

District 3: Road and Bridge Report

Don Hawthorne, County Commissioner District 3

We continue to work on the roads and bridges to bring them back into shape after the spring rains. It is amazing how much debris washes down the creeks and how fast grass grows when we have good rains. It's hard to keep up with only 3 mowers in the District.

The road crew oiled and chipped Paint Road by the Cache Cemetery and G Avenue in Cache and New Hope Road between 112th Street and Hurst Road. We also plan to oil and chip Coombs between 112th Street and 82nd Street and if time permits before the weather gets too cool, we will recycle McIntosh Road from State Highway 58 to Chibitty Road.

The Comanche Nation Transportation director has contacted us about oil and chipping Maddiasche Road from McIntosh to the dead end. By agreement with the tribe, the materials are paid for out of the highway funds they receive from the BIA and we furnish the equipment and manpower.

The road crew is currently working in Pecan Valley South digging out bad spots and recycling portions of the roads and we will oil and chip them later this month. The roads in this addition were poorly constructed without a proper base. Also, the two garbage companies making two pick-ups a week with heavily loaded trucks continue to take a toll on these roads.

We are patching a number of spots on Meers Porterhill Road between SH 115 and 58. There are springs under some spots that make it hard to hold the road surface. The crew has installed French Drains to see if the water can be drained off from under the road surface.

Through the years there have been a number of accidents and three deaths at the intersection of Deyo Mission and Cache Road. After the last accident we installed a stop sign that has red LED lights that are powered by a solar panel. Those two signs cost approximately \$3,000 plus the poles they are mounted on.

We entered into an agreement with USDA's National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to put rip rap on Post Oak Creek to prevent further erosion in the creek bank on to Big Bow Road in Holsey Acres Subdivision. The cost of this project was paid for by NRCS and we provided traffic control and a front end loader to move the rip rap and a dozer to clean up after the project was over.

Road Forman, Kenny Kinder and I met with Jay Earp the newly appointed District Engineer for District 7 regarding possible funding to put a new surface on 82nd Street from Lee Blvd to SH 36 (Baseline). We also discussed the one lane bridge at Medicine Park that is need of repair or replacing. Under State Statute the County Commissioners are authorized to assist small municipalities and schools.

Since our last report we assisted Medicine Park by brooming the street before the week end festival and hauled them some rock; graded a portion of Walnut Street in Cache: hauled several loads of dirt to Cache School and moved dirt for Chattanooga School.

Two landowners wanted to put in new fences so we took the opportunity to clean out their fence lines which helped them and the county by improving drainage in the bar ditches on Wolf and 267 Roads.

While mowing in the south part of the District, our mower operator found an artillery shell in the bar ditch. This caused some excitement and the Ft. Sill demolition experts came and picked it up.

The past two months I have spent quite a bit of time meeting individually with County officers and department heads to complete the County budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. We have a budget that has met the amount of projected revenues, the Board of County Commissioners has approved it and I will be meeting with the Excise Board for their approval. After that, the budget will then go to the State Auditor and Inspector for certification before it becomes official.

If you have questions or concerns, I can be contacted at [don.hawthorne@comanchecounty.u](mailto:don.hawthorne@comanchecounty.us)
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Barn at 580-429-3217 or the Courthouse office at 580-353-3717.