

Ringgold County Board of Supervisors Minutes

October 21, 2024

The Ringgold County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Monday, October 21, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M with the following members present: Steve Knapp and Randy Taylor and Colby Holmes.

A motion was made by Taylor, second by Holmes to approve the agenda.
AYES: Unanimous NAYS: None

Jordan Stewart met with the Board to question the project on 220th ave north of Mount Ayr. He does not agree with resurfacing the road north of Fife's Grove past the north entrance of Loch Ayr Lake as that appears to be catering to a city owned property. Stewart believes the county should do the entire road or nothing, to keep the dollars fair. Engineer Jared Johnson explained the current plan is to begin roughly at Kim Greenland's driveway, then north to the north entrance of Loch Ayr.

Ken Robertson questioned the initial thought process on selection of that portion of road to resurface. Holmes explained that since the lake is public, their thought was it is being used for boat access to fish and other recreational activities by the general public. Stewart stated he believes the city should pay for part of the resurface then since it is a city property. Robertson added that with that thought process, the road he lives on, 210th street south of the lake, should be surfaced too since there is lake access on that side. The Board does not disagree. Stewart added that with an already strained county budget, he does not believe we should be paying to supplement a recreational activity that the city owns.

Robertson asked what the timeline is and if the decision is set in stone. Johnson stated nothing is set in stone at this point; anything is subject to change. The reversion to gravel process is underway and the plan to resurface will begin in the Spring of 2025.

The Board thanked them for their feedback, will discuss further and review the plan.

Engineer Jared Johnson met with the Board to provide secondary roads updates. Spot rock was hauled to the Southwest and South-Central Maintainer districts.

The total patcher was out working to repair potholes before winter. All the oil was used and the patcher was cleaned.

Work order update:

W.O. 1300: Remove non-used entrances and reconstruct primary entrance. Located along P64 between HWY 2 and 242nd Street.

W.O. 1286: Replace deteriorated 24" CMP culvert with new 24" ADS culvert. Located along 130th Ave between Ringgold/Union Street and 110th Street. (Complete)

W.O. 1298: Replace deteriorated 24" CMP culvert with new 24" ADS culvert. Located along 125th Street between 140th and 145th Ave. (Complete)

W.O. 1299: Replace deteriorated 24" CMP culvert with new 24" ADS culvert. Located along 125th Street between 140th and 145th Ave. (Complete)

W.O. 1301: Relay existing 24" ADS culvert to lower invert elevations. (Complete)

W.O. 1294: Clear brush and reshape foreslope and ditch area for approximately 1300'. Extend two existing box culverts with 30" ADS to provide a better slope overtop of the structures. Concrete connection between the two structures required. (In Progress)

Last week at the Benton 12 project the contractor finished placing and compacting roadway embankment material. All roadway embankment material passed density and moisture tests. The contractor worked to shape channel banks and place revetment. At the request of the landowner to the east a new entrance was installed on the north side of the structure. The county provided the pipe material for the new entrance. This week the contractor will finish shaping channel banks and placing revetment. It is also planned to complete ditch construction and site shaping. Absolute Concrete group will be on site this week to prepare for concrete paving. It is planned to pour the roadway paving next week.

At Liberty 25 last week the crew finished tying superstructure reinforcing steel, tied reinforcing steel and formed the wing walls at the east end, built working platforms at the bridge ends, and started building the screed rail. This week it is planned to finish the screed rail, set up the screed for the deck pour, and perform final prepour walk around. It is planned to pour the deck this Friday.

Molly Dunton, Lisa Pingleton and Chris Joglen all with Steelhead Americas met with the Board to provide updates on wind turbine projects in the county. Dunton stated there are landowners across roughly six-thousand acres who have signed up to have a wind turbine on their land. She went on to state the projects are primarily in the northern part of the county. Holmes questioned how many would be needed to make it worthwhile to bring energy back to the grid. Dunton explained it is all based on wattage and could take 20 to 25 units.

Knapp questioned, of the landowners requesting to construct a turbine, how many are absentee landowners. Pingleton stated roughly 90% of the applicants do reside in the county. Knapp went on to question the amount of revenue the owner could expect to receive. Dunton stated, depending on the wattage of the turbine, it would be roughly \$20,000 per year (once constructed) and requires roughly an acre of land to construct.

Taylor questioned how they determine the size of turbine that is needed. Dunton explained the industry standard is 4.5 megawatts. However, they generally wait to decide size until closer to time of construction to ensure the best unit based on technology at the time.

Dunton reviewed the timeframe of the process. She said these landowners are in a development period. Then they will begin environmental studies. These projects take some time to come together, Dunton explained. They are anticipating the turbines to come on the grid in 2030.

The Conservation Director Travis Scott met with the Board to provide department updates. The parking lot expansion project at Ringgold Trailway is underway. Scott is beginning with fence construction. The deck project at the Nature Center is beginning this week. Lutrick Concrete is pouring a patio then Scott will construct the railing.

Scott provided a staffing update. He stated his longtime seasonal help will be officially done this season. The My County Parks website will be revamped soon. Saturday programs through the winter have begun. They will be held twice a month and target younger youth. At the last meeting his Board approved a mower purchase through Cannon Sales & Service. Fall Fest was held recently with roughly 85 in attendance. Scott received a grant to purchase a high-pressure sprayer unit that will go on their UTV.

Scott has been hosting a Creepy Crawlies program with the nursing homes and schools this month. He continues to work on the holiday lights event. He has already exceeded the number of businesses that participated last year. He continues to seek participants and would ideally like to see 30-35. The other big project is the Liberty Lake campground design. He presented the Board with a proposed design to review.

The Board reviewed claims paid Wednesday, October 16, 2024, and moved forward with approval.

RESOLUTION RC24-137

WHEREAS the Ringgold County Board of Supervisors do hereby approve claims paid Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

THEREFORE, a motion was made by Randy Taylor and seconded by Colby Holmes stating such.

The vote on the resolution: AYES: All. NAYS: None.

ATTEST: Amanda Waske, Auditor. Passed and approved October 21, 2024.

A motion was made by Holmes and seconded by Taylor to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

There was no further business. A motion was made by Taylor and seconded by Holmes to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Board of Supervisors


Ringgold County Auditor