

District 3: Road and Bridge Report

Don Hawthorne, County Commissioner

The rainy summer continues to disrupt scheduled projects and we have spent an inordinate amount of time cleaning debris out of bridges and tin horns. We are also putting in and repairing quite a few tin horns to accommodate the increase in water runoff.

We completed the three road projects that were funded via an agreement with the Comanche Nation's Transportation Department. Madische, McIntosh, and Chibitty Roads were recycled late last year and we were planning to oil and chip them this spring, but the weather had delayed their completions to later this summer.

We also recycled and oiled and chipped Bay Drive in Bay Addition.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs finally signed off on our bridge on Airport Road, after a lot of communication to get the matter resolved. The bridge construction is scheduled for a November letting by ODOT. The latest inspection by engineers has deemed that the bridge has deteriorated to a point that we will be required to either close the road or lower the weight limit to 3 tons.

The bridge to replace the low-water crossing on Bishop Road over Post Oak Road is progressing. The needed right of way has been purchased and the work orders have been issued to the utility companies to move the water line and overhead electric lines. The

construction of the bridge is scheduled for 2018.

CEC engineering has been selected to develop the design to replace the old truss bridge over West Cache Creek on old Cache Road. We are waiting on the preliminary plans. Construction on that bridge is schedule for 2020.

On June 19, we signed an agreement with Overland Corporation, after they had the low bid for milling out the rough spots and to do a 2 inch overlay on 82nd Street from Coombs to S.H. 36. Some of the milling was done, however we did some additional blade leveling to make the road smoother. Overland has yet to begin the overlay, which was by contract to be completed by August 4th. A \$200 a day penalty is being assessed from that date.

We awarded a contract to T&G Construction LLC to put down a 2 inch asphalt overlay on portions of Briarcreek and Heatherstone in Pecan Valley South, Deyo Mission from RR tracks south to Lee Blvd, Cache Road from County Road 115 to the Cache Creek Bridge, Lee Blvd west of County Road 115 to Quanah Road, County Road from Woodlawn to Post Oak Creek Bridge and Baseline portion of 115.

Someone built a fire under the bridge on 267 just north of Cross Road. The heat was so intense that it caused a large portion of concrete to flake off exposing the reinforcing steel. We had to purchase a special bonding material to repair the bridge, otherwise it may have had to be replaced.

The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge gave us about 200 tons of millings. Several loads were taken to the Medicine Park Aquarium for their parking lot. The rest was stock piled at the County Barn for future use.

We milled out a rough spot and blade leveled a portion of 8th Street in Cache. We worked on an alley way and baseball diamond parking lot for Chattanooga School, hauled some gravel for the Chattanooga Volunteer Fire Department's station and built a road for Cache Public Schools to help alleviate their traffic problem.

The guys spent 3 days hauling out the dirt from the exhibition building at the fairgrounds. District 1 had hauled the dirt in for the International Horse play days. District 1 and 3 takes turn about helping them out with projects.

Carl Mullins retired from the District 3 work force having worked for 8 years. Carl operated the patch truck, drove a dump truck and was willing to help anywhere he was needed and was a valued member of the District 3 team. We wish him the best in his retirement.

I worked again this year in developing the County Budget for FY 2017-2018, coordinating with the other elected officials and department heads.

If you have questions or concerns, I can be contacted at don.hawthorne@comanchecounty.us or you may phone the County Barn at 580-429-3217 or the Courthouse office at 580-353-3717.