

County Road and Equipment Report

January 2023

Graders are running their routes. This is a tough time of year with freezing/thawing. Graders are hitting the potholed spots and washed spots to keep the roads as smooth as possible. We will resume thorough beginning to end grading as soon as possible.

The Half Moon Road project is progressing very well. We have found some soft spots (springs) to drain out. The base work is complete. Asphalt should be applied in March. This project is a \$300,000.00 federal grant with qualification based on low to moderate income in that area.

Work continues on Crowell Mountain Road. Since this project is 100% county funded, we had to make sure we hit our mandatory deadlines on the grant funded projects which slowed this one down.

We are applying for a grant to build up the area of the "Brickey Bridge" to replace a low water crossing. We hope to install boxed style crossings. The area is made to flood when water gets up, but our goal will be to completely illuminate flooding. GPS guidance often routes traffic through there to get to Rabbit Ridge Farms.

We purchased 20 small chainsaws from Grass Roots. If we have a wind event or tornado, the Road Department will check them out to VBC Sheriffs Officers and we can all work quickly to get all roads open for emergency traffic. We already had some larger chainsaws which were purchased at Kirkendoll's. The next purchase of equipment or mowers will be at Crowell's. We do our best to move the business among the local options.

We also purchased some used light towers which will come in very handy when we are called out during the dark hours.

Mowers are working their routes to clean the sides of as many roads as possible.

We received a hard rain this month with some areas of the county receiving over 6" of rain in a couple of hours. The damage to the roads was minimal. The only impassable area, to my knowledge, was the Brickey Bridge low water crossing area.