

Rock Haven road to get moved this year

Written by Deb Egenberger
Thursday, 24 February 2011 14:57 -

County approves road plan.

LEXINGTON—The long wait motorists sometimes have while trying to drive in or out of Camp Rock Haven east of Gothenburg should be resolved this spring when the weather turns nice for good.

Following a public hearing on Feb. 15, Dawson County commissioners approved the 2011 one- and six-year road plans that include a one-mile stretch of new gravel road at the entrance of the camp.

The Rock Haven project has been on the county's drawing board for quite some time, spending a few years on the six-year plan before moving up to the one-year plan in 2008.

Work to attain right-of-way land, compliance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers bird studies and weather have kept the project from getting done but commissioners are confident it can be completed this year.

The only way into the church camp is across an at-grade Union Pacific Railroad crossing just south of Highway 30 on Road 415.

UP train traffic can sometimes keep the crossing occupied for 20 minutes or more.

The county's plan is to create an east-west road on the south side of the railroad tracks between Road 415 and Road 416.

That would allow motorists to cross the railroad tracks at the guarded crossing at Willow Island on Road 416 and still have access to the camp.

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Union Pacific Railroad has committed \$85,000 to the project and the state will pay \$25,000.

That is expected to cover the cost of building the road with any additional fees paid by the county.

The other two projects approved on the one-year plan presented by county highway superintendent Darold Tagge were completion of overlay on the Overton-Sumner highway and the East 13th Street upgrade.

Both of those were scheduled for completion last year but weather hampered work. Both are already 97% complete.

In other county business, commissioners:

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