

**Newberry County Transportation Committee
Minutes
January 20, 2026**

Present: Mr. Tim Carroll, Mr. Randy Cannon, Mr. Arnold Hiller and Mr. Travis Grimsley

Absent: Mr. Harry Werts, Mr. Glenn Hamm

Others in Attendance: Mr. Herb Cooper, Mr. Joe Kitchen, Mr. Josh Rowe, Ms. Rebecca Owen, Mr. Foster Senn, Mr. Terry Longshore, Mr. Grady Suber, Mr. Alexander Johnson

Call to Order-Invocation

Mr. Carroll called the meeting to order.

1. Additions, Deletions, and Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda for January 20, 2026, meeting with the addition of Mr. Foster Senn to speak.

2. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting on October 21, 2025.

Financial Report from Treasurer

Mr. Cannon reported that the cash balance for December 21, 2025, was \$6,278,300.74. Funds received were \$185,530.45. The total cash balance is \$6,463,831.19. Total funds committed are \$3,659,446.03 and the uncommitted balance is \$2,804,385.16.

Mr. Cannon reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.19) was \$974,732.76. Total funds committed are \$974,732.76.

Mr. Cannon reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.20) was \$318,000.

Mr. Cannon reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.22) was \$3,172,100.00

Motion made to accept as information only. Motion second and all were in favor.

3. Old Business/New Business

Old Business

Mr. Carroll said that the committee approved to give Newberry County \$150,000 for gravel. Because it was over \$100,000, there was a procurement issue. We need to retract that award and only award them \$100,000.

Mr. Rowe said that we were drawing this out in smaller sections per job. Our thought was that it would be less than \$10,000 and we would handle this individually. That was a procurement issue. They were basing it on the overall project price. So, reducing it down to \$100,000 allows us to get 3 bids, then we should be complying, and everything is good to go at that point.

Mr. Carroll said that if you need more gravel we can give you more money.

Mr. Rowe said he didn't know if they would need more, it would be hard to project. I think we have around \$40,000 left from the money awarded. That should help with a couple months or so. We may come back in late April or May and ask for more.

Motion was made to make the necessary changes, motion was seconded and all were in favor.

New Business

Mr. Carroll said that it was time for the election of officers. Motion was made to keep the officers the same, motion second and all were in favor.

Mr. Carroll said he would like to introduce a new committee member, Mr. Travis Grimsley, He is replacing Mr. Johnson who retire.

Mr. Carroll said that there is a request for \$100,000 from DOT to purchase hot mix to repair various roads in the county.

Ms. Rebecca Senn (DOT representative) said that Mr. Knight is requesting \$100,000. The state will take care of the repairs. We buy the hot mix under an existing contract to help take us till the end of the fiscal year. If there is anything left over, we will keep using it until it's all gone.

Motion was made to approve the request, motion was seconded and all were in favor.

Mr. Senn said that the city owns some old bridges. They were built by the textile mill on the west end of town. They are old, weight restricted and are a problem. The city needs to replace them, they are on Drayton Street, Academy and Charles Street. The committee had allocated money a couple of years ago for us to hire an engineer at some point to look at the bridge on Drayton Street.

In December we visited Washington and the US Department of Transportation and talked to them about these bridges. They suggested they we apply for "The Build Grant". They encouraged us to apply, and we intend to do that by February 24. They said that the success rate is 1 in 8, which is not really good odds. We are working with Weston and Sampson; they are going to help draw up a plan. They told us instead of us doing Academy just do Charles because they are close together. They think we will have a better chance if we go for two. We looked at the one on O Neal, that one is rated fair, so we decided not to go for that one.

Mr. Senn said they talked about having a sidewalk to Newberry Middle School. We are going to include that.

Mr. Senn said he would like to get a support letter from the committee so that it would help the application.

4. Public Works Report

A. Josh Rowe - Newberry County Public Works Director

B. Rebecca Owen - SC Department of Transportation

Ms. Owen said that they did a confined space inspection on the pipes that were sinking. We used some pvc liner to repair the issue. The original plan was to dig into the road. The pipes are pretty good until the middle section where they dip. Because of how much money we saved, we actually decided to add another area that had a dip in the road.

Mr. Carroll asked how long the material would last.

Ms. Owen said around 50 years.

C. Joe Kitchen/Mr. Jeff Wicker – City representative

5. Public Comments

Mr. Suber said he was representing the residents of Landford Mill Road. He wanted to thank the committee for accepting their request and submitting and approving it. The only questioning is the priority. When will it be completed?

Mr. Carroll said that when the committee funds a road, it usually takes two years. It may go out to bid in January or February. The DOT has certain times they send out bids.

Mr. Cooper said they are sent out in October, December, February and May.

Mr. Carroll said hopefully it will go out in February. Several contractors will bid on it.

Mr. Suber asked if there was anything the residents could do to follow up to see where it is.

Mr. Carroll said he can ask Mr. Knight if it has gone out for bid. It's awarded in 2026; it may not get done until 2027.

Mr. Terry Longshore said he was following up on Henry Longshore Road.

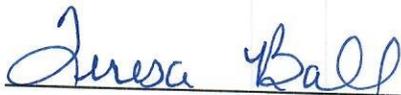
Mr. Rowe said he was anticipating getting the bid process started in February. As long as that goes through quickly, we should be able to get it done sometime this calendar year. I don't know when that will be until we go through the bid process. Typically, we don't receive many bids on these projects. You will probably see the county out there before then. We have some pipe work to do before they start paving.

6. Executive Session

7. Consideration of Actions on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

8. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn. Motion second and all were in favor.



Minutes Prepared By:

Teresa Ball, Newberry County Public Works Approved