



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.
Chairman

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701
Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # 2

RESOLUTION
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

September 21, 2016

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Stinson, Seconded By: Mr. Rosen

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge” Commemorative Naming of the bridge on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors wants to commemorate the life of Reed Williams; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board, to commemorate and honor the life and contributions of Reed Williams, name the bridge on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County, be named the “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has agreed to reimburse the costs associated with providing and installing the necessary signs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby names the Bridge on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County, the “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge” ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Transportation is hereby directed to fabricate and erect appropriate signs and to invoice Lee County for the costs related to this commemorative naming.

#####

CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County.

Facts: Mr. Reed Williams was born in 1940 near Jonesville, Virginia. He graduated from Jonesville High School in 1957 and joined the United States Army serving in the 82nd Airborne, 504th Parachute Infantry, obtaining the rank of Sergeant before his honorable discharge in 1963.

During his military service he sent money home to his parents to help care for his handicapped brother Howard White Williams. He continued his care for the handicapped throughout his lifetime by making numerous charitable contributions. He established the Howard White Williams Scholarship Fund at Mountain Empire Community College, Milligan College and the University of Virginia-College at Wise for handicapped students in memory of his brother.

After operating a construction business in northern Virginia, he returned home to Lee County in 1981 to establish Old Virginia Hand Hewn Log Homes, Inc. with his wife Judy Huff Williams, delivering over 1,500 homes and donating fellowship halls to two local churches. Old Virginia is headquartered in Pennington Gap and employs 30 local residents.

Mr. Williams also established Axehandle, LLC, a land development company whose profits were donated to Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville, Tennessee.

Mr. Williams was also instrumental in the design, fundraising and construction of the Lee County Veterans Memorial Wall. Mr. Williams was a member of numerous military, civic and charitable organizations as well. He departed this life on January 24, 2016.

On July 19, 2016, the Lee County Board of Supervisors, wishing to commemorate and honor the life of Reed Williams, passed a resolution requesting that the bridge located on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County, be named the “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge”.

Recommendations: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends this request be approved.

Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming the bridge. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

Result if Approved: The Bridge located on Route 640, Shaffers Ford Road, over Shafer Creek, Lee County, will be named the “Reed Williams Memorial Bridge”.

In accordance with law, the County will reimburse the costs associated with providing and installing the necessary signs and VDOT will invoice accordingly.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: VDOT is not aware of any opposition to this proposal.