

District 3: Road and Bridge Report Don Hawthorne, County Commissioner District 3 Since the long slow rain that we had this past month caused the roads to get soft, we put out gravel in a number of places to firm them up.

And the grader crew spent a considerable amount of time getting our gravel roads back into shape.

Before the rain our extended dry weather caused the clay soil we have in most of southwest Oklahoma to shift, resulting in cracks forming in some of our asphalt roads. In the winter when water gets into those areas, and it freezes, it will cause the asphalt to break up.

So we rented the crack sealer again to put down rubber sealant to prevent that from happening.

The Meers-Porterhill Road overlay project is completed.

This was a cooperative venture between the Comanche Nation and Comanche County, District 3 to put a 2-inch overlay on Meers-Porterhill Road from State Highway 58 to U.S. 277.

This road was in need of repair and this improvement made it a safer road to travel.

We very much appreciate the relationship we have with the Comanche Nation.

The ice and snow that occurred last month caused us to get out the sanding trucks on Sunday night and early Monday morning to ensure that our citizens would have a safer commute.

Representatives from the Oklahoma Emergency Management Office were at the County Barn office this past week working on the close out for funding we received from the FEMA declared disaster for the 2009-10 ice storm. The total amount of funds that were allotted was \$3,147,771.61, of which we were advanced \$1,633,618.30.

After we have completed the closeout audits, we should receive a total of \$ 1,514,152.30.

Last month we reported that District 3 contributed 800 of the 1,630 cans collected in the County's United Way food drive, and we were awarded the winning prize of a steak dinner on the 25

th of November. United Way Coordinator, Lindsey Billen coordinated the meal and had her dad

Jerry Krasser doing the cooking. Venius Matthys owner and editor of The County Times furnished the potatoes. The dinner was enjoyed and appreciated by all of the employees of District 3.

Beginning on December 18, 2014, the District 3 Barn will be closed until January 5, 2015. If an emergency occurs, such as a snow or ice event, a crew will be called out to sand intersections and bridges.

Otherwise, it is a good time for the crew to use their accrued leave & comp time.

We wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

If you have questions or concerns, I can be contacted at don.hawthorne@comanchecounty.us or you may phone the Courthouse or County Barn and I will return your call.