

Additional Business

Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest

In accordance with Section 5(b) of Executive Order Number One (“the Order”), the Board of Ethics completed an evaluation of the statement of economic interest for Board Member Larry Helms. The Board of Ethics found no actual conflict of interest; however, they did find the potential for conflict of interest. Because conflicts of interest may arise while performing their public duties, public officials should make a due and diligent effort to determine whether they have a conflict of interest before taking any action that could have an impact on their own financial, familial, or personal interests.

Approval – Addition to Scenic Byway

Upon the recommendation of the Safety and Emerging Issues Committee, a motion was made by Board Member Burrell and seconded by Board Member Helms to approve adding 1 mile of two-lane highway beginning at the intersection of Rutledge Drive and Highway 25 in Henderson County to the Scenic Byway.

Approval – Resolution for Dr. Mary Martin Sloop

Upon a recommendation of the Road Naming Committee, a motion was made by Board Member Lakey and seconded by Board Member Betts to approve the following:

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop, one of North Carolina’s first female doctors, was born March 9, 1873 in Davidson, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop attended Davidson College and the Woman’s Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1920s, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop learned of plans for highways in the North Carolina mountains; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop understood the significance of having good roads through Avery County in her mission and vision for the area's economic development; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop knew that such roads would enable local farmers on the eastern side of the county to get their produce to market and encourage tourists to travel to Linville and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop fought year in and year out for a highway on the eastern side of Avery County including spending six weeks in Raleigh working on the Good Roads Committee. She declared as she rode on horse back to the foot of the mountain that she was "going after that good road ... to bring it back in my saddle pockets;" and

WHEREAS, the road was built and today is designated as U.S. 221. As Dr. Mary Martin Sloop had envisioned, U.S. 221 is the single most important contribution to Avery County's economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Avery County Board of Commissioners requested the North Carolina Department of Transportation honor Avery County's visionary doctor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation dedicates U.S. 221 from State Road 1545 to the east city limits of Crossnore in Avery County as the ***Dr. Mary Martin Sloop Highway*** for her untiring dedication to the citizens of Avery County and the state of North Carolina.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the thirteenth day of July 2006 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.


Chairman


Secretary of Transportation

Approval – Resolution for Grover C. Robbins Jr.

Upon a recommendation of the Road Naming Committee, a motion was made by Board Member Lakey and seconded by Board Member Collier to approve the following:

WHEREAS, Grover C. Robbins Jr. was born in Blowing Rock, North Carolina in 1910; and

WHEREAS, Grover C. Robbins Jr. was instrumental in developing Beech Mountain Resort located on the Watauga-Avery County line between Roan Mountain, Tennessee and Boone, North Carolina; and