

“Bridge”

(Cont. from front)

Bridge from Downtown Brodhead, the estimated travel time on the Old Brodhead Road detour to Brodhead is approximately 25 minutes while traveling nearly 15 miles. From the same intersection, the Chestnut Grove road detour to Brodhead takes about 15 minutes while traveling about 10 miles.

Mayor Walter Cash said the unexpected bridge closing has hurt the citizens and businesses of Brodhead as well as emergency responders. He said they weren't told they were going to close the bridge until a few hours before its closing which gave the city government no time to make plans to adjust to the closing.

CSEPP Director and Rockcastle County Director of Emergency Management Hal Holbrook said Rockcastle EMS and police will now have to travel the Old Brodhead Road detour to respond to any calls they receive at residences east of the Dix River. He said the bridge closing has a minimal effect on them as both emergency responding units are already traveling from Mt. Vernon.

Holbrook said the Brodhead Fire Department is the most affected of the emergency responders. However, he said the closest access road is through Frith Subdivision Road which connects Sycamore Street to Chestnut Grove Road and follows close to the banks of the Dix River. The Frith Subdivision Road is currently a gravel private drive that has a locked gate on each end of the drive.

Brodhead Fire Chief Larry Taylor said the landowner has given them permission to use the gravel drive and given them keys to the gates. He said this will help their response

time to structure fires or vehicle accidents east of the Dix River.

Taylor went on to say that they had already worked out the agreement with the landowner last Friday to use Frith Subdivision Road. He said Mt. Vernon Fire Brindle Ridge Fire Departments will also be on standby to provide mutual aid for emergencies in their district.

County Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis and Mayor Cash met with KTC officials in Frankfort Monday morning. Carloftis said they explored two possible options to help the traffic flow into Brodhead.

The first option is opening up Frith Subdivision Road for a temporary connector road off Chestnut Grove Road that will cut down on the drive time as compared to the current detours. He said the landowner's major concern was a liability issue but Carloftis said he believed that could be worked out with a temporary easement.

Carloftis said they hope to widen the road and blacktop it as well. He said once the bridge is completed, any road improvements that were made will be returned to the landowner and it will no longer be used by the public.

The second option is to build a culvert crossing near the Dix River Bridge. Carloftis said the landowners near the culvert will have to sign a consent form. He said the complications with the culvert are the city sewer and water lines that the culvert will go over in the river's streambed.

Carloftis said they are still in negotiations with the landowners of both options and that they are still deciding which option will be the most feasible.

Carloftis went on to say that if they go with the Frith Subdivision Road option they will have to widen the drive into a two lane road and blacktop it as well. He said he declared Brodhead

in a state of emergency Friday so they will not have to accept bids for blacktopping which would speed up completion of the road. However, Carloftis said if they decide to build a culvert they will have to receive permission from Kentucky Division of Water which could severely delay its completion.

No matter which option they are able to take, Carloftis said they are unable to determine a specific time frame on either option. He said both options could take weeks or even months to complete.

However, Senator Jared Carpenter said Wednesday they are currently gathering materials to build the culvert and will be ready to start its construction as soon as consent forms are signed from the owners and permits are received from the Division of Water.

Originally, bids for replacing the Dix River Bridge were not scheduled to be let until May 2014 with funding from the Federal Bridge Replacement Program. That process has been moved up to January of 2014.

“Schools”

(Cont. from front)

pected to spend on the study will be between \$500 and \$1,000.

“I believe the financial amount is very minimal for what we will get out of it,” Pensol said. “But I think we should put some kind of cap on how much we will be willing to spend. I suggest we spend no more than \$1,000.”

Board member Tina Hasty agreed with Pensol on putting a spending cap of \$1,000 and said they have nothing to lose by participating in the study.

“75 to 80 school districts have already agreed to participate in the study,” Hasty said. “If we don't participate we are passing up on an opportunity to make our needs shown.”

The remaining board members agreed by unanimously passing the resolution and placing a \$1,000 cap limit on how much they will spend.

Pensol also brought up the Rowan resolution that was discussed in last month's board meeting. He said it was reported in the Signal last month that they passed the resolution. However, he reminded the board that the resolution was only discussed during last month's meeting and it did not go up for a vote.

