

Newberry County Transportation Committee
Minutes
June 16, 2026

Present: Mr. Tim Carroll, Mr. Arnold Hiller, Mr. Glenn Hamm, Mr. Harry Werts, and Mr. Travis Grimsley

Absent: Mr. Randy Cannon

Others in Attendance: Mr. Herb Cooper, Mr. Josh Rowe, Mr. Tommy Boyd, Mr. Ted Luckadoo, Ms. Rebecca Owen, Mr. Joe Kitchen, Ms. Taylor Gray, and Ms. Teresa Ball

Call to Order-Invocation

Mr. Carroll called the meeting to order, and Mr. Hamm led the invitation.

1. Additions, Deletions, and Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda for June 16, with the exception of changing #1 to after the discussion of Little Egypt and Colony Church Road.

Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting on April 21, and special meeting was held on April 29, 2026. Motion made, seconded, and approved.

Financial Report from Treasurer

Mr. Carroll reported that the cash balance for April 30, 2026, was \$6,895,784.94. Funds received were \$182,736.13. Total withdrawals were \$119,287.72. The total cash balance is \$6,959,233.35. Total funds committed are \$3,155,243.94 and the uncommitted balance is \$3,803,989.41.

Mr. Carroll reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.19) was \$661,045.89. Total withdrawals were \$624,795.89. Total funds committed are \$36,250.00.

Mr. Carroll reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.20) was \$318,000. Total funds committed are \$318,000.

Mr. Carroll reported that the cash balance for proviso (118.22) was \$3,050,222.00. Total funds committed are \$3,050,222.00.

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

2. Old Business/New Business

Old Business

Ms. Owen said that the preliminary estimate for Little Egypt and Colony Church is close to \$3.5 million. We are working on getting exact numbers from a contractor. It could be an extension of an existing project.

Mr. Carroll said he would like to go ahead with funding for this project. I won't sign the request until after July 1 to make sure it goes on next year's credit. We have the money to cover this and Belfast right now. We discussed paving Little Egypt, Colony Church and ½ mile of Belfast Road. They will have to shut down Belfast because they will have to shut down the bridge. That will be \$350,000, so that brings the total to \$3.85 million. With this month's deposits we will have around \$4 million. We should receive around \$1 million back in July.

Motion was made to approve the request, motion seconded, all approved.

Mr. Rowe said that at the special meeting we discussed Seagull Lane. I still have not received the quote back from the contractor. I know if we do full depth patching on the problem areas, we are talking about 5,000 sq yards of patching that would be needed. That estimate is around \$350,000. Full-depth patching would not be centered on that area; you would have some quantity to address some of the other issues. Ideally, full-depth patching is the best thing to do until we can pave the road.

Mr. Carroll said the county has agreed to postpone the \$500,000 for Samsung if we can help with this road. I want to make sure that whatever we do will help. I don't want to spend \$300,000 and then it is back in the same shape.

Mr. Hamm asked what a longer plan would be. When would you go back and do a full overlay or paving?

Mr. Rowe said that one subdivision is almost complete. There is another part of that subdivision that is still highly active.

Mr. Grimsley asked what percentage of that is underway.

Mr. Rowe said around 50% or better. If the construction is done within 6 months, to 1 year, the product should be holding up if it is done right. Maybe then we can look at doing an overlay on the entire road.

Mr. Hamm said that the road is a disaster.

Mr. Rowe said that if you get to the problem areas where the base has failed, when you pave over that, you have a better situation for that pavement to last.

Mr. Boyd said he has been on that road for forty plus years and lived there for 24 years. It was a one lane dirt road, and they put tar and gravel down. Then they paved over that. It doesn't have the first base of prepping to get a good base. The road is about 1.4 miles long. You are dodging holes constantly and other vehicles. They are riding the shoulder of the road because it is smoother. They are driving fast, dodging holes and aren't paying attention to other vehicles.

Mr. Rowe said the other options are going to be full-depth patch, then do a complete 2-inch surface on the entire road.

Mr. Grimsley said if you do a full rebuild, how long is that going to prolong this subdivision? If you do a full build on $\frac{1}{2}$ of the road, you are pushing out the inevitable on the rest of the road.

Mr. Rowe said that we don't want to do anything until development is done. Right now, you have two subdivisions that are ongoing.

Mr. Carroll said that he talked with the county administrator, the county needs to pass some kind of ordinance that will charge an impact fee.

