of-way. Ms. Farrar further stated that there is an underground spring, which could be an issue as well as a culvert that goes under the road and feeds into a pond.

Mr. Cabbage stated that this road is on the Six-Year Plan, but it may be a good candidate for the Rural Rustic program, which requires minimal right-of-way acquisition.

ACTION:

On motion made by Mr. Atherton and seconded by Mr. Downey it was moved to convert Dulins Ford Road (Route 698) to a State forces project and make it a Rural Rustic road. The motion carried unanimously. (This item will need to be addressed prior to the adoption of the Six-Year Plan in the fall.)

4. ***Discuss Speed Limit Signage along Bear Wallow Road (Route 690) Near the Warrenton Training Center – Mark Nesfeder. (Added to Agenda)***

Mr. Nesfeder discussed an apparent speed limit conflict on Bear Wallow Road (Route 690) near the Warrenton Training Center. Mr. Nesfeder stated that the speed limit sign on Bear Wallow Road heading toward the Training Center indicates 25 mph, but the speed limit sign on the return trip to Town indicates 35 mph.

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will check the signage as well as the actual speed limits and report back to the Committee next month.

5. ***Consider a Request for "Watch for Children" Signs Near Georgetown Road (Route 674) at the Corner of Farrington Road and View Court – Kari Briggs. (Item #2)***

Ms. Briggs was not present at the meeting. Mrs. Cook stated that it may not be necessary to forward all requests for "Watch for Children" signs to the Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Cook suggested that the Committee review the requests and if it is one that VDOT would like Board support on, then it could be forwarded to them. Mr. Cabbage stated that since both are dead end roads he does not feel this would present a problem. The Committee discussed this request and determined that "Watch for Children" signs should be installed.

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will have the "Watch for Children" signs installed.

6. ***Consider a Request to Improve Forrest Court (Route 1346) – Robert Powers. (Item #3)***

Mr. Powers was not present at the meeting. The Committee determined that this is a maintenance issue.

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will take a look at this road and report back to the Committee. Mrs. Cook will respond to Mr. Powers via e-mail.

7. ***Consider a Request for "Watch for Children" Signs Near the Intersection of Route 647 (Crest Hill Road) and Route 1015 (Lakeside Court) – Rita LaVinus. (Item #4)***

Ms. LaVinus was not present at the meeting. The Committee discussed the request and determined that "Watch for Children" signs should be installed.

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will have the "Watch for Children" signs installed.

8. ***Other Items. (Item #7)***

Mr. Downey advised the Committee that he has met with Butter Strother and other citizens about tree trimming along Zulla Road (Route 709). Mr. Downey stated that during their meeting a question was raised about the weight limit of trucks on this road. Mr. Cabbage stated that weight limits cannot arbitrarily be lowered; however, if a structure or a box culvert has diminished weight capacity VDOT will post the entire road.

Mr. Downey also stated that the Scenic Byway sign in the northbound lane of Zulla Road (Route 709) has been knocked down by a truck.

Mr. Downey further stated that the speed limit has been reduced to 45 mph along Zulla Road (Route 709), but he asked if anything could be done to help with enforcement of the speed limit (i.e., maximum fine signs).

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will take a look at what options are available concerning the weight limit and speed limit issues and have the Scenic Byway sign replaced.

Mr. Cabbage advised the Committee that motor carriers and State Police are working on Route 17 near Great Meadow.

Mr. Cabbage stated that the bridge on Leeds Manor Road (Route 688) will be named in honor of William H. & Jean Emmons McCarty Hume.

Mr. Meding stated that he would like to discuss standards for shoulder widths of various types of road classifications at next month's meeting.

Mr. Meding expressed concern about the timing of traffic lights throughout the County and suggested lengthening the time of all red lights a second or two in order to reduce accidents.

Mr. Atherton stated that he and Bob Moore, former VDOT Resident Engineer, had discussed improvements needed along Ramey Road (Route 732) and asked Mr. Cabbage to take a look at this.

Mr. Downey stated that he has spoken with several Town of Warrenton Council members and suggested that they have a representative attend the Committee meetings.

The Committee unanimously decided not to have an August meeting.

Mr. Smith asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Gary Nelson for his time spent on the Committee. Mrs. Cook will take care of this item.

Mr. Smith thanked VDOT for the work done on the Midland Road (Route 610) project.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.