



Lawrence County
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2026 | **Time:** 5:00-5:55 p.m.

PRESENT: County Executive David Morgan. **Commissioners:** Phillip Heatherly, Shane Eaton, Chris Sutherland, Tim Clifton, Wayne Yocom, Scott Franks, Dave Ray, Denny Gillespie, Rick Skillington, and Steve Hagan. **Director of Accounts & Budgets** Brandi Williams, **Road Superintendent** Ryan Krick, Chris Stutts, Anthony Washburn, and John Uzbasic.

Commissioner Yocom called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: *Chairman* Wayne Yocom, *Vice-chair* Denny Gillespie, Tim Clifton, and Rick Skillington.

ABSENT: Sandy Newton and Barry Luffman.

PRAYER: Heatherly.

PLEDGE: Yocom.

AGENDA ITEM ONE: Christ Life Academy Request

- **Stutts** described *Christ Life Academy* and noted that the campus has experienced growth. He requested that the committee/commission consider adopting the referenced road and having it tarred and chipped. An exhibit was provided outlining the average cost per family and their contribution to the tax base, noting a desire for a return on investment. An aerial photograph of the proposed roadway was displayed on the screen. He added that the road is currently in use and is surfaced with milling material.
- **Commissioner Yocom** asked Superintendent Ryan Krick's opinion on the road.
- **Krick** gave the committee a list of specs required and requested for members to review them before coming to a decision.
- **Krick** explained that the road is built very well. The list I gave the committee has other roads that are in the same position. They've all been given the same list, the same road specs, and I've spent the same amount of time with each of them. *The road is not complete on my end because its not tar and*

gravel. The way the specs read, someone pays for tar and chip then we come in and finish it.

- *The committee discussed how to move forward with this request.*
- **Commissioner Yocom** suggested the Committee to follow the current specs unless they are changed.
- *The committee decided to take no action on Christ Life Academy's request.*

AGENDA ITEM TWO: New Road Specifications

- **Krick** presented the new road specifications, noting that nine roads are included and will continue to follow the existing standards. He stated several minor changes such as—cross drains and tiles will be increased to a larger size, and adjustments will be made to road slope and banking. Dead-end roads will be required to have a larger turnaround. A maximum grade of 6% will be implemented in accordance with standard state guidelines, with exceptions permitted at the discretion of the Road Superintendent. *Several other changes were mentioned and are available in the committee folder.*
- **Commissioner Gillespie** suggested adding the word “*shall*” to numbers 4 and 5 in the *County Road Specifications*.
- **Krick** expressed his opinion of getting out of installing driveway tile. Used an example of how much money the Highway Department gets from taxes vs the cost of installing tile. We are losing money and the numbers prove it. *The information provided by the Trustee's office is available in the committee folder.*
Krick continued by saying for new developments we want a surety bond before we adopt a road. To assure we get what we are asking for. Secondly, we want a certain percentage of the development to be complete before we adopt the road. Whether that's 75-90% complete or whatever is decided. When we setup the surety bond, we can bring it before the Highway Committee with the County Attorney present for review.
- *The Committee agreed to discuss the Surety Bond at a later date.*

Amend the Language in the Lawrence County Highway Department Road Specifications.

Motion: Gillespie. **Second:** Clifton.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

- **Commissioner Hagan** asked if Michael Drive would be grandfathered with the other roads under the old County Road Specs? Expressed that he would like for them to have the ability to get it up to specs if they are able.
- *The committee discussed Michael Drive.*

Adopt the New County Road Specifications Policy.

Motion: Gillespie. **Second:** Clifton.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

- The Committee discussed adding Michael Drive to the existing road list to be grandfathered under the old road specs.

Add Michael Drive to the List of Roads to be Grandfathered Under the Existing County Road Specifications.

Motion: Gillespie. **Second:** Skillington.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

Approve the Listed Roads to be Grandfathered Under the Existing Road Specifications, with Pricing to be Established by September 1, 2026.

Motion: Gillespie. **Second:** Clifton.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

Adjournment.

Motion: Clifton. **Second:** Gillespie.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

Minutes Submitted By: Christian Tyree