

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: March 15, 2010

Date Submitted: February 26, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Cleve Fleming, Public Works Project Director

Subject: Request Board Approval of a Resolution Accepting Right of Way
Dedication Deeds for Old Bethel Road

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests Board approval of a Resolution accepting Right of Way Deeds for Old Bethel Road (Attachment #1).

Background:

During the November 16, 2009 Board Meeting, the Board approved the FY 09/10 CIP update of road paving projects, which included Old Bethel Road. In order for roads to be paved, the County must first obtain sufficient right of way for the entire length of the road. These right of ways allows for the construction of a road, which provides safe passage for citizens. Additionally, it provides room for stormwater treatment and utilities. Typically, a minimum of 60 foot of right of way is required by the Wakulla County Code before the County can pave the road. More recently, the Board has directed Public Works to minimize right of way requirements, and pave the roadway available. The minimal right of way that can be safely paved is 30 feet.

Unfortunately, most of the unpaved roads, with the exception of private and historical subdivisions, do not have any right of way dedicated to Wakulla County. The County typically only has a prescriptive easement for roads which do not have right of way. These prescriptive easements are generally 20 feet wide or less, which is not wide enough to safely pave and provide room for both stormwater and utilities.

Old Bethel Road is a County maintained road that does not currently have dedicated right of way. Over the past several years, the Public Works Department has worked to obtain signed deeds, conveying property to Wakulla County to be utilized as right of way.

Old Bethel Road required the acquisition of nine (9) deeds to obtain the necessary right of way to pave from Wakulla Arran Road to Gavin Road. Previously, staff was able to acquire six (6) of the required deeds which were accepted by Resolution during the January 25, 2010 Board Meeting. The three (3) remaining deeds have been acquired for acceptance and are included in Attachment #1.

Analysis:

Paving roads provides a benefit to the citizens of Wakulla County. In order to insure citizens safety and well being, sufficient right of way is required. Staff has successfully obtained all nine (9) required deeds to obtain the necessary right of way to pave Old Bethel Road and therefore is requesting approval of the Resolution accepting the last three (3) deeds. It should also be noted that preparation for paving Old Bethel Road will begin upon the completion of preparation of Gavin Road. Staff anticipates mobilization to occur on Gavin Road no later than March 15, 2010 and preparation for paving to begin no later than April 12, 2010. The County Attorney has reviewed the Resolution for approval.

Options:

1. Approve the Resolution accepting right of way deeds for Old Bethel Road.
2. Do not approve the Resolution accepting right of way deeds for Old Bethel Road.
3. Board direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1

Attachments:

1. Old Bethel Road Resolution and Deeds