

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting
Convenience Store in Mullinville
November 8, 2012

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, John Unruh, Carmen Renfrow, Gunnar Stauth, Patrick Clements, Dan Bloom of Exelon and Ana Mijares, an independent engineer.

Don opened the meeting at approximately 1:30 pm at the convenience store in Mullinville. After introductions, the Commissioners and Carmen left in John's pick-up, and Gunnar, Dan and Ana left in Gunnar's pick-up. Patrick followed in his own vehicle; all traveling south on county road 11th Ave.

Gunnar has asked for 758 square yards of patching plus a 2" overlay of asphalt on 6.7 miles of road way to fulfill the road maintenance agreement signed over a year ago before the construction started on the Shooting Star Wind Farm.

Dan's comments throughout the meeting were that he believed the county should share in the cost of the repairs.

At the first stop everyone was out of the vehicles. Dan and Gunnar talked about how the estimates were determined by the engineer. She admitted that she overlooked some things due to not knowing what areas were supposed to be included in her report.

Dan stated that it shouldn't take a 2" overlay, but then said it probably would take that to repair the roads. He stated that they shouldn't have to repair the whole road, just parts of it, still maintaining that the county should share in the cost.

Ron asked Dan if he agreed with the engineer's report; he answered, "Not completely".

We all drove south on the road and stopped several times; each time getting out and observing the damage to the sides, the ripples in the road, and the cracks throughout. At each stop, Dan repeated his views of cost sharing, how damage was caused by locals as well as wind farm construction traffic. Ana, the independent engineer continued to agree with Dan. He also repeated that he wasn't trying to get out of the road agreements, but wanted to be fair to all parties.

Dan suggested a counter offer of 3.5 miles of 2" overlay for the worst damage plus hot mix patching totaling 758 square yards. The Commissioners asked for that offer to be put in writing to be considered at a future meeting.


Dan stated that Exelon was giving the county a lot of money yearly and they could use some of that money to share the cost of repairing the road.

We all drove back to the Convenience Store. The Commissioners, Gunnar, Carmen, and Patrick went to the Country Café to finish the meeting. Gunnar was asked his opinion; he felt the engineer was biased since she was paid by Exelon. They discussed several options to repair the road.

Ron moved to counter Exelon's offer with asking to put in a 2" overlay for 5 miles plus the hot oil patching proposed earlier, John seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Don adjourned the meeting at 4:04 pm

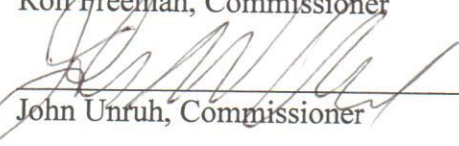
Kiowa County Commission:



Don Richards, Chairman




Ron Freeman, Commissioner



John Unruh, Commissioner

Attest:



Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk