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## Weekly Report to Commissioners

### Community Concerns

#### Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- 230 Road .25 miles north of Narka (SE corner of the NE Quarter Section 16), a new 60ft driveway is requested directly across from an agricultural building and existing 60ft driveway.
- Nickel Road west of 50 Road .5 miles on the south side; a field access culvert needs to be replaced.
- Lincoln Road .35 miles west of 70 Road on the south side; a field access wood box culvert with a flow line 9ft below the deck needs replaced.

#### Other Concerns:

- 30 Road, Diamond and 20 Roads between Courtland and the Rose Mound Cemetery; grading and mowing needed for a funeral procession. **Completed**
- 150 Road .25 miles south of Valley Road; a box culvert is plugged with debris and water is running over the road. *Debris have been removed and the flowline restored, some roadwork will continue as the subsurface dries out.*
- Valley Road, near the intersection of 130 Road on the northwest side; a driveway is being scoured by runoff from 130 road that is flowing across the property instead of in the ditches that have been filled in. *The resident prefers filling and crowning the driveway to divert water back into the right-of-way instead of cleaning ditches which are being seeded and mowed by the resident.*
- Shady Road west of 30 Road, concerns have been expressed about a driveway from an irrigation canal right of way draining onto the road and what improvements the property owner and the County to make to alleviate the problem. *A more concerning observation was that when the water flowed onto the road, it could not make it back into the right-of way for at least 1/2 a mile. The road does not have a crown and eyebrows allowed significant scouring of the road surface to the degree that a survey monument in the center of the road was exposed and susceptible to damage. This road is a farm access road, not a local, minor, or major collector, but the condition is not rare. We need to identify these situations before concerns are expressed and systematically improve them.*
- Queen Road west of 230 road for .25 mile on the south side; the right-of-way needs to be cleared for a new fence.
- 80 Road .5 miles south of Shady Road on the west side; trees/brush need to be removed from the right-of-way.

- Penn Road, east of Scandia on the south side; trees/brush need to be removed from the right-of-way.
- 20 Road between Queen and Rock Road, improvements are needed. Water is ponding on the road.

### **High Banks Wind Energy Project activities**

The County has assumed maintenance on all project roads. The Developer's improvements within the County Right-of-Ways are substantially complete. An Engineer has completed an inspection of all roads and structures in the project. Punch lists, noting deficiencies have been compiled by the Engineer for Motor Grader Districts 4,5,9 & 10. A post construction meeting with the Developer is scheduled for May 16, 2024.

## **Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities**

### **Roads and Bridges**

- Hot Oil Patching with chip rock began May 9
- The communication cable for the Fuel Master Pedestal at the tank farm was replaced and buried in conduit below the concrete slab. This at a minimum will eliminate "line damage" as a possible cause for fuel pump malfunctions or fix it, hopefully the latter.
- Allan Prothro begins employment with the County as a Truck Driver on May 20.
- 2 Applicants are being considered for the Spayer Operator/Truck Driver Position.
- A preconstruction meeting was held on May 6 for the replacement of Bridge X-19.1 south of Talmo. Construction is expected to begin in June. Surveying will be performed on the 20<sup>th</sup> for the relocation of utilities.

### **PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

#### **Bridge and Culverts Division Project List (in order of priority)**

1. Norway Lane: drainage improvements are needed.
2. 50 Road 1.4 miles south of KS148; a 24" Concrete tile culvert is separating under the shoulder of the road and needs to be replaced.

#### **Roads and Driveways Division Project List (in order of priority)**

1. Valley Road .3 mile east of Talmo Lane on the north side; a 20ft driveway needs to be widened to 40ft.
2. Jade Road .3 mile west of 300 Road on the west side; a driveway needs improved with a 30' x 18" culvert. **Completed**
3. 30 Road .5 mile north of Elm Road on the west side; skewed driveway for grain bins is the low spot in a very shallow watershed. The property owner is seeking improvements that may include ditch cleaning or a lift on the road or driveway, or a culvert.
4. Rock Road between 30 & 50 Roads; a regrade, ditch cleaning and improved gravel finish may be necessary.
5. Queen Road east of 260 Road for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter mile; trees and brush need to be cleared from the right-of-way on both sides of the road.

6. Gravel is requested for a half mile of Diamond Road west of 310 Road. *This work will be performed with reclaimed material from the wind farm project when it becomes available soon.*
7. Residents north of Fir Road on Republic Lane are requesting improvement of the road base with larger gravel or rock. The fine sand common to the area becomes tracked up easily when it is wet.
8. 210 Road south of Nickel; .1 mile is graveled from Nickel to a residence and .6 mile is graveled from US 36 north. A resident is requesting that the remaining .3 mile be graveled for direct access to Nickel where a number of residents live.
9. 100 Road .28 mile south of Timber Road on the west side; a 30" squash crossroad pipe has been cleaned out transferring runoff from acreage on the east side to a shallow ditch on the west side that cannot get through a plugged culvert several hundred feet to the south. The farmer believes most of the runoff could stay on the west side with some ditch cleaning. *investigating*
10. Queen Road, west of 20 Road, tree removal, ditch cleaning and driveway upgrades needed for the first .5 mile. *40 ft driveway installed; some ditch cleaning still needed.*
11. 30 Road improvements to restore the crown in the roadway between Highway 36 and Fir Road. *4 miles have been completed.*
12. Fir Road, east of residence at 2641, ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
13. 30 Road south of Bridge 3-D.7 and north of Elm Road, ditch cleaning is needed and a road lift.
14. *70 Road south of US 36 Highway has been prepared to receive recycled asphalt paving. A schedule and cost sharing plan for Paving will be prepared by the Highway Administrator for the Commission and Property Owners to consider.*
15. Cut and patch 4-6ft of Concrete at 170 Road near residence 1549 (*Primary Road; Currently 23x23 & 10x23 inch potholes where previous asphalt patch has failed*). *A hot asphalt patch is being tested at this location.*

## Upcoming Events

1. *The Kansas Department of Transportation is currently accepting proposals for the following programs:*
  - *Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Off-System Bridge Program (OSB)*
  - *State Fiscal Year 2025 Kansas Local Bridge Improvement (KLBIP)**Applications for both programs must be received by May 24, 2024.*
2. U.S. Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. announced \$1,520,000 in grant funding to the North Central Regional Planning Commission from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program.
  - a. *The Highway Administrator is communicating with the North Central Region Planning Commission (NCRPC) about what this means for Republic County. Representatives for the NCRPC do not know yet but hope to bring all the member counties together within the next 60-90 days to consider next steps.*
3. Special Projects in the works or being considered by the Highway Administrator
  - a. Asphalt paving options.
4. Vacations of Right-of-Ways are proposed for 3 road spurs adjacent to Highway 81 that were abandoned after improvements to the Highway many years ago.