



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701
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Agenda item #19

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 23, 2021

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Merrill, **Seconded By:** Mr. Miller

Action: Motion carried, unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: “K9 Cara Memorial Bridge”

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Augusta County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution dated April 14, 2021, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the service and sacrifice of K9 Cara, name the bridge on Route 640, Old White Bridge Road, over CSX railroad, Augusta County as the “K9 Cara Memorial Bridge”; and

WHEREAS, Augusta County, by its April 14, 2021 resolution, has agreed to pay the cost of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming; 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.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on Route 640, Old White Bridge Road, over CSX railroad, Augusta County as the “K9 Cara Memorial 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 Augusta County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: "K9 Cara Memorial Bridge"

Issue: Commemorative naming of bridge on Route 640, Old White Bridge Road, over CSX railroad in Augusta County as the "K9 Cara Memorial Bridge."

Facts: Augusta County enacted a resolution on April 14, 2021 to honor the life and service of K9 Cara. Members of the Augusta County Sheriff's Office, along with the Skyline Drug Task Force, were involved in a vehicle pursuit on White Bridge Road in Augusta County. The suspect was believed to have tossed a gun out of the car during the pursuit. K9 Cara, a certified explosives detection dog from the Staunton Sheriff's Office, was assisting in an effort to find the gun. As K9 Cara searched for the gun, she fell from the bridge over CSX Railroad on White Hill Road to the ground approximately 50 feet below. The injuries K9 Cara sustained in this fall ultimately took her life in the line of duty. In its April 14, 2021 resolution, the Augusta County Board of Supervisors expressed its gratitude for K9 Cara and her outstanding work.

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 Route 640, Old White Bridge Road, over the CSX railroad, Augusta County will be designated as the "K9 Cara Memorial Bridge." In accordance with law and by resolution, Augusta 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.

COUNTY OF AUGUSTA, VA.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

JEFF SLAVEN
North River

GERALD W. GARBER
Middle River

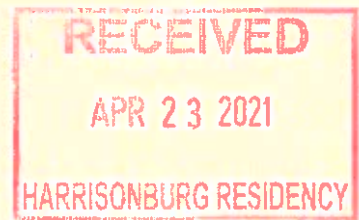
PAM L. CARTER
Pastures

BUTCH WELLS
Beverley Manor

SCOTT SEATON
Wayne

MICHAEL L. SHULL
Riverheads

STEVE MORELLI
South River



TIMOTHY K. FITZGERALD – COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

AUGUSTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

P.O. BOX 590, VERONA, VA 24482-0590

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coadmin@co.augusta.va.us

April 15, 2021
21-023

Mr. Don Komara, Residency Administrator
Virginia Department of Transportation
3536 North Valley Pike
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Dear Mr. Komara,

On December 21, 2020 the Augusta County Sheriff's Office, along with the Skyline Drug Task Force, were involved in a vehicle pursuit on White Bridge Road in Augusta County. The suspect was believed to toss a gun out of the car during the pursuit. K9 CARA from the Staunton Sheriff's Office was assisting in an effort to find the gun. During her work, K9 Cara unfortunately fell fifty feet from the bridge over the CSX Railroad on White Hill Road. The injuries sustained from this fall ultimately took her life in the line of duty.

The Augusta County Board of Supervisors is forever grateful for K9 Cara and her outstanding work. As such, the Board requests that the Commonwealth Transportation Board recognize K9 Cara for her efforts and officially name Bridge Number 6064 on Old White Bridge Road in Augusta County the K9 Cara Memorial Bridge. Augusta County agrees to cover all cost related to the installation of signage in regards to this request.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If further information is needed please advise.

Sincerely,

Timothy K. Fitzgerald, ICMA-CM
Augusta County Administrator



Resolution

Bridge Naming on Route 640, Old White Bridge Road, over the CSX railroad" in Augusta County as the K9 Cara Memorial Bridge.

WHEREAS, On December 21, 2020 the Augusta County Sheriff's Office, along with the Skyline Drug Task Force, were involved in a vehicle pursuit on Old White Bridge Road in Augusta County; and

WHEREAS, The suspect was believed to toss a gun out of the car during the pursuit. K9 CARA from the Staunton Sheriff's Office was assisting in an effort to find the gun; and

WHEREAS, During her work, K9 Cara unfortunately fell fifty feet from the bridge over the CSX Railroad on Old White Bridge Road. The injuries sustained from this fall ultimately took her life in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, The Augusta County Board of Supervisors is forever grateful for K9 Cara and her outstanding work; 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 and change the names of any highways, bridges, interchanges, or 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Augusta County, in accordance with the requirements of Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, does hereby request that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge on Route 640 Old White Bridge road, over the CSX railroad, bridge number 6064 in Augusta County as the K9 Cara Memorial Bridge; and;

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

Adopted: April 14, 2021


Chairman, Augusta County Board of Supervisors

Augusta County



Proposed Bridge Naming
"K9 Cara Memorial Bridge"

Old White Bridge Road

640

795

Augusta



Nicolson Dr
SC-1025

1020

Augusta County

Proposed Bridge Naming:
"K9 Cara Memorial Bridge"



Maintenance Division

CTB MEETING: June 23, 2021



K9 Cara

Staunton Sheriff's Office, Virginia

End of Watch: Monday, December 21, 2020

[ADD TO MY HEROES](#)

