



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

### *Commonwealth Transportation Board*

Shannon Valentine  
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701  
Fax: (804) 786-2940

*Agenda item #1*

### RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**June 20, 2018**

#### MOTION

**Made By: Mr. Yates, Seconded By: Mr. Rosen**  
**Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously**

**Title: Bridge Naming: “James Bernard Noel Bridge”**

**WHEREAS**, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors wishes to honor and commemorate the life, service and ultimate sacrifice of Corporal James Bernard Noel, who was killed in action during the Korean War; and

**WHEREAS**, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors wishes to honor its native son with an enduring symbol of their affection for him and their abiding regard for his service; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life and service of Corporal James Bernard Noel, name the bridge on U.S. Route 60, Lexington Turnpike, over the Pedlar River, Amherst County as the “James Bernard Noel Bridge”; and

**WHEREAS**, § 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the transportation facility so named; and

**WHEREAS**, by resolution, Amherst County has agreed to pay VDOT for the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Resolution of the Board  
Bridge Naming “James Bernard Noel Bridge”  
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**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on U.S. Route 60, Lexington Turnpike, over the Pedlar River, Amherst County as the “James Bernard Noel Bridge”; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Amherst County for these costs as required by law.

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## **CTB Decision Brief**

### Bridge Naming: “James Bernard Noel Bridge”

**Issue:** Commemorative naming of the bridge on U.S. Route 60, Lexington Turnpike, over the Pedlar River, Amherst County as the “James Bernard Noel Bridge”.

**Facts:** James Bernard Noel was born and raised on Tobacco Mountain Field known as Tyler Mountain in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He served in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment HQ CO 2 Battalion, United States Army and was captured and taken as a Prisoner of War while running communication lines by the North Korean Army. Corporal Noel was killed in action on September 4, 1950 at the Battle of Naktong Bulge in South Korea.

For his demonstrated heroism in ground combat on that day, Corporal Noel was awarded the Purple Heart and a Bronze Star Medal of Valor. He was also awarded a certificate of Honorable Service as a mark of his country’s deep and respectful estimation of his faithful service to the United States of America.

He was laid to rest at Green Hill Cemetery in Buena Vista, Virginia.

**Recommendations:** The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends this request be approved.

**Action Required by CTB:** The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

**Result if Approved:** The bridge on U.S. Route 60, Lexington Turnpike, over the Pedlar River, Amherst County will be known and signed as the “James Bernard Noel Bridge”. In accordance with law, Amherst County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

**Options:** Approve, Deny, or Defer.

**Public Comments/Reactions:** VDOT is not aware of any opposition to this proposal.



Amherst County Board of Supervisors  
County Resolution No. 2018-0010-R

**For consideration on May 15, 2018**

**A RESOLUTION, NO. 2018-0010-R**

A resolution, requesting that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name a certain bridge over Pedlar River on Route 60 near Pedlar River Road in Amherst County "The James Bernard Noel Bridge", in honor of a fallen son of Amherst County.

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Approved as to form by the County Attorney

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:**

**I. That the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County hereby requests, pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-213, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge over Pedlar River on Route 60 near Pedlar River Road in Amherst County, "The James Bernard Noel Bridge", as follows:**

**WHEREAS**, James Bernard Noel is a true son of Amherst County, having been born and raised on Tobacco Mountain Field, known as Tyler Mountain on Pedlar Dam Road in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal James Bernard Noel served in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment HQ CO 2 Battalion, U.S. Army and was captured and taken as a Prisoner of War while running communication lines by the North Korean Army. Corporal Noel was killed in action (KIA) on September 4, 1950, at the Battle of Naktong Bulge in South Korea while in the service of our Country as a member of the United States Army; and

**WHEREAS**, for his demonstrated heroism in ground combat on that day, Corporal Noel was awarded the Purple Heart and a Bronze Star Medal for Valor; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Noel was awarded a certificate of Honorable Service as a mark of his country's deep and respectful estimation of his faithful service to the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, James Bernard Noel was brought home and is buried at Green Hill Cemetery, Buena Vista, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, Amherst County seeks to honor its native son with an enduring symbol of our affection for him, and our abiding regard for his service; and

**WHEREAS**, Amherst County accordingly requests, pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-213, that the Transportation Board name the bridge over Pedlar River on Route 60 near Pedlar River Road in Amherst County, “The James Bernard Noel Bridge”; and

**WHEREAS**, Amherst County stands ready and willing to support the costs of producing and placing, and maintaining the sign bearing James Bernard Noel’s name, and to take any other needed action in support of this petition to Commonwealth; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:**

That the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County hereby request pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-213, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge over Pedlar River on Route 60 near Pedlar River Road in Amherst County, “The James Bernard Noel Bridge”.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its commitment to supporting the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the sign bearing James Bernard Noel’s name, and to taking any other needed action in support of this petition to the Commonwealth.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Commonwealth Transportation Board under cover of a letter requesting guidance as to next steps.

