



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:

- 150 Road North of Timber at the entrance of residence 723; a collection basin and a culvert are needed between two driveways to correct a drainage problem that has been scouring the driveway and the edge of the road for many years. *One Call utility locate has been performed and materials are ordered.*
- Elm Road ¼ mile east of 180 Road, resident expressed concerns about a culvert under the road
 - *Investigated and some signs of erosion were observed that could be mitigated with rip rap*
- 240 Road, 1 ¼ mile south of Jade Road. Field access culvert requested.
 - Investigating

Other Drainage Issues:

- 110 Road and Birch needs ditch cleaning on the North side of 110 near the intersection, and possibly several culverts replaced with larger culverts.
 - *This work will be moved to our pending actions list and performed after harvest*
- 180 Road immediately south of Bridge 180-S.0 on the west side. Ditches have filled allowing storm drainage to run into a field, eroding the edge of the field and undermining a fence.
 - Investigating

Other Concerns:

- Several residents of Scandia are requesting that the County upgrade Oak Road between 90 and 100 roads to gravel.
 - The Highway Administrator has determined that improving this road would provide a safe truck bypass route that is supported by business owners and property owners in the immediate area.
- A resident purchasing farmland on the Southeast corner of the intersection of Highways 36 and 81 expressed concerns about future access. Current access appears to be through the parking lot of a business, though assessing maps seem to show an easement or road. After some research it appears that the County may have another road that was created for access to properties effected by the widening of Highway 81 over 30 years ago. The city claims there are other situations like this, and they are all in need of maintenance or upgrades.

- The Highway Administrator will meet with the State Engineer and obtain as-builts of these non-taxable properties that were vacated by the State after construction and recommend improvements or disposal.

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- Patching is paused until we receive more materials. The 50 tons of Cold Mix that we currently have will be reserved for patching in Courtland ahead of the milling and overlay project.
- After an employee tested positive for the COVID 19 Virus on August 19, 10 employees received isolation orders from the Health Department. 7 of the 10 Employees who isolated are returning to work on the 30th of August. One has tested positive and will remain isolated until September 1 and two others are remaining isolated due to contacts that are unrelated to the Highway Department.
- Drainage improvements were made at the Republic County Museum **and a 7,000 lb. slab of concrete was placed UNDER a vintage Jail Cage.**
- The Web page for the Highway Department has been updated with links to Weekly Reports.



- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS (in order of priority)
 1. 150 Road, 30 feet South of Ash, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
 2. Marble Road, 50 yards east of 230, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
 3. Rock Road, ¼ mile west of 290 Road. A wood box culvert needs to be replaced (needs to be scheduled after October, when Cattle are moved to another pasture)
 4. Corner post for fence damaged by grader needs replaced.
 5. Oak Road between 50 and 60 Roads, (1) 40 ft farm access culvert is needed and a 10 ft extension of a 30 ft culvert. **Material has been mobilized to the project site.**
 6. A clay culvert under Fir Road between 230 & 240 Roads is broken and part of the road surface has fallen into it. It has been filled with sand but needs to be replaced. This runs parallel to an old railroad crossing northeast of Munden.
 7. Granite Road, between 70 & 80 Roads; Ditch Cleaning. Scoping encountered greater watershed impacts than anticipated, *Landowners prefer to wait until after harvest.*
 8. 150 Road, North of Marble Road needs to be built up over the first culvert. (*Collector Road; water flows over the road*).
 9. Queen Road, ¼ mile West of 210 Road, farm access culvert installation needed.
 10. Bridge 20-D.4 on 200 Road south of Diamond Road. Recent flooding has scoured the soil from under the southern abutment creating a sinkhole in the approach to the bridge that is growing. This bridge is now closed to traffic. *Sheet piles will be installed behind the concrete abutment that will hold material needed to restore the approach and open the bridge again.*
 11. Bridge 21-0.7 on 210 Road south of Highway 36 will be replaced with a railcar tanker that has been recycled into a 48 x 10 ft steel tube. This is a cost-effective solution and there are incentives for reducing

our bridge inventory. *Equipment has been mobilized to the project site. Demo of the existing bridge will occur on the 30th of August and the tube will be received on the 31st*

12. 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.*
13. 130 Road 1/10-mile North of Elm Road. Erosion has undermined a bridge abutment and some repairs are necessary before it can be backfilled.
14. 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.*
15. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way.
 - a. *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.*
16. Rock Road between 10 & 20 Roads, a right-of way that has been farmed in the past is filled with soil and allowing irrigation water to flood the road surface. Storm drainage also crosses the road at this location. *Ditch cleaning will be performed, a culvert will be replaced, in addition to a road lift. This project will need to wait until after irrigation season is over.*
17. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickle Roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. *(Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing).*
18. 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).*
19. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
20. King Road, East of bridge K-7.2, Ditch Cleaning needed, *(Service Road).*
21. 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).*

Fuel Center

- The new Fuel Center Kiosk System materials are expected late next week with installation planned soon after.

Solid Waste

- The new **14 Bin AlleyCat Recycling Trailer** has been Ordered and we are waiting for a Delivery Schedule.

Upcoming Events

- The Courtland to Highway 148 Overlay Project is waiting for a schedule from the Contractor.
 - A Change Order is being prepared for the additional milling and overlay work that the City of Courtland has requested.
 - 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.
- The Construction of Off System Bridge K-7.2 is waiting for a schedule from the Contractor.
- The sealing and sanding of Fir Road from 81 Highway to Jewell County and 10 Road between Cedar and the Republic River Bridge will be performed during the week of September 20-23.
- Proposals are being solicited for the KANSAS LOCAL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2022. This is a 90/10 (State/Local) funding participation Project up to \$150,000 or up to \$200,000, if our proposal includes removing a second bridge from our inventory permanently. Proposals are due October 8, 2021.
- A Tour of County Roads & Bridges will be conducted for the Commissioners on September 13 at 1 pm. It is expected to take about 3 hours.