



## Rogers County ranks high in paved road miles

OKLAHOMA CITY – District 1 Rogers County Commissioner Dan DeLozier gave an overview of county's roads and bridges recently during the annual State of the County address, hosted by the Claremore Chamber of Commerce.

DeLozier referenced the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma's (ACCO) 20-year comparison summary given during its board meeting.

The report compared the infrastructure of roads and bridges within each of the 77 counties, showing where they ranked among each other.

Rogers County took the lead by having more road surface mileage paved — 1,092 miles — than any county throughout the state. That number may increase. Maintaining and upgrading roads are among many other priorities tasked of the Rogers County Board of Commissioners.

ACCO is made up of 231 county commissioners from all Oklahoma counties, representing eight Circuit Engineering Districts (CED 1-8) — Rogers County is in CED-1.

Being a part of CED-1 made up of 11 counties, it makes up 10,817 road surface miles or 13 percent of the state's total. The total of certified road surface miles that county commissioners all over the state are responsible for is 83,055.

BOCC Chairman and Commissioner Steve Hendrix of District 2 said all road projects in his district are close to wrapping up the season this month since chilly weather effects paving.

DeLozier recently completed a 3-mile asphalt job and paint striping on South 4240 Road in Chelsea.

Commissioner Ron Burrows of District 3 said, "It is that one-penny sales tax that allowed us to be here. We are already the best [in roads] in the 11-county CED."

He emphasized it is an exceptionally good example of what the penny has done on chip seal road projects in all three districts. His district crews completed several road projects recently and some patchwork.

In addition to roads, counties throughout the state handle 13,141 bridges on local roads.

For 2022 Rogers County is listed as having 123 bridges, of which the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) Bridge Summary Report shows 24 are structurally deficient.

Of that number, it means some of the bridges are not up to normal standards or that some are no longer used, ranking the county at 13. In 2002 it was reported 53 bridges were structurally deficient, ranking them at 33.