Board members reviewed the resolution which urges state legislators to take action regarding funding for the “Unbridled Learning” senate bill. The bill was recently passed to ensure that Kentucky's students would have the tools they need to compete in a global society.

The resolution challenges the Unbridled Learning law claiming the mandates for it continue to increase, causing additional stress and responsibilities on teachers and administrators that are already working to ensure that students continue on their path of becoming college and career ready.

The resolution reads that “Kentucky Legislature has broken their pledge to Kentucky's students, failing to fund the mandates of Unbridled Learning, thereby putting at risk its goals and jeopardizing the future of our students.”

Then resolution also says that the extra expense of this program has caused the Rowan County School District and other districts across the state to make significant cuts to their budgets and to personnel, which compelled school boards to increase property taxes in order that districts might continue to operate and serve the students.”

The Resolution ends by challenging the House of Representatives and Senate to “take action, putting the students of the Common-

wealth of Kentucky first, reinvesting in their future and fully funding the mandates of Unbridled Learning to ensure that Kentucky's public education system can offer students the path to college and career readiness.”

After each board member carefully reread the resolution, no new discussion was brought up and the board unanimously adopted the resolution.

In the final item of business, Pensol suggested that the board agree to purchase five new school buses.

Transportation Director Chris Cornelius said the five new buses would be 2015 International models. He said they are planning to purchase three 66 passenger buses and two 55 passenger buses.

Cornelius said the five buses will cost a total of approximately \$450,000. With the state depreciation rate scale, he said the district could discontinue the buses after fourteen years and receive a total refund on them from the state.

However, he said if the district decided to continue using the buses after fourteen years they received no refund and are responsible for all service and repairs on the buses.

Pensol said he hopes the district can get back on track with discontinuing every bus after fourteen years of service so they can receive their full refund from the state. He said he hoped the district can start that schedule again with the purchase of the five new school buses.

The board agreed unanimously to buy the five new school buses.

Retirements announced at the meeting were MVES cook Linda Blanton and BES teacher Patsy Morgan. Resignations were RCHS Lady Rockets basketball Assistant Coach Johnna Abney and RCMS Lady Rockets softball Assistant Coach Stephen Holcomb.

There were also seven substitute hirings an-

nounced including Casey Harper as a substitute teacher, Morgan Robinson and Connie Mason both as substitute bus monitors and Melanie Denny and Rebecca Smith as substitute cooks.

Pamela Burdette and Steven Rumsey were also hired as full time bus drivers.

“Accident”

(Cont. from front)

was working on putting a new roof on the building at the airport.

Investigators believe Williams fell from the roof first and then another co-worker, who was reportedly attempting to catch him, also lost his footing and fell on top of Williams.

Williams was transported by ambulance to Saint Joseph's Hospital in Mount Sterling where he was later pronounced dead by the Montgomery County Coroner's office.

The co-worker was also transported by ambulance to Saint Joseph's Hospital where he was treated for non-life threatening injuries and later released. The co-worker's name was not released to the media by the Sheriff or Coroner.

The Kentucky Department of Occupational Safety and Health Administration is also currently investigating the accident. The cause of the accident was unknown at the time of publication. However, investigators said there were wind gusts between 15 to 20 mph last Wednesday morning but they are still unsure if they were a factor in the accident.



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1-866-424-4382
(call now - your name is not required)

Toll-free Treatment Help Line
1-866-90-UNITE



National Hospice Month Care on Your Terms

As we celebrate National Hospice & Palliative Care Month, we want to thank you. For over 30 years, you have welcomed us into your homes and lives. You have blessed us with caring for your loved ones. You've let us honor the lives of your mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons and daughters. You've trusted us with their hopes and wishes. You've let us comfort you in your grief.

You've also generously supported our organization. You've given us your time as volunteers, your dollars to make our programs possible, your good will and partnership to help us care for more patients and families each year.

You've made Hospice Care Plus the gold standard for compassionate, quality care in our community.

Thank you, Rockcastle County.

The staff of Hospice Care Plus



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