



Ken Robbins
Highway Administrator

702 K St.
Belleville, KS 66935
Phone: (785) 527-2235
Fax: (785) 527-5335

Weekly Report to Commissioners

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- Warmer temperatures allowed us to return to some earthwork projects. We are expecting moisture over the weekend, so District Operators have been asked to scatter windrows across “major collectors” and areas that need gravel pushed into the roadbed if it softens.
- The County mobilized an excavator to the Belleville Municipal Airport for two days, removing about an acre and a half of trees that were beginning to encroach into the controlled airspace. The trees were piled for the city to deal with as they requested.
- Cloud County Highway Administrator Rodney Michaud proposed that Republic and Cloud County pool resources to address our aging asphalt roadways. Some of the options discussed:
 - Co-operating a batch plant for hot mix and sharing equipment and manpower for overlay projects that could be scaled to fit our budgets.
 - Negotiating an agreement with a hot asphalt supplier for a quantity of material and a fixed production schedule that could supply both counties with material at a cost less than retail.
 - Developing a cold recycled overlay and sealing process like Ellsworth County has been successful with; upgrading 10-15 miles of asphalt road surfaces each year.

Both counties need to consider what they can afford first. In 2025, Republic County developed a paving preservation plan that identified 5 years of projects requiring 4 million dollars in materials. This plan proposed to reverse the decline of aging infrastructure and improve the average Paving Condition Index (PCI) to 77 (“good” in the 0-100, poor to excellent standardized industry scale) over 18 years. Republic County does not have a clear path to fund these improvements yet. A similar study and plan may be needed for Cloud County. Both counties have agreed to meet again within 2 weeks.

- The Cat 12M2 motor grader for District 10 that is being re-built by Foley’s Topeka Shop will be ready for a final inspection February 20 now (there was a delay at the paint shop). Foley will return the motor grader to the County’s yard the follow week.

Solid Waste

- We have prepared a new Solid Waste Disposal Interlocal Agreement for Cloud and Republic County Commissions to consider. Republic County’s Attorney has completed his review and Cloud County is reviewing. This could be presented for approval on the 23rd of February.

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			
117	Marble Road .45 mile east of 270 Road, a wood box drainage structure is damaged	Needs replaced with 48" x 40' Culvert.	Open
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
124	Talmo Lane .75 Miles North of K-148 on the West side; a Driveway needs improved and the ditch needs cleaned to stop scouring in the farmer's field.	90% Complete	Open
125	100 Road .06 Miles South of Ash Road on the East side; Drainage improvements are requested to keep the water in the East Ditch.	Investigating	Open
126	290 Road 0.5 Miles North of Fir Road on the West side; Trees and brush need removed for new fence installation.	Completed	Closed
128	50 Road .08 miles south of KS-148, on the west side; a new field access is needed.	Complete	Open
130	11 Road, .06 mile south of Timber Road; Landowner is requesting a new Driveway.	Completed	Closed
131	230 Road .27 mile north of Queen Road on the east side; driveway improvements are needed.	Investigating	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 after harvest.	Open
99	Nickel Road .01 Miles east of Riverview Lane; a crossroad culvert is plugged causing ponding on the south landowner	Complete	Closed
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 econo-base then finished with gravel.		Open

Upcoming Events

1. Line Agreement for Rural Water District to bore under Rock Road between 40 & 50 Roads
2. 19 Line Agreements with Great Plans Communication for utility extensions into Republic County south of Byron and south of Chester.
3. High Banks Wind Energy activity at Towers 53, 78, 170 (crane will be needed at 170)
4. Annual Report on High Banks Wind Energy/NextEra Agreement compliance issues.
5. 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.
6. The County Attorney is preparing a quit claim deed for the transfer of the Poor Farm Cemetery to the Republic County Historical Society.
7. New R&B Shop Proposal.