Mr. Grimsley said that he agreed 100%. I don't want to prolong this. But I don't want to throw money at it and have to do something a few months later.

Mr. Row said he has been down there three times and ran off contractors with metal tracs.

Mr. Hamm asked Mr. Rowe, out of the three options proposed, which one he would suggest.

Mr. Rowe said from a smart decision side of it if funding were available, we would do a complete rebuilding of the road.

Mr. Hiller asked who the roads belonged to that are in the subdivision.

Mr. Rowe said that they will belong to the county. We have not accepted them yet.

Mr. Hiller asked if DOT has looked at the road as far as approval.

Mr. Rowe said they use the same specs as the state for roads. The land development regulators require our roads to be built using DOT specs.

Mr. Carroll asked who checks the roads.

Mr. Rowe said that he does and we have a consultant engineer that inspects the roads.

Mr. Hamm asked if it was fair to say that the county wants to see something done with the willingness to offset the other funding. My biggest concern is safety. There have already been accidents on the roads as a result of the current conditions. If we have a road that is in such disrepair, we need to bring it up to some kind of standard that is safe.

Mr. Rowe said that he has been talking about this road with Mr. Boyd for about two ½ years. Mr. Boyd has been dealing with the county about this road longer than that.

Mr. Carroll said that in the past, the county hasn't kept up their roads, to do maintenance on a regular basis. It should never have gotten this way to start with.

Mr. Boyd said it has gotten to the point where the county doesn't have the equipment or manpower to repair the road.

Mr. Carroll said that the committee is going to help somehow or someday. We need an estimate first. While we are waiting for an estimate, can the county focus on making sure there are some improvements, even if it's temporary?

Mr. Rowe said he is willing to do whatever he can. Our equipment is limited. We can put cold mix and other materials. Our new budget starts July 1st.

Mr. Hamm said there is some funding for gravel and other funding that covers Mawson's Way.

Mr. Luckadoo said that \$500,000 should be in there for 2025/2026 for Mawson's Way and gravel is the other one.

Mr. Carroll said that the committee gave them \$100,000 for gravel.

Mr. Hamm asked if there was any amount of money that the committee needs to put forward towards some patching materials.

Mr. Grimsley asked what the fastest turnaround would be, full-depth or to repave.

Mr. Rowe said that full depth patching would be faster because it is less work.

Mr. Luckadoo said that the county would run a 30-day bid and then at the next council meeting we will award notice to proceed within 2 months, then notice to proceed.

Mr. Luckadoo said that if we are doing .8 miles, we are creating a new argument from residents. Why didn't you just continue and finish the road? The moment you stop asphalt on a road that continues, you are just inviting that argument.

Mr. Carroll said that is the county's decision on how the road is repaired.

Mr. Hamm asked if the county has enough money in its budget right now.

Mr. Luckadoo said that he and Mr. Rowe have pieced and pulled together to get some supplies. We are down to 2 weeks until the end of the fiscal year. We have combined some leftover money to get more asphalt. We will figure it out.

Mr. Carroll said he would love to pave the whole road. We may have to pave $\frac{1}{2}$ this year and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ next year.

Mr. Rowe said that was a feasible scenario.

Mr. Carroll asked Mr. Rowe to get the exact mileage of the road.

Mr. Hamm asked if the road was worse at the beginning or end.

Mr. Boyd said the beginning was the worst. I live at the back of the road and would be happy to have the beginning done.

Mr. Rowe asked how wide the road is.

Mr. Rowe said about eighteen feet. It's not a narrow road. There is enough existing width to repair what is there. I should have some estimates at the next meeting.

Mr. Carroll said that they will decide in August.

Mr. Carroll said that they funded DOT to do some full-depth patching, we paid for materials and DOT was getting a crew from Lexington. Is there any update on this?

Ms. Owen said that she would look into this.

New Business

Mr. Carroll said that Mr. Cooper's contract was ending and we need to vote on extending the contract.

Motion was made, motion seconded and all were in favor.

3. Public Works Report

A. Josh Rowe - Newberry County Public Works Director

B. Rebecca Owen – SC Department of Transportation

C. Joe Kitchen – City of Newberry Public Works Director

4. Public Comments

5. Executive Session

6. Consideration of Actions on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

7. Adjournment

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



Minutes Prepared By:
Teresa Ball, Newberry County Public Works Approved