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Weekly Report to Commissioners

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- We have met with the City of Belleville and will begin work right away on a sidewalk between the driveway of the fitness center north of the Health Department to the street crossing between the EMS Department and the Hospital. This is in response to the Health Department's request for funding assistance from the City of Belleville. The sidewalk will be located near the back of the City right-of-way, instead of the back of the curb as first proposed. The City will pay for the concrete and the Road & Bridges Department will provide labor and equipment. This project will begin right away.
- Cold mix asphalt patching potholes will continue throughout the county as weather permits.
- Our shop is rebuilding the engine of the CAT Semi so that it can be returned to service for Road & Bridge Department equipment transportation. When this is completed, we intend to surplus a 1997 International Truck that is currently being maintained as a spare.
- A replacement transmission for one of our Transportation Buses has been ordered. With the Federal Surplus bus we acquired last year we are able to continue to provide uninterrupted service to our residents. KDOT has approved a cost share funding request for the repairs and is considering a replacement of the Bus in 2027.
- **Representatives from Cloud and Republic Highway Departments will meet with Ellsworth County, Ergon Asphalt Products and Hall Brothers on the 11th of March** to consider Cold Recycled Overlay, Sealing and Paving projects that might benefit from a multi-county approach. We are updating our Pavement Preservation Plan before that meeting and hope to present draft funding considerations to the Commission on March 9 to comprehend what we can afford.
- 19 Line Agreements will be presented to the Commission on March 9 by Great Plans Communication for utility extensions into Republic County south of Byron and south of Chester.

High Banks Wind Energy

- Work at Tower #78 for main bearing replacement, continues. This site is east of 270 and Lincoln Roads on the north side. We expect demobilization to begin within a week that will include approximately 15 oversized loads of pad dunnage and crane components. Traffic will occur between 7 am and 7 pm for several days. The haul route will include 220 Road between US-36 and King Road, then west around the section to Lincoln proceeding east 5.5 miles.

Community Concerns

| ID | Description | Notes/Progress/Resolution | Status |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------|
| Administration | | | |
| 132 | 170 Road .0-.8 mile south of US-36; road & drainage improvements are needed. | Investigating solutions and impacts to adjacent properties | Open |
| 45 | Norway Lane; drainage improvements are needed. | KDOT is preparing a scope of work to improve KS-148 that passes through the community of Norway. This should significantly improve drainage in the area. We are expecting details and a schedule by the summer of 2026. | Open |
| Construction | | | |
| 119 | 130 RD .55 West of Zeal RD South side; Trees/Brush need removed; | Utilities have been located. Landowner agrees to tree pile placement on his property. | Open |
| 52 | 70 Road between US36 and Queen Road; Drainage improvements are needed on both sides of the Road | 60% Completed overall. Drainage improvements will continue as soon as soil conditions allow. | Open |
| Maintenance | | | |
| 50 | 30 Road improvements are needed to restore the crown in the roadway between Highway 36 and Fir Road. | 4 miles have been completed. | Open |
| 53 | 60 Road between Elm and Ash Roads needs the shoulders pulled and fortified with rock and econ-base then finished with gravel. | Utilities being located, this project will start up again soon | Open |

Upcoming Events

1. High Banks Wind Energy activity at Towers 53, 78, 170 (crane will be needed at Tower 78)
2. Annual Report on High Banks Wind Energy/NextEra Agreement compliance issues.
3. Right-of-Way vacations for a portion of Seapo Trail in Section 21 of Grant Township and for the SW corner of Section 35 in Liberty Township (old Marble/US81 intersection ROW) are being prepared for Commission consideration.
4. The County Attorney is preparing a quit claim deed for the transfer of the Poor Farm Cemetery to the Republic County Historical Society.
5. New R&B Shop Proposal.