



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

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Agenda item #5

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

October 20, 2020

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Whitworth, Seconded By: Mr. Rucker

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Walls Memorial Bridge"

WHEREAS, the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors wishes to honor and memorialize the life and service of LTC Merritt 'Bud' Phillip Walls to the Town of Mount Crawford. Mr. Walls was born on August 15, 1937 in Huntsville, AL and after graduating from Van Nuys High School in Van Nuys, CA he enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 17. He served as an enlisted soldier for five years and then received his officer's commission from Officers Candidate School, Fort Sill, OK and spent 24 years on active duty in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walls returned to Rockingham County, worked 17 years with the Rockingham County Public Schools as the Career Education, Job Placement and Dropout Prevention Coordinator, and retired from the school system in July 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walls also served on the Mount Crawford Town Council for 33 years and was the Town's Vice Mayor for most of those years up until his death in 2014; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution dated August 12, 2020, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life and service of LTC Merritt 'Bud' Phillip Walls, name the bridge on Route 727, Airport Road, over the North River, Rockingham County as the "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Phillip Walls Memorial Bridge"; and

WHEREAS, Rockingham County, by its August 12, 2020 resolution, has agreed to pay the cost of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming; and

Resolution of the Board

Bridge Naming: "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Walls Memorial Bridge"

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WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the transportation facility so named.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on Route 727, Airport Road, over the North River, Rockingham County as the "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Walls Memorial Bridge"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Rockingham County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “LTC Merritt ‘Bud’ Walls Memorial Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on Route 727, Airport Road, over the North River, Rockingham County as the “LTC Merritt ‘Bud’ Walls Memorial Bridge”.

Facts: Rockingham County enacted a resolution on August 12, 2020 to honor the life and service of Merritt ‘Bud’ Phillip Walls. Mr. Walls was born on August 15, 1937 in Huntsville, AL and after graduating from Van Nuys High School in Van Nuys, CA he enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 17. He served as an enlisted soldier for five years and then received his officer’s commission from Officers Candidate School, Fort Sill, OK. He spent 24 years on active duty in the United States Army.

He then returned to Rockingham County and worked 17 years with the Rockingham County Public Schools as the Career Education, Job Placement and Dropout Prevention Coordinator. He retired from the school system in July 1998.

Bud also served on the Mount Crawford Town Council for 33 years and was the Town’s Vice Mayor for most of those years up until his death in 2014.

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 a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

Result if Approved: The bridge on Route 727, Airport Road, over the North River, Rockingham County will be known as the “LTC Merritt ‘Bud’ Walls Memorial Bridge”. In accordance with law and by resolution, Rockingham County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

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



STEPHEN G. KING
County Administrator



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BRENT V. TRUMBO
Election District No. 1
SALLIE WOLFE-GARRISON
Election District No. 2
RICK L. CHANDLER
Election District No. 3
WILLIAM B. KYGER, JR.
Election District No. 4
MICHAEL A. BREEDEN
Election District No. 5

At a regular meeting of the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors held on August 12, 2020, on a motion by Supervisor Breeden, seconded by Supervisor Chandler, the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 to 0:

RESOLUTION

LTC MERRITT 'BUD' WALLS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors desires that the bridge over the North River on State Secondary Route 727, Airport Road, in Rockingham County, Virginia be memorialized as "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Walls Memorial Bridge" in honor of his service to the Town of Mount Crawford.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors does hereby request the Commonwealth Transportation Board to designate the above mentioned bridge over the North River on State Secondary Route 727 the "LTC Merritt 'Bud' Walls Memorial Bridge."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Rockingham County will assume the costs for the fabrication, installation, and maintenance of signs for this naming.

Adopted this 12th day of August, 2020.

