

**Public Hearing Minutes  
Dodge County Board of Commissioners  
Tuesday, November 16, 2021**



**Commissioners Present:**

Dan McCranie, Chairman  
Sharon Cobb Flanagan, District 1  
Terry L. Niblett, Vice-Chairman, District 2  
Brian Watkins, District 3  
Karen Cheek, District 4

**Also Present:**

John P. Harrington, County Attorney  
Conner Bearden, County Manager  
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021**. County Manager Bearden opened the Public Hearing to discuss closing the railroad crossing at FM Braswell Road.

Norfolk Southern Public Safety Representative Alex Ricci informed the Board that Georgia is the state with the highest fatalities/injuries at Norfolk Southern crossings. Norfolk Southern, in collaboration with GDOT, is offering incentives to close redundant crossings for public safety. He requested to close the redundant railroad crossing at FM Braswell Road due to its lack of active warnings. As an incentive Norfolk Southern offered the county \$10,000. The state will add \$7,500. Norfolk will do all the removal of the crossing from right-of-way to right-of-way line. Also, MUTCD-compliant (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways) road closure devices will be installed. No work will be required of the county, other than to adopt a resolution allowing for the railroad closure.

Citizens Scott Carr, Sherree Jones, and Tommy Jones voiced their concerns and requested cul-de-sacs at both dead-ends to prevent drivers from turning around in property owners' driveways.

Alex Ricci requested drawings of the proposed cul-de-sacs, which Manager Bearden will present at the next public hearing.

The next public hearing is scheduled for November 22 at 6:00 p.m.

The public hearing adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Attested:

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Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

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Dan McCranie, Chairman