



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

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Agenda Item #4

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 14, 2020

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Stinson, Seconded By: Mr. Miller
Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Highway Naming: “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”

WHEREAS, Buchanan County wishes to honor and memorialize the life and service of Michael Alan Collins to his country, who enlisted in the United States Army in 2003, served as a tank crewman and later a tank commander during his two deployments to Iraq, obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant, and earned the Iraqi Freedom and Iraqi Endurance awards; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Collins spent the last 8 years of his 17 years of service in the United States Army with the Defense Attache System serving in Washington, D.C., Brussels, Belgium and Beijing, China before passing away on January 6, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Collins received many awards and decorations during his 17 year career. A partial listing of which includes: two Joint Service Commendation Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, a Joint Service Achievement Medal, an Army Achievement Medal, a Joint Meritorious Unit Emblem, five Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Service Medal and many others; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, Buchanan County has requested, by resolution dated April 6, 2020, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life, service and contributions of Michael Alan Collins, name Route 620, Deskins Road, from the intersection of Route 83, Lovers Gap Road, to the road name change to Indian Gap Road in Buchanan County as the “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”; 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, the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors passed its resolution requesting this naming on April 6, 2020 indicating that Buchanan County agrees to pay VDOT for the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names Route 620, Deskins Road, from the intersection of Route 83, Lovers Gap Road, to the road name change to Indian Gap Road in Buchanan County as the “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”; 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 Buchanan County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Highway Naming: “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”

Issue: Approval of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is sought for the commemorative naming of Route 620, Deskins Road, from the intersection of Route 83, Lovers Gap Road, to the road name change to Indian Gap Road in Buchanan County as the “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”, as requested by Buchanan County.

Facts: The Buchanan County Board of Supervisors enacted a resolution on April 6, 2020 memorializing the life and service of Mr. Collins. Based on that resolution, Mr. Collins was born in Grundy, Virginia in Buchanan County. In 2003 he enlisted in the United State Army and served two deployments to Iraq earning Iraqi Freedom and Iraqi Endurance awards. He served as a tank crewman and later a tank commander during his deployments. Staff Sergeant Collins spent the last 8 of his 17 years of service in the United States Army with the Defense Attache System serving in Washington, D.C., Brussels, Belgium and Beijing, China.

Staff Sergeant Collins received the following awards and decorations during his 17 year career in the United States Army:

Two Joint Service Commendation Medals

Four Army Commendation Medals

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Army Achievement Medal

Joint Meritorious Unit Emblem

Meritorious Unit Emblem

Five Good Conduct Medals

National Defense Service Medal

Iraq Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medal

Two Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Service Medals

Two Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbons

Army Service Ribbon

Two Overseas Service Ribbons

Meritorious Service Medal

White House Communications Agency Certificate of Appreciation for his service in Belgium
Certificate honoring his memory signed by President Donald J. Trump

Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins died on January 6, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer.

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

Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia*, § 33.2-213, 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 CTB’s consideration.

Result if Approved: Route 620, Deskins Road, from the intersection of Route 83, Lovers Gap Road, to the road name change to Indian Gap Road in Buchanan County will be known as the “Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway”, as requested by Buchanan County. In accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, Buchanan County agrees, by resolution dated April 6, 2020, 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.

BUCHANAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



- Craig Sulliner, Chairman
- Rocklick District
- G. Roger Rife, Vice-Chairman
- South Grundy District
- Tim Hess
- Hurricane District
- Jeff Cooper
- Garden District
- James Carroll Branham
- North Grundy District
- Drew Keene
- Prater District
- Trey Adkins
- Knox District

April 7, 2020

Jeff Buchanan
Virginia Department of Transportation
P. O. Box 127
Lebanon, VA 24266

RE: Resolution

Dear Jeff:

A regular meeting of the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday the 6th day of April 2020. Upon motion by Drew Keene seconded by G. Roger Rife and with a roll call vote of seven (7) yeas and zero (0) nays, this board did hereby adopt the enclosed Resolution naming Route 620 "Deskins Road" as the Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert Craig Horn, County Administrator

Enclosure

Administrative Office P. O. Drawer 950, GRUNDY, VIRGINIA 24614
www.buchanancountyonline.com
Telephone (276) 935-6503
Fax: (276) 935-4479

Resolution

RE: Highway Naming on Route 620 "Deskings Road", from the intersection of Route 83 with Deskings Road to the intersection of said Deskings Road with Indian Gap Road in "Buchanan County" as the "Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway"

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins was born in Grundy, Buchanan County, Va. on September 3, 1981; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Collins enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2003 and was deployed to Iraq twice, earning Iraqi Freedom and Iraqi Endurance awards. He obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant. He served as a tank crewman and later a tank commander during his deployments overseas. Staff Sergeant Collins spent the last 8 years of his 17 years of service in the U.S. Army with the Defense Attache' System (DAS) serving in Washington, D.C., Brussels, Belgium, and Beijing, China.

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Collins received the following awards and decorations during his 17 year career in the U.S. Army: Two Joint Service Commendation Medals; Four Army Commendation Medals; One Joint Service Achievement Medal; One Army Achievement Medal; One Joint Meritorious Unit Emblem; One Meritorious Unit Emblem; Five Good Conduct Medals; One National Defense Service Medal; One Iraq Campaign Medal; One Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medal(GWTSM); Two Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Service Medal(GWTSM); Two Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbons; One Army Service Ribbon; Two Overseas Service Ribbons; One Meritorious Service Medal; One White House Communications Agency Certificate of Appreciation for his service in Brussels, Belgium; and a Certificate honoring the memory of Michael Alan Collins signed by President Donald J. Trump; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Collins died on January 6, 2020 after a courage battle against cancer; and WHEREAS, Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to give suitable names to state highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities forming a part of the systems of state highways; and

WHEREAS, Section 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation 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.

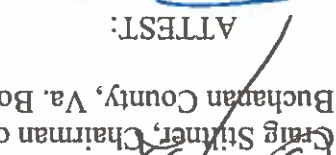
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Buchanan County Board of Supervisors, in accordance with the requirements of Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, does hereby request that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name Route 620, Deskings Road from the intersection of said road with Route 83 to the intersection of Deskings Road with Indian Gap Road, in Buchanan County, Va. as the "Staff Sergeant Michael Alan Collins Memorial Highway";

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Buchanan County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

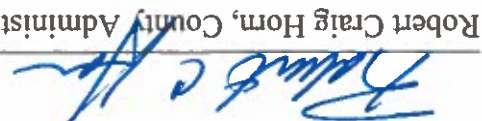
This resolution was adopted this the 6th day of April 2020 by the Buchanan County, Va., Board of Supervisors.

Recorded Vote:

Moved by: Arnell K. Brown
Seconded by: Gregory Rife
Yeas: 2
Nays: 0


Craig Stinner, Chairman of the
Buchanan County, Va. Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:


Robert Craig Horn, County Administrator



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT-P, NRCAn, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, VDOT, ITD, CO Richmond, VA, GIS SIG, Annex, 8th floor

Notes

Location Reference:
 From Rte 83, Lovers Gap Rd (MM 16.09)
 To Route 662, Robinson Fork Rd (MM 9.85)
 Length: 6.24 Miles

**BUCHANAN COUNTY (013)
 ROUTE 620 ROAD NAMING**

"STAFF SGT. MICHAEL ALAN COLLINS MEMORIAL HWY"