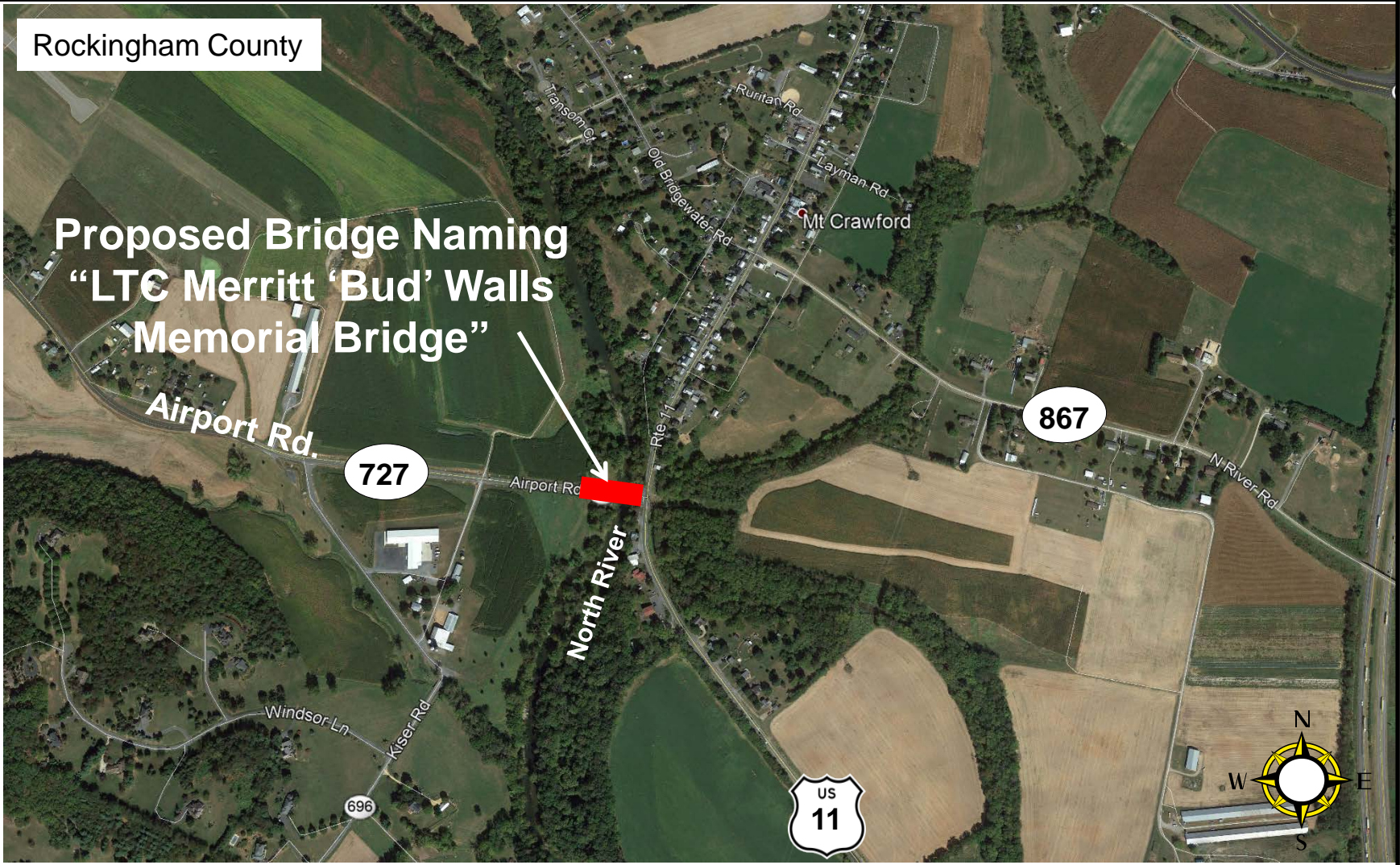
William B. Kyger, Chairman

ATTEST:

Stephen G. King, Clerk

Rockingham County

**Proposed Bridge Naming
“LTC Merritt ‘Bud’ Walls
Memorial Bridge”**



Virginia Department of Transportation
Maintenance Division

CTB MEETING: October 20, 2020

Rockingham County

Proposed Bridge Naming:

“LTC Merritt ‘Bud’ Walls Memorial Bridge”