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Weekly Report to Commissioners

Community Concerns

Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- Diamond Road near Farm Residence 175, requesting extension or redirection of a large diameter culvert.
 - Investigating
- Shady Road between 130 and 140 roads, farm access culvert requested.
 - Investigating
- Sheriff's Office reported possible culvert damage East of the intersection of 70 and Queen Roads due to an accident that involved a truck leaving the road.
 - Investigated, damage is minimal, we do not feel it poses a safety hazard at this time.

Other Drainage Issues:

- 40 Road ½ mile north of Fir, resident has drainage concerns and would like a site visit.
 - Need to confirm appointment.

Road Surface Concerns:

- 60 Road, Fir to Ash; Birch, 50 to 60; Cedar, 60 to 80.
 - The Administrator has driven these roads in response to a community concern and confirmed that road profiles are losing their crown due to a lack of maintenance and vehicles are penetrating a thinly graveled surface, especially where there is standing water. The county is short an Operator in this District. Operators from other Districts are correcting this condition. A lot of progress was made last week. With just a few more days effort, these roads will no longer be an immediate concern.
- A resident expressed concern about the grading of 110 Road between Birch and Ash. It appeared that the operator had bladed the road surface into the ditch.
 - The concern was investigated, and this response was given to the resident. The operator used a blade on this service road to remove the grass. After a couple of passes the windrow was too high to safely leave on the road. The material must sit for a week or more so that the organic material dries and can be sifted from the soil to some degree when it is returned to the crown of the road. On a final pass, the operator rolled the material off the road but not all the way into the ditch. He will return and drag it back up on the road when it dries out.

- A growing business at 100 and Oak Roads has had the Post Office and Freight Carriers express concerns about the condition of both roads between the business and the Highway.
 - A site visit was conducted, and the County will widen 100 Road for a short distance from the highway, add gravel to both 100 and Oak Roads in the immediate area, and perform some ditch cleaning to improve drainage.
- A resident has expressed concerns that 80 Road south of highway 36 near Scandia has never been fully restored after being damaged by a flood several years ago.
 - Investigating

Requests for Gravel:

- 902 Elm requested gravel and grading near residence.
 - Completed on June 10.

Bridge Concerns:

- A resident expressed concern about a bridge being replaced with a culvert on 140 Road between Shady and Rock Roads. They believe a better use of taxpayer money is to put the culvert in the West Salt Creek on Rock Road between 140 and 150 Roads.
 - The culvert installation on 140 Road is replacing an old wood box culvert that was never classified as a bridge. The watershed is less than a square mile, whereas the West Salt Creek watershed above Rock Road is over 18 square miles. A crossing at Rock Road cannot be restored with a culvert and the road in this area has been closed for over 5 years.

Weed Control Concerns:

- A resident expressed concern about noxious weeds in the ditch on the north side of Nickle Road between 130 and 140 Roads.
 - Weed Control sprayed this area on June 10.
- A resident expressed concern about noxious weeds in a pasture south of Timber Road between 160 and 170 Roads. The Highway Administrator is consulting the County Attorney on possible courses of action if the Landowner is not responsive to contact from Weed Control Department



Solid Waste Concerns:

- A resident has scheduled a meeting with the Commissioners to express concerns about Solid Waste Program Fees that are invoiced quarterly.

Transportation Concerns:

None

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- Metal roofing and siding on the new Shop Addition is complete.
- Offers of employment have been accepted for a Driver and an Operator position. We have initiated the pre-employment screening and fitness evaluations.



- A 6-inch grind and Asphalt overlay was performed at the eastern approach to Bridge F5.35, Republican River on Fir near Republic; and on the southern approach to Bridge 9Q.1 on 90 Road near Scandia. This has significantly improved road surface conditions in these two areas.

- A large Diameter Culvert is being installed to replace a dilapidated wood box culvert on 140 Road between Shady and Rock Roads.

It is highly likely that this culvert is the one Commissioner Jeardoe was asking about last week. I incorrectly said it was complete, thinking of a large diameter culvert we just installed in the Northwest part of the County.



- Two of three Graders that were in the Shop last week have been returned to service.
- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS (in order of priority)
 1. Marsh Trail and 20 Road South, ditch cleaning. (*Collector Road; Needed after fire response filled shallow ditches with debris.*)
 2. 150 Road, North of Marble Road needs to be built up over the first culvert. (*Collector Road; water flows over the road.*)
 3. Republic County Historical Museum drainage swale and small diameter culvert will be installed between parking lot and driveway to outdoor exhibits.
 4. 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.
 5. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickle Roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. (*Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing.*)
 6. Jade Road, requesting north side field access culvert between 140 & 150 Roads, 100 yards west of waterway. (*Preferred location has been flagged and installation will be performed before harvest*)
 7. 120 Road, South of Fir, requesting 2 farm access culverts, ¼ mile & ½ mile south of Fir. (*one culvert is a replacement for one removed during a nearby project over a year ago. The other is an expansion or replacement of an old 20ft culvert at a 30 ft gate. Both locations are flagged.*)

8. 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*).
9. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
10. Granite Road, between 70 & 80 Roads Ditch Cleaning needed. (*Water running over road, however it is a service road, and the bridge is closed*).
11. King Road, East of bridge K-7.2, Ditch Cleaning needed, (*Service Road*).

Solid Waste

- Delinquent Solid Waste Program Accounts are being reviewed. New penalties will be levied this year for non-payment; \$25 for Residential Accounts and \$50 for Business Accounts. Unpaid delinquent accounts will be added the property tax bill.

Transportation

- Equipment Inspection Scheduled for 6/29/21

Weed Control.

- Spraying around Guard rails and responding to noxious weed sightings.

Upcoming Events

- An Advertisement for Bids was posted last week for the Courtland to 148 Overlay project. Bids will be due on July 2. Presentation of the Bids to the Commissioners for consideration will occur on July 6. The Engineering Company of Kirkham Michael will be presenting.
 - The Engineer's estimate in \$679,000. This will be a 50/50 Cost Share Project with KDOT
 - Main Street in Courtland will be milled to receive the overlay so that the finish surface will be flush with adjacent parking and 6 feet wider than the overlay proposed for 30 Road south to Highway 148. This is essential to having a quality product however the additional 6 feet in width will be at the County's expense.
 - The City has met and resolved that they would like to have the full width of the roadway milled and overlaid in the residential area south of the railroad tracks. We have estimated the additional paving will cost approximately \$24,000. Instead of delaying the project with a scope increase or requesting an alternate from prospective bidders, we will use the unit pricing in the bid schedule to negotiate a change order before construction begins. The City of Courtland will be responsible for these additional costs.
- Bidding and Construction of Off System Bridge K-7.2
 - Final set of Design Documents will be presented for Commissioner Approval once they are received from the Engineer. Engineer is waiting for final comments from the State Department of Transportation.
 - State Department of Transportation Cost Sharing Agreement 144-21 is ready for Commissioner Approval. These will be presented with the Final Design Documents once they are received.