



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 4

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

April 19, 2023

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Dodson, **Seconded By:** Mr. Merrill

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: “Earl Nicholson Bridge”

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution dated February 7, 2023, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life and service of Earl Nicholson, name the bridge on State Route 163, South Amherst Highway, over U.S. Route 29 Business in Madison Heights, Amherst County, as the “Earl Nicholson Bridge”; and

WHEREAS, Amherst County, by resolution dated February 7, 2023, has agreed to be responsible for payment of all sign costs billed by the Virginia Department of Transportation calling attention to this naming, which will include the costs to produce, place, and maintain the signs; and

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 State Route 163, South Amherst Highway, over U.S. Route 29 Business in Madison Heights, Amherst County, as the “Earl Nicholson Bridge”.

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

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “Earl Nicholson Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on State Route 163, South Amherst Highway, over U.S. Route 29 Business in Madison Heights, Amherst County, as the “Earl Nicholson Bridge”.

Facts: The Amherst County Board of Supervisors enacted a resolution on February 7, 2023 to honor Earl Nicholson’s life and service to his community.

According to that resolution, Mr. Nicholson was known throughout Amherst County as a friend to all those that crossed paths with him. He was well known by multiple organizations within the Madison Heights Community including, but not limited to, the Madison Heights Youth Baseball Association, the American Legion and Dairy Queen.

He was an active and dedicated member of Temple Baptist Church and was known throughout Amherst as being committed to keeping the county beautiful by collecting litter in the Madison Heights area.

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 State Route 163, South Amherst Highway, over U.S. Route 29 Business in Madison Heights, Amherst County, will be known as the “Earl Nicholson Bridge”. In accordance with law, and by resolution dated February 7, 2023, Amherst 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.



Amherst County Board of Supervisors
County Resolution No. 2023-2-R

For consideration on February 7, 2023

A RESOLUTION, NO. 2023-2-R

A resolution, requesting that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name a certain bridge over Route 29 Business, on Route 163, S Amherst Hwy in Madison Heights, in Amherst County "Earl Nicholson Bridge", in memory of Earl Scott Nicholson, beloved citizen of Amherst County.

Approved as to form and legality by the Amherst County Attorney

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:

I. That the Amherst County Board of Supervisors ("Board") hereby requests, pursuant to Virginia Code §33.2-213, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge over Route 29 Business, on Route 163, S Amherst Hwy in Madison Heights, in Amherst County "Earl Nicholson Bridge", as follows :

WHEREAS, Earl Nicholson was known throughout Amherst County as a friend to all those that crossed paths with him.

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicholson was well known by multiple organizations within the Madison Heights Community, including but not limited to the Madison Heights Youth Baseball Association, the American Legion, and Dairy Queen, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicholson was an active and dedicated member of Temple Baptist Church, and

WHEREAS, he was known throughout Amherst as being committed to keeping the county beautiful by collecting litter along the roadside and gutters in the Madison Heights area.

WHEREAS, Amherst County accordingly requests, pursuant to Virginia Code §33.2-213, that the Transportation Board name the bridge over Route 29 Business, on Route 163, S Amherst Hwy in Madison Heights, in Amherst County, "Earl Nicholson Bridge", and

WHEREAS, Amherst County stands ready and willing to support the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the sign bearing Earl Nicholson's name, and to take any other needed action in support of this petition to the Commonwealth; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:

That the Amherst County Board of Supervisors hereby request pursuant to Virginia Code §33.2-213, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge over Route 29 Business on Route 163, S Amherst Hwy in Madison Heights, in Amherst County, "Earl Nicholson Bridge".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its commitment to supporting the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the sign bearing Earl Nicholson's name, and to taking any other needed action in support of this petition to the Commonwealth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Commonwealth Transportation Board under cover of a letter requesting guidance as to next steps.

II. That this resolution shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

Adopted this 7th day of February 2023.



Tom Martin, Chair
Board of Supervisors of the County of Amherst, Virginia

Member	Vote
Tom Martin, Chair.....	AYE
L.J. "Jimmy" Ayers III, Vice-Chair.....	AYE
Claudia D. Tucker.....	AYE
Drew Wade.....	AYE
David W. Pugh, Jr.....	AYE

ATTEST:


Jeremy S. Bryant, Clerk
Board of Supervisors of the County of Amherst, Virginia

