

**MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM  
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1998  
7:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Linda Steinman, Chair  
Kathy Campbell  
Larry Hudkins

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier  
Steve Svoboda

Others Present: Don Thomas, County Engineer  
Susan Starcher, County Clerk's Office

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners convened and was called to order on Wednesday, November 4, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Hearing Room regarding a public hearing on the One and Six-Year Road and Bridge Improvement Program.

The Chair opened the public hearing and introduced the County Board, noting that Bernie Heier and Steve Svoboda were absent. Steinman then recognized the County Engineer, Don Thomas.

Thomas welcomed everyone to the Fiscal 1999 One and Six-Year Road and Bridge Improvement public hearing. He highlighted completed improvements for Fiscal Year 1998 and gave a summary (Exhibit A) of the Fiscal 1999 program (Exhibit B).

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

Debby Brehm, 10400 Yankee Hill Road, appeared and thanked Thomas for paving 1.5 miles of Yankee Hill Road 1.5 miles east of Cheney.

Sandy Smith, 18303 N 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, appeared and encouraged that the paving of North 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, which is currently in the six-year plan, be moved up and that traffic studies continue.

Smith asked if the bridges between Highway 6 and Davey Road still remain in the Federal project plan.

Thomas stated they remain in the plan and indicated the bids are being let for the design.

She also asked if the bridges would have to be completed before any paving on Davey Road would be done.

Thomas responded yes because the road would need to be graded.

Smith stated she is Transportation Director for School District 145 and is appearing to express the school district's concerns that they continue to study Amberley Road in connection with the speed limit. She said they would also like to have a crossing light installed at the same location.

Also discussed by Smith was 134<sup>th</sup> Street between Branched Oak Road and Davey Road. She stated 134<sup>th</sup> Street has been rocked from Davey Road south and from Branched Oak Road north, however, she noted there is a short section of the road that is not rocked. Smith stated it would help considerably with her bussing concerns if that section could be considered.

Gayle Hanshaw, 9420 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Cheney, Nebraska, appeared and asked if there is a master plan for improving/rocking the dirt roads in the County.

Thomas responded yes and stated there are approximately 75 miles of dirt roads which still need rocking.

Hanshaw stated the Community Improvement Program in Cheney would like place a "Welcome to Cheney" sign near the intersection at 91<sup>st</sup> Street and asked if that was possible.

Thomas replied that they would be willing to work with them to find a location.

Richard Nelson, 3700 West High Ridge Road, appeared and expressed his concerns regarding the paving of SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street between A Street and Van Dorn Street.

Thomas stated the design is completed and noted that grading will be done in the year 2000 with paving immediately following the grading.

Steve Champoux, 3801 West High Ridge, reiterated what Richard Nelson said and requested paving of SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street between A and Van Dorn Streets.

Angela Green, 2301 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Court, appeared and also requested paving of SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street and noted there are a great many semi-trucks using the road. It was also noted that there is severe "washboarding" of the street.

Frank Moles, 600 Fletcher Avenue, appeared and addressed his concerns in connection with N 7<sup>th</sup> Street. He stated he would like to see traffic counts conducted.

Randy Clark, 2401 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Court, appeared and reiterated the traffic and safety concerns regarding SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street between A and Van Dorn Streets.

Art Althouse, Route 1, Waverly, Nebraska, appeared and expressed his concerns regarding paving on East Holdrege. He stated it has been proposed that there would only be openings every two miles on East Holdrege.

Thomas stated the roads will cross either over or under the beltway.

Ted Doane, 17705 Bluff Road, appeared and requested the overpass over Bluff Road be reviewed more. He also stated the curve is not adequate for the amount of traffic. Doane also noted his concern regarding the bridge over Interstate 80 and suggested that it be realigned.

Gale Fickenschir, 5400 Carlisle Court, appeared and expressed her concerns regarding traffic and safety on Yankee Hill Road near 56<sup>th</sup> Street. She also requested it be paved as soon as possible.

Steinman stated the County Board is also concerned about that area, however, they need to concentrate on the South Beltway before they can consider what might be needed at 56<sup>th</sup> and Yankee Hill Road.

Tom Peterson, 127 Rock Creek Road, appeared and addressed his concerns regarding the bridge at 141<sup>st</sup> and Rock Creek Road. He stated it makes access to his cattle difficult because he has to go five miles around.

Thomas explained that the ground below the surface slid into the pilings and that there is no plan to permanently close the bridge.

Peterson asked if it would be possible to open a four foot section on the barricade to allow access.

Thomas suggested speaking with Virgil Dearmont, Bridge Division Head, in the County Engineering Department.

Harlan Layton, 740 Skyway Road, appeared and asked about the future of SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street from A to O Streets.

Thomas stated a meeting was held with Burlington Northern and the City of Lincoln to discuss the future of SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street. He explained that Burlington Northern would like to expand their facilities and add another track.

Layton stated he worked for the railroad for 30 years as an engineer and stated the crossings could be eliminated. He stated he doesn't like to see them closed, however, if they can't go over or under the crossing then they should be closed because of the potential for loss of life.

Thomas stated they would probably propose a public information meeting be held to obtain proper input.

Jeff Johanson appeared and stated he lives on NW 84<sup>th</sup> Street 1.5 miles south of Hwy 34 and 1.5 miles north of the turn to Pawnee Lake. He addressed such concerns as vehicles in the ditch, inadequate maintenance of road, high volume of traffic going to Pawnee Lake and high volume of semi-truck traffic.

The chair asked if anyone else wished to testify.

No one appeared.

The Chair introduced Commissioner Elect, Bob Workman.

Workman stated he has lived in rural Lancaster County for 24 years and looks forward to working with everyone on the County Board.

Thomas stated he had received the following requests which were not included in the Fiscal 1999 One and Six-Year Road and Bridge Improvement Program:

- East Van Dorn from South 112<sup>th</sup> Street to South 120<sup>th</sup> Street
- South 54<sup>th</sup> Street from Saltillo Road to Hickman Road
- Include Rokeby Road from South 56<sup>th</sup> Street to South 70<sup>th</sup> Street
- Pavement of Yankee Hill Road between South 91<sup>st</sup> Street and Hwy 2

The Chair closed the public hearing.

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Kandra Hahn  
Lancaster County Clerk