

District 3: Road and Bridge Report

Don Hawthorne, County Commissioner

Summer is upon us and the mowing has started. We have used herbicides at most of the bridge approaches and the intersections to increase visibility. Also it will prevent us from having to mow them as often.

Construction has begun replacing the bridges across Boulder Creek on Airport Road and the low water crossing at Post Oak Creek on Bishop Road. The bridge on Airport is scheduled to be completed by the end of summer and we are hopeful before school starts this fall. The bridge on Bishop will be completed midsummer.

Progress is moving along on the replacement of the big truss bridge over West Cache Creek on Cache Road. We have had the plan-in-hand meeting with the design engineers, ODOT engineers and Circuit Engineering District # 6 engineer. The purpose of this meeting was to review the initial design to make sure all the requirements are considered. This will determine if more right of way is needed. Once the design is agreed upon the next steps will be to do the study to see if there is any environmental impact, acquire needed right of way and move the utilities.

The construction of the bridge is planned for 2021. However, the Comanche Nation's Transportation Department has expressed an interest in helping fund the construction. If an agreement can be worked out, the construction could start sooner.

Several streets in Chattanooga were oiled and chipped. We had milled them a couple of years ago and the Town Council decided to complete the project this year. By inter-local agreement, the Town furnished the materials and the County uses our manpower and equipment.

The road crew has gotten four miles of Indianahoma Road from Coombs Rd to Baseline Rd ready to oil and chip this summer. They are getting Woodlawn Road from 115 to Crater Creek Road ready. The City of Cache has requested that we oil and chip Crater Creek Rd from Cache Rd north and also 3rd and 4th Streets between B and C Avenues.

Once the bridge construction is completed on Airport Rd, we plan to oil and chip it from Cache Road to Lee Blvd. If time permits, we plan to redo Baseline Road from SH 36 to Deyo Mission Road.

We are currently accepting bids to do asphalt overlays of 8th Street (115) in Cache between US 62 and H Street (Cache Rd) and Indianahoma Rd in Indianahoma from Show Place Avenue to US 62. These projects are being funded by the Comanche Nation's Department of Transportation and will be completed this summer.

We hauled two old surplus trucks for the Meers VFD to the State Forestry Division at Goldsby, OK and put in a tinhorn for the Pecan Creek VFD driveway.

Our crew repaired the parking lot for the Comanche County Health Department and constructed a handicap ramp for the Wichita Mountains Area Senior Citizens building.

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.