



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. *Materials are arriving Sept. 13*
- 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.
 - *Met with the owner on site. Verified location and the condition that requires the replacement of an old culvert. This work will be moved to the Pending Actions List in this report.*
- 1060 Zeal Road, resident has been expecting a field access improvement for several years.
 - *Met with the resident and staff and concluded that a railroad tank car had been recycled into a 10 ft half pipe with a floor and headwalls for this situation but was never installed. A one call utility locate has been ordered and installation will be performed before harvest.*
- 1220 Zeal Road, Culvert installation needed for field access.
 - *Met with resident to conform location after responding to a road surface concern detailed in this report.*



Other Drainage Issues:

- 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.
 - *Ditch cleaning is necessary to correct this problem. This work will be moved to the Pending Actions List in this report.*

Easement Agreement requested:

- Bostwick Irrigation District wants to install a 27" steel cased PVC Irrigation pipe under 30 Road South of the Intersection with Union Road.
 - *Agreement will be presented to the Commissioners on September 13.*

Road surface concerns:

- A new residence is being constructed at 2354 190 Road. To serve this residence, the Post Office has requested 190 between Birch and Cedar be upgraded to gravel.
 - Some ditch cleaning will occur, and gravel will be added within 30 days. *This work will be moved to the Pending Actions List in this report.*
- A resident on Shady Road between 100 and 110 Roads does not like to have his gravel piled up on the side of the Road.
 - *The Highway Administrator has met with the resident and explained that windrows are for the purpose of storing excess gravel so that it is available to the Grader Operator when it is needed. Some jurisdictions allow this, some do not. Republic County will allow this as long as we are convinced this is the best practice for our area. The resident is satisfied with that explanation but is still concerned that his road is graded too often, and the gravel is too thin. His concerns are noted, and his situation will be observed more often to determine if improvements can be made.*
- A resident at 1220 Zeal Road wants gravel between 110 and 130 Roads. The residence does not appear on any map.
 - *Met with the resident on Zeal Road. His property is at the intersection of 100/110 (Republic/Cloud) and Zeal Roads. He has received a mailing address but is not on a mail route yet. It appears that Cloud County will need to improve their 110 Road which is half gravel now serving another residence. The Highway Administrator will communicate with Cloud County to confirm these assumptions and is not recommending gravel for Zeal between 110 and 130 Roads at this time.*

Other Concerns:

- A resident has expressed concerns about trees in the right-of-way obstructing views from the intersection of King and 300 Roads
 - *This has been confirmed and tree removal will occur as soon as practical.*

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. This patch is scheduled for September 13. We are also scheduled to receive more cold mix on September 11.
- Bridge 20-D.4 (sinkhole in roadway behind south abutment) was repaired and re-opened. A field access improvement that was made by the state when the bridge was constructed was widened with a used 51/2 x 20 ft culvert to correct a problem that the property owner has expressed concerns about.
- **Bridge 19-C.9, near 20-D.4 had a log jam removed before the excavator was demobilized from the area.**
- Two Employees are isolated due to a potential COVID 19 Virus exposure unrelated to the workplace.



• 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. 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.
6. Granite Road, between 70 & 80 Roads; Ditch Cleaning. Scoping encountered greater watershed impacts than anticipated, *Landowners prefer to wait until after harvest.*
7. 110 Road and Birch needs ditch cleaning on the North side of 110 near the intersection, and possibly several culverts replaced with larger culverts.
8. 150 Road, North of Marble Road needs to be built up over the first culvert. (*Collector Road; water flows over the road*).
9. 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 was growing. This bridge was closed to traffic. **Completed**
10. 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 preparing details for fabricating brackets that will be used for refastening the guardrails.*
11. 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.
12. 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.*
13. 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.*
14. 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.*
15. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickle Roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. (*Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing*).
 - a. **Scheduled for repairs September 13-16**
16. 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*).
 - a. **Scheduled for repairs September 14-16**
17. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
18. King Road, East of bridge K-7.2, Ditch Cleaning needed, (*Service Road*).

19. 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 new Fuel Center Kiosk System is scheduled for installation September 20-23. The Antennas for communicating between the Fuel Center and the office have been installed.
- 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.
 - The Highway Department is considering Bridge X-27.2 for our proposed replacement.
- 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.
- The Kyle Railroad is upgrading the Belleville to Scandia line with new ties during the next month. The County will be assisting with road closures when necessary while they are working on crossings.