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Look out for dead trees

Residents who see dead trees which might fall on power lines should contact members of the road committee, especially Bob Frink.

Attempts will be made to fell the trees without damaging the lines. City of Alcoa Utilities will come to Saddle Ridge if the trees actually touch a line. But the more preventive maintenance that is done, the better.

RIDGE RAMBLER

Roads survive rains, snows

The work which has been done on the roads during the past two years helped immeasurably this winter as nature once again pounded the area.

When roads were icy in December and January, some residents had difficulty in negotiating the curves and hills. About 25 bags of salt have been purchased and stored in the barn area for use in emergencies.

SRPOA President Larry Dicus cautioned about using the salt. When Sky Top was so icy recently, Dicus scattered the salt just where automobile tires would come in contact with the roadway. Within minutes, those areas were clear of ice and snow. Too much salt will ruin the area for animals and will leach into the water table, so the salt should be used sparingly.

Richard Way also suggested carrying bags of fertilizer in the trunk of automobiles or of four-wheel

drive vehicles. Fertilizer will also melt ice and snow, he said.

During heavy rains in January, the eight additional tiles which have been installed helped with the runoff. Water's End sustained some slight damage but most other roadways escaped. Other tiles are due to be installed when the weather clears a bit.

Additional rock will be added as soon as the weather improves. The road committee has decided to use 3/4 inch rock to see if it will wear better. The small tractor has been repaired, Bob Frink told the board of directors at the Jan. 20 meeting, and will be used to pull old gravel from the sides of the roadways into the middle. The larger tractor can then smooth the gravel out.

The road committee is also considering taking shale from the area near the gate, crushing it and spreading it in some of the muddier areas.

Watch for cars!

As more and more people purchase property in Saddle Ridge, traffic increases. And as traffic increases, so does the possibility of collisions and/or disagreements over right of way at intersections.

Best advice: Allow the car on the right to have the right of way. The major exception to this rule of thumb is the intersection of Oakwood and Chilhowee Loop. Those coming down Oakwood have difficulty seeing onto Chilhowee Loop whereas travelers moving on Chilhowee Loop can

usually spot vehicles moving down the steep hill.

Whatever occurs, isn't it better to yield a few seconds than to have your automobile in the shop for repairs for weeks?

Les Jewell, who is working on obtaining traffic signs for Saddle Ridge, has identified eight different intersections which would benefit from the signs. Board of directors will continue to explore signs until the next meeting in April.

Board of Directors meeting—January 20, 2001

Attending: Cain, Carrigan, Carroll, Clinansmith, Davis, Dicus, Frink, Kerr, Jewell, Tipps, Way, Wilbanks, Wilson, Van Aalst.

Dicus called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes were approved from the Oct. 28 meeting (see previous story).

Treasurer's report of the road maintenance fund was approved on motion of Wilbanks, second by Way.

Information on the SRPOA account was not available for 2000. Reports for previous years were distributed.

On motion by Way, second by Carroll, the board voted to change the accounting system with Charlyse Kerr working with Ginger Wilson to choose the system most appropriate for the type of corporation SRPOA is.

Dicus, Frink and Clinansmith presented the report of road work. (See related story page 1)

Les Jewell reported on his progress on the traffic signs for Saddle Ridge. After discussion, the matter was tabled until the next meeting. Jewell has identified eight intersections which need yield signs. Cost for signs which would be similar to the road signs would be about \$130 to \$140 each, Jewell said, whereas regular signs used on most roadways and streets would cost about \$30 to \$40 each. Danny Carrigan, who made many of the road signs in Saddle Ridge will be approached. The matter was tabled until the next meeting tentatively scheduled for April.

Dicus reported on the letter of understanding which SRPOA has drawn up with Perry Burchfield concerning the development of about 100 acres just outside Saddle Ridge

Dicus reminded the board that the letter was simply to help allay concerns of SRPOA homeowners. An attorney will be asked to review the letter.

Richard Way reported on the progress on the postal kiosk (see related story below).

In new business, the board

appointed Bob Frink and Les Jewell to oversee the books of both the road maintenance fund and the dues account twice a year, once before the annual meeting in July and once at the end of the calendar year.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Financial Report (dues acct.)

Beginning Balance (11/30/00)	\$6974.39
Income	235.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending Balance (12/31/00)	\$7209.39

Board of Directors Meeting—October 28

Attending: Cain, Carroll, Clinansmith, Davis, Frink, Kerr, Tipps, Van Aalst, Wilson.

In the absence of President Larry Dicus, Frank Van Aalst called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes were approved of last meeting on motion by Clinansmith, second by Davis.

Juanita Davis of DCA Inc. presented the financial report of the road maintenance fund.

SRPOA Treasurer Ginger Wilson reported that financial records should be available in another week. She reported that waste collections were running about \$405 behind expenses this year.

Following discussion about the condition of the roads, on motion by Clinansmith with second by Carroll, the purchase of a weed eater and chain saw was approved providing the budget was sufficient to cover the purchases.

On motion by Clinansmith, second by Frink, the selection and possible purchase of a heavy duty hedge trimmer was referred to the road committee for action.

In the absence of Les Jewell, Juanita Davis reported that stop signs were being sought for Oakwood and Grouse Top. Further action was tabled until the next meeting.

Frink reported that areas where sand hills could be located have been discussed by the road committee.

The agreement which has been reached with developer Perry Burchfield will be shown to an attorney.

Work on the kiosk is continuing but because of the absence of Richard Way, no report was received.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Postal kiosk progressing

The U. S. Postal Service will soon change from delivering mail to the boxes alongside the roadway to the boxes in the kiosk.

The transformation will come when residents with mailboxes alongside the road receive a notice from the post office that they need to pick up their key at the Walland facility.

The kiosk itself is almost complete. Richard Way has been in charge of the project. Boxes have been purchased for all residents of Saddle Ridge and for an additional 28 people. More units will be purchased and installed when more homes are constructed. The reason that the units are placed so far

apart was to make way for the additional boxes. This way a box will remain with a resident when it is assigned, rather than be re-assigned when more residents move into the area.

A large case will be constructed and then newspaper tubes will be inserted into the case so that each resident receiving a newspaper will have his or her own tube.

Juanita has spent hours sorting through the property in Saddle Ridge to determine where residences are likely to be constructed so that the boxes could be placed in correct order. During the board meeting Jan. 20, Richard expressed his appreciation of Juanita's work.