

If you will recall, back in late November, I was notified by the state of the statewide availability of \$225 million in grant money to be used for County road improvement. Titus County's share of this grant was \$311,000.

We received further instruction on this grant money and how to apply for it while we were at Commissioners and Judges training on December 5th at the Ag Extension office. Jim Allison and his staff gave the presentation.

On the December 9th Commissioners Court Agenda, the Court authorized the Judge to set a date for a public hearing to discuss the formation of a CETRZ, a County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone. Formation of the CETRZ is the main requirement to be eligible for the \$311,000 in grant funds. Any county that does not form a CETRZ will forfeit their allocated grant funds, and those funds will be available pro rata to those counties that successfully apply for the grant.

On December 23rd, at 5:30 PM, the Court held a public hearing to present information and receive public comments on the formation of the CETRZ.

On January, the Court held a workshop to discuss the requirements to apply for the grant. We went over 1) necessary documentation 2) defined our CETRZ zone and 3) discussed possible projects to be funded by the grant. We agreed that each of you would have your Road Condition Report and list of Projects to me by January 23 which was last Thursday.

At this time I will read the order Authorizing the creation of the CETRZ and then ask for your approval.