

County Road and Equipment Report

February 2022

Crews have been "spot blading" county roads and will continue to do so until Spring. When we are in a time of freeze/thaw, blading the entire road can actually do more harm than good. We are hitting the pothole portion, digging them out, and smoothing those areas only. We are cleaning out the ditches and making sure they are free of leaves and obstructions.

Two tractors with boom mowers have been purchased which will double the amount of mowing that can be accomplished this year. We are still looking for two more sets of good, used tractor/boom mower combos.

We were approved for a State Aid project on Henderson Road. The bid was let and a paving company from Quitman won the bid. Henderson Road from the Clinton City Limits to Hwy. 65 will receive an asphalt overlay and new stripes. This is consistent with the direction we are taking to maintain what we already have.

We were approved to receive used bridge steel from Montgomery County a couple of years ago and we still do not have that steel. Instead of relying on that steel, we have applied for a grant to replace the bridge on Archey Road. The new bridge will be paid at a rate of 80% federal money, 28% state-aid, and 2% county. This is the same type of funding we are using for the replacement of the low water crossing at Brickey Road, known as "the Brickey Bridge." If we should finally receive that steel, we will replace another bad bridge.

The county experienced a significant ice event this past month. Road crews worked 15-16 hour days to get the roads cleared off. I was very happy that Southside Schools only lost two days and that Clinton and Shirley only lost three days of in-class instruction.

We will continue with the Crowell Mountain project as weather allows.