

**TOWN OF LYME
CHARGE
CLASS V ROADS STUDY COMMITTEE**

Summary:

The Lyme Roads Study Committee is established to examine the state of Class V roads within the Town of Lyme and make recommendations for how to improve the repair of such roads in the future.

Background:

March 2011 – Pinnacle road failed during mud season requiring \$20,000 of stone to reinstate it.

May 1st, 2011 – A Storm north of Lyme brought sufficient water down the Connecticut River to cause the bank adjoining River Road to collapse into the river causing the road to fail. River Road was closed due to concerns about the safety of the sub-surface. Town Meeting 2012 voted to expend the necessary funds to relocate the road and armor the bank in conjunction with an NRCS grant.

March 2012 - An unusual week long warm spell caused an early and costly mud season throughout the region and resulted in many dirt roads suffering significant failures. Total costs for this season have not yet been tabulated but are expected to be significant.

Membership:

The Class V Roads Study Committee shall consist of not less than seven nor more than nine members including the Road Agent, one Selectman and one member of the Budget Committee as ex-officio members **appointed by the Selectmen.**

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. The Committee Shall:
 - a. Elect its own chair and establish its own organization
 - b. Identify chronic problem areas with the goal of a more permanent fix.
 - c. Investigate the setting up of a good cost analysis on all roads.
 - d. Investigate current research on construction of dirt roads with special reference to mud season.
 - i. CRREL (?) Research study in Windsor

- ii. Investigate what is being done in other Towns – Canaan (Grafton Turnpike)/ Hanover (Goose Pond Road)
 - iii. Consider ditching issues (continued digging of ditches results in “causeway” roads in parts of town)
 - e. Consider a long term plan to upgrade all dirt roads in town to “state of the art” while still remaining dirt.
 - f. Conduct Public meetings/hearings as appropriate.
- 2. Address the state of river/stream banks adjoining Town Roads and identify/prioritize areas which may be a problem in the near future so the Board can look at possible grant funding for bank armoring.
 - a. River Road/Connecticut River
 - b. Dorchester Road/Grant Brook
- 3. If specific engineering advice is required the Committee shall apply to the Selectboard who will endeavor to identify appropriate funds to provide this advice.
- 4. Prepare and make interim recommendations to the Board of Selectmen:
 - a. Interim report by September 15, 2012 (to be able to put in Federal grant applications in time)
 - b. Roads interim report by October 15, 2012 (for Selectboard budget – if necessary)
 - c. Final Report by October 1, 2013

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