

District 3: Road and Bridge Report

Don Hawthorne, County Commissioner District 3

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The rains that came this past weekend caused almost as much damage to the roads and bridges as last year's May floods. The Road Foreman Kenny Kinder, along with Dennis Long, Arnold Fisher, Flint Runyan, Melvin Beeson, James Morehead, and Tyler Fletcher spent most of the day Sunday, (17th) assessing the damage and putting up road blocks and barricades.

Our Administrative Assistant, Betty Berthold announced her retirement effective May 5th. Betty has 35 years of service with Comanche County starting in 1981, working for the County Clerk and for the past 17 years, she has worked at the District 3 County Barn under Commissioners Larry Buchwald, Susan Ulrich, and me. She is well deserving of her retirement and we wish her good luck and happy days.

The asphaltting of the Cache streets east of 1st Street has been completed. As mentioned before, this was a joint project involving Comanche County, City of Cache and the Comanche Nation Transportation Department. The County provided the engineering and went through the bid process to select a contractor. The City repaired the curb and gutter and replaced tin horns, and the Tribe did the inspection and will reimburse the County for the contractor's costs for laying the aggregate and asphalt. A total of 2 miles of streets was replaced.

The road crew is recycling roads getting them ready to oil and chip this summer. Paint Road from the railroad tracks north to Rogers Lane, New Hope from Hurst Rd to S.H. 36, Coombs Rd from 82nd to 112th St. If time permits, McIntosh Rd from S.H. 58 east for about a mile. An old wooden bridge was replaced on 4-Mile Road near the Caddo County line with two tin horns.

The accident on US 62 totaled the old dump truck used for patching. So we went out for bids for one or more 2000 or newer single axle dump trucks. The only used truck bids that was received did not meet our specs, so we selected the bid for two new 2017 International trucks. One will replace the patch truck and the other will be used with the backhoe. We will take delivery on them next month.

At the request of the Mayor of Faxon, we will haul off debris from the wind storm that caused considerable amount of damage in his town. If the town folks will bring it to the curb, we will haul it to the dump.

As spring has set-in, the crew has been spraying herbicide on the bridge approaches and the intersections to improve visibility. We are getting the mowers ready and will start mowing full time soon. We are proud of the two new John Deere tractors and mowers we bought last year.

The guys assisted the Comanche County Fairground by hauling off wood chips from a livestock show and loaning them our bucket truck to repair their flag pole.

If you have questions or concerns, I can be contacted at don.hawthorne@comanchecounty.us or you may phone the County Barn at 580-4293217.