

Minutes for Timberland Acres Special Road District #1

July 24, 2021 at TA Community Center on Juniper Ridge Road

Trustees in attendance: Mark Lunario, Chair

Darryl Sleighter, Vice-Chair

Charles "Charlie" Denham, Treasurer

Richard Wright, Clerk/Secretary

Gerald "Gerry" Irving, Culvert/Driveway Consultant

Call to Order, Confirmation of a Quorum:

Mark called the meeting to order at about 10:00 am, and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Minutes from April 24, 2021 meeting and approval:

The Minutes have been posted on the website and Richard had handed out copies to each Board Member and the audience present. Charlie moved to Approve the Minutes as presented, second by Gerry, unanimous aye vote.

Treasurer's Quarterly Report & Approval:

Charlie went over the Fourth Quarter Financial Report for April, May & June 2021, and each of the Quarter Reports for FY2021. Also the FY2020/2021 Ledger of checks and the printout from the Navajo County Treasurer about check paid/deposits/reconciliation. We started this FY with around \$83,000 in the account and ended with \$124,892.90. Charlie said that we didn't spend money in part due to COVID, although Cameron has been continuing to maintain roads, and cleaning out the culverts to get ready for this rain. He explained that maintenance costs were low this year because we haven't had much snow. There was a discussion about the costs of this last month of monsoon and how we need to watch to make sure we have enough money to cover maintenance year round. Darryl moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, second by Richard, unanimous aye vote.

Culvert Report:

Gerry said that one new culvert was installed and one wooden culvert was replaced with metal. He said that there have been quite a few problems with the rains, and that Cameron has been doing a good job keeping up. Darryl moved to accept the report, Second by Richard, Unanimous aye vote.

Report of June 30th, 2021 meeting with Navajo County:

Mark reported about this meeting with John Osgood, Bill Bess and Rick Denton of the County, the purpose was to find out how much they would help us with the roads. He said that basically the road maintenance is on us, they did say they could help us when we are improving the roads, with the building up the base of the roads to prepare them for chip seal or whatever surface. We would give them an estimate of what is needed for the base materials, then we send it to Board of Supervisors, they set the funds aside and then they would give the funds to us when we complete the project. They said they wouldn't help with snow removal, which might be good because their large plows might damage our roads. Mark said they discussed Fieldy Road. It was created by an easement out of two lots back in the 1960s, it is a public road, that joins a public road after it leaves TA. No one has the right to block that road, it goes up to the Rim Road, FS300. Even though there is a property owner back there, the road is a public road according to County staff.

There was a discussion about our roads. They are public roads, maintained by TA Road District, not the County, but we can not charge for use, or block the roads. TASRD will only maintain Fieldy Road so that TA residents can use it safely as an emergency exit.

Proposed projects fo 2021/2022 fiscal year:

Darryl outlined the projects, in addition to maintenance and snow removal. Bull Elk is being looked at as the next chip seal project, starting on the east end at Juniper Ridge, going as far as we can with the available funds or contractor. Probably in the spring of next year, after we get through the winter. To prepare for the chip seal, Cameron will give us an estimate about the amount of base buildup so we can submit that to the County. The chip

seal probably be done in Spring. The water board is expected to complete the remaining water hookups on Bull Elk in the fall.

Discussion and vote on tax override referendum:

Mark and Darryl gave the details of this issue. This is the last Fiscal Year of the current 5 year tax override levy, which allows us to levy \$70,000. Mark asked for input from the Board if the members had opinions about this issue. There was a discussion of the positive effects of the override in the 10 years that we have had it. If we agree today to place it on the ballot, it will be voted on in March 2022 ballot and all property owners will be eligible to vote on it. The level of taxation will continue as it has been. If the vote fails, we will be back to the original budget of around \$25,000, which might not even be enough to do snow removal for the year if we get heavy snow. Darryl moved that we call for election to submit another 5 year tax override to the public on the March 2022 ballot, second by Charlie, unanimous aye vote.

Call to the Public:

Greg Hitchens said that Spotted Pony needs to be worked on. The gravel that was dumped missed a spot where the driver had to lower the boom to miss the wires that go across the road at 941, so there is a part without any gravel. Now it is mud. And there is water that is ponding on the roadway of Spotted Pony. He said that Spotted Pony has more traffic now, and it needs attention, and he would be happy if another load of gravel was put down. He also asked “What is the definition of maintaining roads?” There was a discussion about culverts and road maintenance, no Board motions since this is the Call to the Public. Richard said he would send these Minutes to Cameron and ask him to look into Spotted Pony.

Lana Hitchens asked about what the County told us about Fieldy Road, and: Has the County informed the property owner back there that he can’t block it as he keeps threatening? Darryl said that yes, the County has told him that can not block that road, that he had to split his lot along the road, making a road which goes all the way to the Rim Road. There was a discussion about the fact that our roads are public and TASRD has to maintain them, even though through traffic.

Lana Hitchens also asked how we are informing seasonal residents about the tax override so that they know to request a ballot if they want it, that they might not understand they can request a ballot and vote. Darryl explained the various ways of notification.

Mike Mack said that Fieldy Road used to have a gate. He asked if they actually have legal right to change the name of the road to Fieldy Road, with the County, including the part inside of TA. He said the sign was just recently put up.

David Blair asked when the cul-de-sacs were going to be chip sealed. Mark explained that there are many roads that are gravel. There was a discussion about the roads and the process. David also said that there was a pile of gravel that was dumped in the middle of the road on Antelope Trail, and that there is water standing on the road there.

John Smith said that people are speeding on our roads, all kinds of drivers, the garbage trucks, delivery trucks and little old ladies with disabled plates. He asked if we could get more speed limit signs. There was a long discussion about this. Traffic enforcement is the responsibility of the County Sheriff. Residents need to call the Sheriff, the more people who call, the more attention we might get. Richard said, it is probably the County who is responsible for the signs also, the TASRD is responsible for road maintenance, we are not a sign agency nor a traffic enforcement agency. These are public roads of Navajo County, and TASRD is responsible for maintenance or improvement only.

Joe Brosius said that on Buckhorn the bar ditch is full and needs attention. He said he realized that it might not be worked on until after these rains are over, but please do it then.

Lyle Bishop said that he would like the end of Juniper Ridge be paved. It is an entrance to the forest and gets a lot of use. He said that the Forest Service didn’t even bother closing the road during the recent closure.

Adjourn:

Mark moved to Adjourn the Meeting, Second by Darryl, Unanimous Aye Votes.