



Ken Robbins  
Highway Administrator

702 K St.  
Belleville, KS 66935

Phone: (785) 527-2235

Fax: (785) 527-5335

## Weekly Report to Commissioners

### Community Concerns

#### Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- Queen Road, intersecting watershed just west of the National Bohemian Cemetery, a replacement culvert needed.
- Oak Road between 50 and 60 Roads, (2) Farm access culverts requested.
  - Site visit conducted, owner is considering if 30 ft Culverts are enough or if he would like to pay for upgrades to 40 ft.
- Penn Road between 120 and 130 Roads. A culvert under the road is showing signs of deterioration and is affecting the road surface near the intake and outfall areas.
  - Investigating
- 1702 Marble Road, requesting a road culvert replacement. The Road appears to be a private driveway, but actually belongs to the county. This situation was created when Marble was moved during construction of a new intersection by the State many years ago.
  - *Improvements will be made as soon as practical; however, this may be a situation where the road and adjacent property could be deeded to the owner of the residence it serves to avoid this situation in the future.*
- 150 Road, 30 feet South of Ash, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
  - *Investigating*
- Marble Road, 50 yards east of 230, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
  - *Investigating*
- 120 Road 1/8-mile South of Penn, Road a Culvert replacement is needed.

#### Other Drainage Issues:

- Ash Road between 110 and 120 Roads near Bridge A-11.4, ditch cleaning is needed.
  - Recent heavy rains have filled the watershed with debris which needs to be cleared before it firmly lodges under the bridge. Area Farmers often take care of this; however, a track hoe is needed this time. *Completed*



- 110 Road and Birch needs ditch cleaning on the North side of 110 near the intersection, and possibly several culverts replaced with larger culverts.
  - Investigating

**Bridge Concerns**

- Bridge 4-F.4 on 40 Road south of Fir Road has had 4 guardrail supports broken from weld plates in the prestressed concrete tee girders. This appears to have occurred when an implement impacted the top of the guard rail. The damage is fairly significant and difficult to repair. An Engineer is being engaged to evaluate possible solutions.

**Signs or Obstruction Concerns:**

- An increasing number of street signs are reported missing. First responders have noted for example, signs missing at 200 & King, 210 & Fir, 200 & Fir, 190 & Fir. The Roads and Bridges Department is considering ways to make replacement of these signs a higher priority.

## Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

**Roads and Bridges**

- An Employee Appreciation Dinner was hosted by the Commissioners on Thursday July 22. Commissioner Garman presented an award to **Tyler Kolman** for 10 years of Service.



And to **Max Wickstrum** for 40 years of service.

- The Republic County Fairgrounds received some much-needed repairs to asphalt paving, a culvert was repaired at the southeast entrance to livestock buildings and accessibility improvements were made from the promenade to a popular concession stand.





- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS (in order of priority)
  1. Granite Road, between 70 & 80 Roads; Ditch Cleaning. Scoping encountered greater watershed impacts than anticipated, **Landowners prefer to wait until after harvest.**
  2. 150 Road, North of Marble Road needs to be built up over the first culvert. (*Collector Road; water flows over the road*).
  3. Queen Road, ¼ mile West of 210 Road, farm access culvert installation needed.
  4. 100 Road, south of the intersection with Highway 36 will be widened about 10 feet for 200 ft to improve tractor trailer access to a new business. Ditch Cleaning on Oak west of 100 Road will also be performed and gravel added to both 100 and Oak Roads.
  5. Republic County Historical Museum drainage swale and small diameter culvert will be installed between parking lot and driveway to outdoor exhibits.
  6. Republic County Historical Museum 6.5 x 9 ft x 6” slab of concrete (5,000 lbs.) will be relocated from a fuel station on the property to the site of a historic jail cage, leveled and cage lowered on top of it.
  7. Hickory Road between 280 and 290 Roads, Farm/Residence access culvert requested. *An old 20 ft Culvert will be replaced with a new 30 ft culvert.*
  8. Diamond Road near Farm Residence 175, restore collection pit at the outfall of a culvert under the road. This will allow storm drainage to follow a channel adjacent to the County Right-of-way instead of through irrigated farmland. *This project has been scoped for completion after harvest this year. We will collaborate with the farmer to determine the best location for borrow and spoils and let him recover topsoil if he has the resources.*
  9. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way and there is excessive erosion near the abutment of a nearby box culvert.
    - a. *Rip rap fill material will be placed at the southeast abutment of the box culvert as soon as practical. **Completed***
    - b. *A retention pond will be constructed within the right of way on the east side of 40 Road north of the box culvert with an overflow descending to riprap in the creek bottom about 18 feet below. This large project will be performed next year.*
  10. Rock Road between 10 & 20 Roads, a right-of way that has been farmed in the past in filled with soil and allowing irrigation water to flood the road surface. Storm drainage also crosses the road at this location.
  11. *Ditch cleaning will be performed, a culvert will be replaced in addition to a road lift, however this will need to wait until after irrigation season is over.*
  12. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickle Roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. (*Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing*).
  13. Cut and patch 4-6 ft of Concrete at 170 Road near residence 1549 (*Primary Road; Currently 23x23 & 10x23 inch potholes where previous asphalt patch has failed however potholes are shallow and should be scheduled with other pothole repairs*).
  14. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.

15. King Road, East of bridge K-7.2, Ditch Cleaning needed, (*Service Road*).
16. Marsh Trail and 20 Road South, ditch cleaning. **Some immediate concerns have been addressed; the larger part of this project will be completed this fall.** (*Collector Road; Needed after fire response filled shallow ditches with debris*).

## Upcoming Events

- The Courtland to Highway 148 Overlay Project is waiting for a schedule from the Contractor.
  - A Change Order to include additional milling and overlay work that the City of Courtland has requested will be negotiated. We are waiting for a proposal from the Contractor.
  - The Engineer has noted that a substantial pothole south of the railway crossing needs to be properly excavated, filled, compacted, and patched before the overlay work can begin. The County and the City will work together on this.
  - The Highway Administrator has communicated with the Railways in the area and although we do not have a schedule for construction yet, we do have a commitment from the Railways to increase communication about train schedules during the period of construction that should aid in public notifications and flagging.
- Bidding and Construction of Off System Bridge K-7.2
  - The State Department of Transportation is currently advertising for bids for this project.
- An invitation has been received from the Kansas Department of Transportation calling for Off-System Bridge Program Projects which will be considered for 2023 funding.
  - An application is being prepared for Bridge X-19.1; the Salt Creek Crossing on Xavier south of Talmo. Proposals must be submitted by July 30, 2021.