**II. That this resolution shall be in force and effect upon adoption.**

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018.

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Claudia D. Tucker, Chair  
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

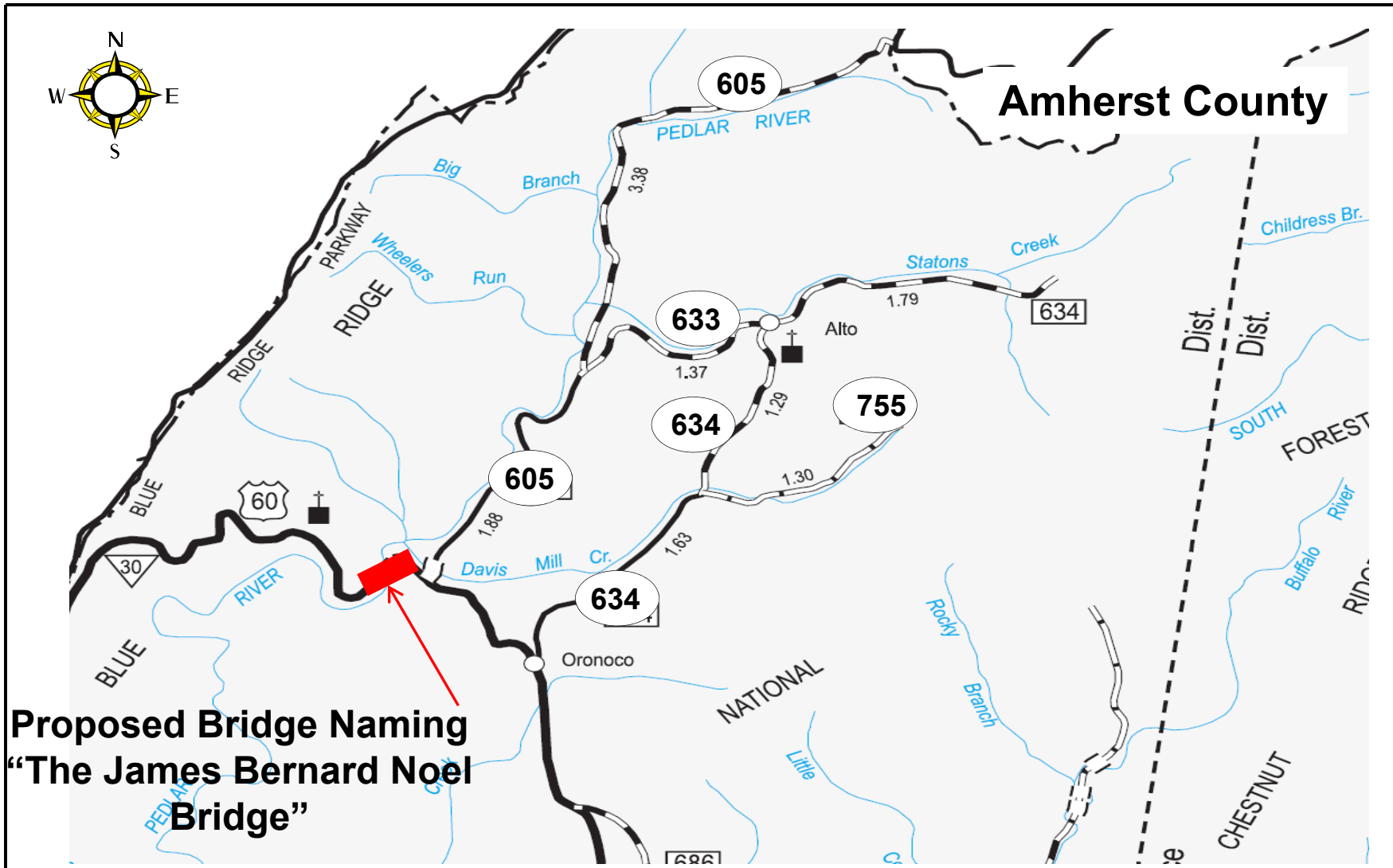
**ATTEST:**

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Dean C. Rodgers, Clerk  
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Ayes 4

Nays 0

Abstentions 0



**VDOT**  
 Virginia Department of Transportation  
 Maintenance Division  
 CTB MEETING: June 20, 2018

Amherst County  
 Proposed Bridge Naming:  
**“The James Bernard Noel  
 Bridge”**