

**ROAD COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 30th, 2017
5:30 P.M.**

Present: John Watley, Jerry Taylor and Glenn Hutto. Also present was Charles Sawyer, David Dumas, Mike Jones, Stan Smith, Lane Rugg, Lanny Parker and Bruce Hampton.

Mr. Watley called the meeting to order. Mr. Watley led the group in prayer.

Motion Mr. Hutto, seconded by Mr. Taylor and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote of the Committee to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hutto and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the September 5th, 2017 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Hutto, seconded by Mr. Taylor to recommend to the jury to assist the Town of Farmerville in repairing Betty Street with the Town of Farmerville paying for the cost of materials. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hutto to recommend to the jury to assist the Village of Spearsville with the repair of a culvert at Carrol Street and Cole Street intersection and repairing pot holes in the parking lot of the Senior Center.

A discussion was held about the Rocky Branch Bridge over Bayou D'Arbonne. A Notice to Delay was issued on September 25, 2017. The contract with Ben Allen specifies a Right to Delay for up to 90 days. The issue at hand is whether to (1) continue the delay, (2) authorize Ben to proceed and/or (3) determine if a load rating for the three steel center spans is needed. The Fracture Critical and the Underwater Inspections have been received. The underwater inspection showed some minor changes, but did not show a lot of damage or anything that would lead to showing what is causing the problems in the bridge.

According to the Engineer, the fracture critical inspection showed some significant issues. The biggest issue is with the caps. The caps are made up of five - 12 x 12 timbers which run across. Each of the spans are tilted and rotated. The tilt in the cap is causing the load in the bridge to be shifted. He is recommending a load rating for those three steel center spans with the idea of lowering the sufficiency rating to get this bridge adopted in the off-system bridge replacement program. In order to get more life out of the bridge he is also recommending a rotation of the caps which involves driving two pilings at each side of the vent and under those pilings place channel beams. If the additional work were to be completed then the weight limit could be raised. That would add an additional \$210,000 to the cost of the project.

Mr. Allen has been contacted and he would like to move forward with his contract. He is in agreement that the pilings over the land need to be replaced. If the parish deems that extra work is needed then he may not be interested in performing the work. He is concerned about driving

the heavy machinery on the bridge to drive the pilings. If the parish decides to drive pilings out over the water then it cannot be done from the top of the bridge. If an access road is needed then he suggested that the parish negotiate a right of way and build a road.

Mr. Taylor expressed his concerns as to whether the bridge is showing significant movement or not. According to the pictures in the fracture critical report and his own observations he does not think the bridge is showing significant movement. At this stage Mr. Taylor would like to monitor the bridge and if movement is detected then take action.

Mr. Dumas explains that he rates the load limit on a bridge via a software program that the state uses. An independent load rating would cost approximately \$15,000. It entails a physical inspection and then putting the information in a software program. Mr. Taylor would like to contact State Representative Rob Shadoin and inquire if the state would be willing to perform the load rating inspection.

Motion Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hutto to recommend to the jury to authorize Ben Allen to continue with his contract for Various Bridge Repair Projects F.Y. 2016 - Rocky Branch Road Bridge over Bayou D'Arbonne and authorize the President to execute all necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hutto to recommend to the jury to authorize Mr. Taylor to contact State Representative Rob Shadoin to ask for assistance with the load ratings on the Rocky Branch Road Bridge Over Bayou D'Arbonne. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Watley declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Taylor and duly seconded by Mr. Hutto on this the 30th day of October, 2017.

**John Watley, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer**