

At a worksession with the Caroline County Board of Supervisors and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 in the auditorium of the Community Services Center, located at 17202 Richmond Turnpike, Milford, VA 22514.

**PRESENT**

D. M. "Maxie" Rozell, Jr. - Chairman  
Floyd W. Thomas - Vice-Chairman  
Wayne A. Acors - *Arrived at approximately 5:30 p.m.*  
Bobby Popowicz  
Jeff Sili

**Also Present**

Percy C. Ashcraft – County Administrator  
Alan L. Partin – Assistant County Administrator  
Michael A. Finchum – Director of Planning & Community Development  
John Boryshuck – Public Utilities Director  
David Layman – Fire-EMS Chief  
Frances K. Hatcher – Finance Director

**Call to Order**

Chairman Rozell called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

**SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR SECONDARY ROADS**

Mr. Charlie Stunkle, Residency Administrator for the Bowling Green Office of VDOT, stated that he will go through the plan and give the Board recommendations that will maximize the use of available funds. He said the first project on the list is the Ladysmith Road turn lane at Lake Land'Or. He said there is actually a balance of \$691,000 on that project. He said \$243,000 of that are Revenue Sharing funds that the County has contributed and a similar amount that is VDOT's match for the Revenue Sharing funds. He said the County needs to do something with those Revenue Sharing funds. He said the County could request a reimbursement of the \$243,000 or the County could request a transfer of those funds down to Route 639 project, Ladysmith Road between 95 and Route 1, which is the one active project in the Plan. He said the reason it is an active project is because the County had enough funding available in the Six-Year Plan to fully fund the project.

He further stated that the second project is Ladysmith Road from Route 1 through Lake Land'Or. He said it is a \$7 million project and it only has \$406,000 allocated to it. He said they recommend that the County transfer \$373,000 down to the active 639 project which is all federal funds and would be the only place in the Plan that you can transfer these funds.

He said the Route 633 bridge replacement is all federal bridge money and nothing comes out of this Plan. He said Ryland's Corner Road, School House Road and Coleman Town Road are unpaved road projects.

Vice-Chair Thomas asked Mr. Stunkle to go back to the Route 639 project and asked if they have \$691,000 to complete that project.

Mr. Stunkle stated that it is called additional funding, but in this case it is a completed project that was overfunded and the balance of \$691,000 is what remains on that project.

Vice-Chair Thomas said so they have \$691,000 of extra road money plus the local match.

Mr. Stunkle stated that is correct, they have \$691,000 of extra road money and \$286,000 is Revenue Sharing plus the match and so that is \$691,000 minus \$486,000 which equals what is left in regular secondary construction money.

Vice-Chair Thomas asked if they could take that money back.

Mr. Stunkle said no, the regular construction money has to go to a federal project and they will transfer that to the other Route 639 project regardless. He said the question is the remainder of the Revenue Sharing funds and what the County plans to do with them.

Vice-Chair Thomas stated that realistically they could take the Revenue Sharing back because that was actually proffer money and use it for something else.

Mr. Stunkle explained that if you take back the \$243,000, you lose the \$486,000 because the match would disappear too. He said the danger of doing that is you wind up with a project that is not fully funded and they will cease to work on it.

Chairman Rozell said so that would do away with that project.

Mr. Stunkle said yes and you essentially would have \$2.5 million setting there on a project that you cannot do anything with.

Supervisor Sili said the proffer money can only go to capital things.

Chairman Rozell asked about the 639 reconstruction of 95 and Route 1.

Mr. Stunkle explained that those are the spot improvements to basically put a turn lane there going into the industrial park, extend the right turn lane and put in a left turn lane and tie into the turn lanes coming from Route 1. He said it is also to look at doing some improvements at the intersection of Green Road where you have backups in the evenings with left turning traffic going onto Green Road.

Chairman Rozell said that was a thought, but it does leave about \$500,000 on the table at the same time. He asked Mr. Finchum his opinion on the importance of that project.

Michael Finchum, Director of Planning & Community Development, stated that they have always identified Route 639 as one of the major, secondary road improvement projects particularly with the development in that area. He said one of the policies of the Comprehensive Plan is to promote the use of secondary road funds in our designated growth areas; however, they also understand that the funding for that project is going to take a number of years. He said he would defer to Mr. Stunkle, but he is not sure they can necessarily find any other large impact projects to put the money towards.

Mr. Stunkle stated that what Mr. Finchum said is correct. He said from their standpoint, it has to be a project on the federal aid system. He said they do not have enough money to tackle what they want to do going from Route 1, west. He explained that was the reason the decision was made to drop back and take care of the spot improvements between 95 and Route 1 for the \$3,300,000 project. He said the reconstruction of the entire section of that roadway based on what they know they need on traffic projection, would be far above that \$3,000,000 figure.

He further stated that they would like to make certain that they keep that project active. He said he has two counties right now whose number one priority does not have enough funding to go forward.

Chairman Rozell asked if Mr. Stunkle needed answers soon.

Mr. Stunkle stated that the deadline is April 23<sup>rd</sup> to be through with the Six-Year Plan process.

Supervisor Sili stated that he would like to deviate for one second and talk about the Sparta Road bridge just past the fire station. He asked if this ever made the federal bridge projects.

Mr. Stunkle said no, the Sparta Road bridge was nowhere near the top of the federal bridge projects. He said he believes it is on the list; however, there are so many that are ahead of it that are in worse condition.

Supervisor Sili said he just wanted to make sure it at least made the list.

Mr. Stunkle stated that everyone is aware of it. He said they have also found out recently that some of the projects that were on the list are going to be sliding back several years in getting the funding and the situation is not improving.

Chairman Rozell asked if there was any more discussion on the Ladysmith Road, 95 and Route 1, \$234,000 transfer or reimbursement. He said if they transfer the money, they stand to lose \$486,000 in matching funds. He asked if the proffer money was strictly for transportation.

Mr. Finchum stated that proffer money can be used for transportation improvements.

Chairman Rozell asked if it could also be used for utilities.

Mr. Finchum said yes, because technically it is a capital improvement.

Chairman Rozell stated that he believes they may need to think about it. He said obviously they need road improvements, but there are a lot of other issues that have changed their minds recently. He said Supervisor Acors is not here and this area has a lot of traffic and it is also near an industrial park.

Mr. Stunkle stated that Route 639 is the most travelled secondary road in the County.

Mr. Stunkle further stated that one other item he would like to bring the Board's attention to on the Plan is the Rural Additions item. He said they have a balance of about \$306,000. He explained that they are proposing to put \$4,000 per year into that; however, you are limited by statute to 5% of your total construction allocation per year. He said the other thing about that is you can only accumulate five years onto that and then you lose the year prior to that. He said if they do not do something on this, they are going to have \$50,000 to \$60,000 that will drop out of that \$300,000. He said going forward to the extreme, if you go to 2015 and you still haven't done any Rural Additions, you will have \$24,000 left to work with.

Supervisor Sili asked what was really meant by Rural Additions.

Mr. Stunkle explained that Rural Additions would be a secondary road that for some reason has not come into the Secondary System. He said many of these that they have done over the years were old subdivisions that came into being prior to the County having a subdivision ordinance or that otherwise fell through the cracks. He said for example, the street off of Old Milford Street with the big hole in it, that would be a type that they have done in the past. He said they have done Muddville and Caroline Village and some of the roads that they have taken in have been really old rural roads.

Chairman Rozell asked Mr. Stunkle if there was anything else.

Mr. Stunkle stated that he would like to set the public hearing on the Six-Year Plan for the first meeting in April, which would be April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Rozell asked about the unpaved roads list that Mr. Stunkle gave the Board, which line item would funds come from for that.

Mr. Stunkle stated that Ryland's Corner, School House and Coleman Town roads are all roads that are off of that list. He said they have full funding for those three projects in the Plan. He said if they utilize the \$33,000 in State funds that are on the Route 639 project, that could potentially increase the amount of money that is available for unpaved roads.

Chairman Rozell asked how much funding was available.

Mr. Stunkle stated that they have taken care of everything that they have projected to receive in the Plan on unpaved roads. He said the only thing extra that they are aware of is that \$33,000 that could be transferred.

Chairman Rozell said so the only funding they have for these roads is \$33,000.

Mr. Stunkle said basically they have \$92,000 per year that they are getting in the Plan, less the money set aside for Rural Additions and they already had previous funding of \$154,000 on Ryland's Corner Road.

Chairman Rozell asked how far away they were from finishing Ryland's Corner Road.

Mr. Stunkle stated that the financing for Ryland's Corner Road can be completed this coming year.

Chairman Rozell asked about the other Rural Addition projects that are being looked at.

*\* Supervisor Acors arrived at approximately 5:30 p.m. \**

Mr. Finchum stated that they have also looked at Lester Lane and they could not get the right-of-way for that. He said they also looked at one other one over off of Route 1 between Carmel Church and Ladysmith and they had similar right-of-way issues. He said they are also looking at another road in Dawn, but again, as with the others, they are facing right-of-way issues.

He then said he wanted to remind Board members that the Board has taken a position historically that they will not condemn right-of-way for Rural Addition projects and that it is a voluntary program. He said so if one property owner somewhere along the way, particularly towards the front of a project does not agree to dedicate the right-of-way free of cost to the County, than that effectively kills the project. He said typically that is the problem they have had, is in right-of-way acquisition and properties at or near the front of the existing state road.

Chairman Rozell advised Supervisor Acors that they just had discussion on the Six-Year Plan and Route 639, Route 1 and 95. He explained about the proffer money and that the Board needs to decide whether to reimburse that money or transfer it to this particular project or leave about \$486,000 on the table of matching funds.

Mr. Stunkle said essentially this is the only active project that they have besides unpaved roads in the Plan.

Chairman Rozell stated that they need to make a decision by the first meeting in April.

Vice-Chair Thomas stated that as he understood it, the discussion was there is \$242,000 of local funds in the project. He said they can pull that money back, but they would lose \$486,000 in matching funds. He asked Mr. Ashcraft to find somewhere in the budget that they could use that money if they decide to take it back. He said it would have to be another proffer related project, but if there is no other alternative they might as well keep going. He said in his opinion, \$242,000 is a lot of money to plug holes.

Supervisor Acors stated that it has to be done on authorized proffer projects.

Chairman Rozell stated that they could incorporate that into their budget worksession and discuss it at that time. He thanked Mr. Stunkle for his presentation and for being present.

*Vice-Chair Thomas moved and Supervisor Popowicz seconded to adjourn the worksession.*

  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

  
CHAIRMAN