

Road dispute settled, work to resume

Release Date: 03/01/18

By Royce Armstrong, GCT

In a heated sit-down session, the George County Board of Supervisors and T.L. Wallace were able to forge an agreement that will complete some road work that began nearly a year ago.

Resurfacing work or micro-seal on some of the County roads did not come up to the standards supervisors expected. In particular, District Four Supervisor Larry Havard and District Five Supervisor Henry Cochran were not happy with some of the work performed in their districts. They held up payments to the contractor, T.L. Wallace Construction Company, in turn, pulled out of the county without completing reflective striping on roads in all five districts.

After months of haggling with a road contractor, the George County Board of Supervisors met with representatives from T.L. Wallace one last time earlier this month to discuss repair and problem issues with the road work. The board was threatening legal action.

The supervisors let bids and accepted a bid from T.L. Wallace to micro seal (a form of resurfacing) roads in all five districts in the county with the help of State Aid road funds. That work was performed last summer, but not to the satisfaction of at least two supervisors.

District Four Supervisor Larry Havard has been particularly vocal about the quality of the resurfacing done on Central Fire Tower Road.

“They want to come and patch the bad places,” Havard said. “If they do that, it will just look like a patched road.” He wanted that road done over again. T.L. Wallace finally agreed to do that.

District Five Supervisor Henry Cochran has complained about areas where micro seal was applied during rainy weather. In those areas the micro seal coating is crumbling off the underlying road surface. Those areas will be repaired.

Striping and reflector work in Districts One and Two began last week, according to Ken Flanagan. Resurfacing Central Fire Tower Road should begin within the next two or three weeks.

“Everyone, the county and the contractor, is glad to get this issue resolved,” Flanagan said. “It was a real safety issue. When striping and reflectors are in place you never notice them, but when they are not there, it is very noticeable.”