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Weekly Report to Commissioners

Community Concerns

Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- Zeal Road, ¼ mile east of 260 Road on the south side; 30ft field access driveway requested.
- 926 King, driveway culvert needs replacing; *a quote has been provided for an additional 10 ft of pipe; waiting for a notice to proceed.*
- Zeal Road ¾ mile east of 220 Road; the property owner is concerned that a culvert under the road is undersized for the watershed. *Investigating*
- Lincoln Road 1/8 mile west of 90 Road on the north side; a 20ft field access culvert needs replaced with a 30ft culvert and ditch cleaning needs to occur to keep runoff from crossing the road.
- Valley Road .5 mile west of 130 Road; a culvert is needed under the road. *Investigating*
- 20 Road .25 mile north of Nickel Road, east side; a field access culvert needs cleared or replaced.

Other Concerns:

- 902 Elm Road, property owner has requested side trimming of trees in the right-of-way in both directions from the residence to improve visibility.
- Marble re-grade ½ mile west of 90 road is too narrow. *Shoulders will be wheel packed at three to one slope and 24ft driving width verified upon completion.*
- 260 Road .25 mile south of Hickory; a hole has opened up behind the backwall of a box culvert because the stream has scoured below the wall between the piles. This has been temporarily filled and will be excavated and sheet piles will be installed below the scour depth. *Completed*
- 100 Road ¼ mile north of Jade Road; ditch cleaning and a road lift are necessary to prevent water from ponding on the road.
- A half section east of 100 Road between Shady and Timber Roads is being improved and the Farmer has requested that we clear our right-of-way of brush and trees after they clear the fence. *90% Completed; we will return soon now that we have permission to drop some trees on the fence if necessary.*
- Talmo Lane 0 – ½ mile south of Timber Road; right-of-way clearing of brush and trees is requested on both sides of the road. *Completed*
- The owners of Premium Feeders and Nesika Energy are requesting improvements to 70 Road south of US 36 Highway for dust control.
 - a. *A geotechnical study is being conducted by Consultant Terracon to specify a paving thickness based on soil strengths for one or more of the alternatives. Drilling for this study has been completed. Nearly 4 inches of asphalt millings (16 truckloads) were laid down near the entrance*

to Nesika Energy for 1/10 of a mile south to reduce the amount of dust during harvest this year. The amount applied accomplished more than dust control; it bonded into a hard surface. This could be part of a long-term solution, or it could become a problem.

- Pawnee Museum Signs on 90 and Fir Roads need to be replaced. *The Museum approved material quotes and orders have been placed; labor and equipment will be provided by the County.*
- 30 Road south of Bridge 3-D.7 and north of Elm Road, ditch cleaning is needed and a road lift.
 - a. *Investigating*

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- 90 Road between Scandia and Fir was Sealed last week.



Thanks to Cloud County for loaning us a tanker so that we do not have to pay standby time for the oil delivery trucks. Belleville



has lent us a distributor and several operators. We have left equipment in Scandia over the Highway 36 Treasure Hunt weekend and will assist them with the sealing of North Republic & 5th Streets and 4th Street west of Kansas Street; any materials left over will be

used north of 4th on Wyoming Street. We will then mobilize to Belleville and assist the City with some street improvements on the 21st and 22^{cond}.

- An oil pump failure occurred on a spare M Class Grader. We are waiting for diagnostics and estimates of the total repair needed. It may be months and 10's of thousands of dollars before it is returned to service.
- The Scraper was moved into the shop last week for an engine replacement; sprockets and rollers will also be replaced. These upgrades should extend the useful life of the machine about 10 years.
- **Staff shortages and sealing and paving repairs have been keeping some operators out of their Districts longer than optimal and some concerns are being expressed about the conditions of the roads.** We deployed the Road groom behind a truck on some of the higher traffic roads Thursday to bring some of the gravel back into the wheel paths ahead of anticipated rain. We hope that was enough. We will be overextended for several more weeks with asphalt sealing and patching.

- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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

1. Rock Road, ¼ mile west of 290 Road. A wood box culvert will be replaced with a 60ft x 40ft culvert. *The property owner has requested that we delay this project until October when cattle will be moved from the adjacent pasture.*
 - a. Corner post for fence damaged by grader needs replaced when equipment is mobilized for this project.
2. 130 Road 1/10-mile north of Elm Road. Erosion has undermined a box culvert abutment and some repairs are necessary before it can be backfilled.

3. Jade Road .4 mile east of 90 Road; a box culvert under the road needs to be rebuilt or replaced with a tube.
4. Nickel Road at 30 Road on the west side of the intersection; a concrete box culvert is collapsing below the road surface. This will be replaced with a low profile “squash pipe.”
5. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way.
6. Oak Road west of 20 Road beginning at the Railroad crossing; waterway on the north side is eroding the base of the road and then meanders out of the right-of-way eroding a field. *Improvements will have to wait until after harvest.*
7. 760 290 Road, repair/replacement of a box culvert in their driveway that was constructed by the county when the road was straightened to approach Bridge 29-S.48.

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

1. Queen Road, west of 20 Road, tree removal, ditch cleaning and driveway upgrades needed for the first ½ mile. *40 ft driveway installed; some ditch cleaning still needed*
2. 30 Road improvements to restore the crown in the roadway between Highway 36 and Fir Road. *The first mile north of US36 has been completed.*
3. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
4. Elm Road ¼ mile east of 180 Road; *mulching of overgrowth on the south side of the road is completed; ditch cleaning will be performed, and rip rap will be installed to minimize scour at the inlet and outfall of the culvert under the road.*
5. 70 Road .3 mile north of Fir Road on the west side; ditch cleaning and a new culvert are needed under a driveway to stop storm water from scouring the road and flooding a feed storage yard.
6. 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*).

Upcoming Events

- Cold/hot patching on Fir approaches to the Republic River Bridge.
- Cold/hot patching on 90 Road south of Bridge 9-Q.1 near Scandia.
- 260 Cold Patching between Cuba and KS148 (1,000+ tons)
- Courtland cold patching
- Cuba cold patching
- Bidding and award of a contract for the replacement of Bridge X-27.2 south of Agenda.
- Special Projects in the works or being considered by the Highway Administrator
 - a. Capital improvement plan for shop/office facilities and paved infrastructure. *Values for local replacement costs have been challenging to obtain.*
 - b. Fleet management hardware and software. *Proposals are being evaluated.*
 - c. District Map updates and minimum standards for road maintenance.
 - d. Asphalt paving options. *Contracting vs. purchasing equipment is being evaluated.*
 - e. Grader upgrade.
- 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. *A review of the process needed for a vacation of a right-of-way is being conducted by the County Attorney.*