



**MINUTES  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**August 25, 2009**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Chairman

Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

*No Recording of this meeting was made.*

The Transportation Committee met Tuesday, August 25, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present & Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Other Council Members Present: Mr. Reg Dexter

**Press:**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [[www.oconeese.com/council](http://www.oconeese.com/council)]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Carlos Galarza – Daily Journal

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Thrift called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2009 Committee meeting as presented.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2009 Committee meeting as presented.

**Introduction of Roads & Bridges Staff Present:**

Mr. Mack Kelly, Roads & Bridges Director introduced staff present from his department to include:

- Ms. Dale Owens / Engineering Technician
- Mr. Kyle Reid / Assistant Roads & Bridges Manager
- Mr. Prince Brown / Right of Way Technician
- Mr. Larry Harden / Roads & Bridges Manager

**Discussion of Roles & Responsibilities:**

Mr. Thrift reviewed with the Committee and those present the Roles & Responsibilities presented. A vote to adopt these will be taken at the next meeting of the Committee.

**Discussion of and Request for Approval of Proposed Agenda Format:**

Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee noting that he had worked with the Clerk to Council to develop the proposed format. Discussion followed.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve the agenda format as presented.

### **Discussion of Frequent Concerns:**

Mr. Kelly presented a list of current Frequent Concerns and issues encountered by his department and current response. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 – 0 to direct the Roads & Bridges Director to work with the County Attorney to draft an ordinance or policy regarding failing driveway aprons and pipes stating that after one year it will be the financial responsibility of the property owner to fix or replace an apron or pipe.

**2010 / Sign Inventory:** Mr. Kelly also discussed an issue that would impact his department in the future which will require a complete sign inventory by 2010. He stated that the inventory will have to include the type of sign, location, current condition and reflectivity. The Department will also be required to replace all signs maintained by the County on a 7-10 year cycle regardless of the signs condition [current inventory +1,200 signs / current replacement value +/- \$585,000]. He noted that the financial impact is unknown at present and future discussion will need to take place.

### **Approval of Forms:**

**Application for Consideration of Acceptance of Private Road into County System for Maintenance:** Mr. Kelly reviewed with the Committee the form to be utilized by the Roads Department, Clerk to Council and additionally posted on the Council's Committee website for citizens to reference and complete when they desire to have a road or roads considered by the County for acceptance into the road system for maintenance. Discussion followed.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve use of the form as presented.

**Application to Request to Appear at Transportation Committee Meeting:** Mr. Kelly reviewed with the Committee the form to be utilized by the Clerk to Council [to be posted on the Council's Committee website] when either a department or citizen requests to appear before the Transportation Committee. Discussion followed.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 2 – 0 to approve use of the form as presented.

### **Discussion regarding Local Attorney Attendance at Meetings:**

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 - 0 to ask the local attorney to attend meetings on a case by case basis.

### **Ongoing Project Status / Staff Report:**

#### **Road Improvement Project Schedule & Calendar:**

Mr. Kelly reviewed with the Committee the proposed paving project schedule. Discussion followed. Council approved in concept the schedule; adjustments to the scheduled may be made based on department needs.

### **Discussion of “C” Funds:**

There was a brief unscheduled discussion of “C” funds. Mr. Thrift asked the Roads & Bridges Director to obtain [if available] a current Oconee County balance.

### **Project Status Report:**

Mr. Kelly reviewed with the Committee a Project Status Report [filed with these minutes] regarding the following key areas:

- **Coneross Point Subdivision Sign Agreement:** Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 – 0 to authorize Mr. Kelly to write a letter to the POA outlining a timeline for removal of their signs and posts and installation of county signs and posts. Additionally, the Committee directed Mr. Kelly to work with the County Attorney to draft a template sign agreement for future use by the Roads & Bridges Department.
- **Merry Branch Road:** Mr. Kelly noted that Mr. Martin contacted Mr. Wells representative stating that the County will maintain this road to the previously identified end of county maintenance – no further action required.
- **Cedar Creek Lane:** Mr. Kelly noted that the application has been provided to the citizens – no further action required.
- **Bennettsville Road** [*this issue was unresolved and will be scheduled for further discussion at an upcoming Transportation Committee meeting*]
- **Jenkins Bridge** [*this issue was unresolved and will be scheduled for further discussion at an upcoming Transportation Committee meeting*]
- Special Projects Completed: Accepted as information.
- Special Projects Assigned: Accepted as information.

### **Old Business:**

None discussed at this meeting.

### **New Business:**

**High Pointe Road:** Mr. Thrift notified the Committee that he was in receipt of a letter signed by the residents [filed with these minutes] of this road stating their request that the County abandon the road back to the citizens for ongoing maintenance.

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 – 0 to instruct Mr. Kelly to work with and notify the citizens that the County is willing to abandon the roadway.

**Cooper Road:** Mr. Kelly reviewed with the Committee structural issues that make it impossible for the Road Department to install either a guardrail or guide wire along a portion of this roadway. Discussion followed.

**Road Improvement List [Proposed] & City of Seneca Sewer Upgrade Project:** Mr. Kelly provided member of the Committee [copy filed with these minutes] with a listing of proposed road improvement. Discussion of this issue was deferred to the next meeting.

### **Adjourn:**

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council