# Road issues occupy BOC agenda

BY VINNIE WILLIAMS

Roads, especially Daniells Bridge and the 10 Loop, dominated the Oconee County Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, which lasted 40 minutes.

Reasons for the briskness of the meeting was that one rezone was put on hold until the Georgia Department of Transportation wrote a clarifying letter, a second was a contentious road that is under litigation, and finally, like everyone else, the BOC were focused on the election.

One of the most contentious rezones was asked by Delores N. Lance and Dorothy N. Lance for 9.1 acres on Daniells Bridge Road and SR Loop from AR-1 to OBP. The request was denied on May 2007.

Along the way residents, who claimed the road was hilly, curvy and poorly engineered, entered suit asking, more or less, that the county eliminate these dangers. The suit remains active.

On Tuesday the commission chamber was fairly full with residents from the Daniells Bridge Road area. When comments were asked at

**A curvy, hilly section of Daniells Bridge Road has been a point of contention regarding a rezone request for more than 18 months. [File photo]**

e end, Lee Becker, an activist speaking for water, greenspace, and sewage disposal, began speaking about the danger of the road as did two other people.

County Attorney Dan Haygood pointed out that a public hea n the matter was set for Dec. 2.

Essentially the protesters asked when design improvements on Daniells Bridge Road and a concept plan would be available. Neither the BOC nor Oconee Public Works Director Emil Beshara could give a definitive answer.

A spokesman for the BOC pointed out that a concept plan was likely useful but, he asked, "Where is the money coming from in our budget to straighten a curve, cut down a hill, and do all the things that the folks want?"

Bishop Development Properties is still trying to get an entrance off Ga. 53 into the big undeveloped tract next to the entrance into the Publix Shopping Center. This time Bishop offered a new concept plan for a road off the southwest corner of Ga. 53/Loch Lomond Circle.

When this came up previously, Killarney West rallied in protest pointing to traffic, noise, danger to children, and other reasons. The BOC rejected the proposal. The letter from DOT would declare if such an entrance off Ga. 53 is legal or illegal.

Thomas and Margaret Collins asked for a hardship variance for 10.75 acres on Ga. 53 to increase the number of lots allowed on a private access drive. There are five presently and the couple wants to add four. onee Planning Director indicated that there was no real reason this should not be allowed. It was unanimously approved.

Approval was also given to White o asked that the BOC readopt the Official Zoning Map to eliminate improper residential rezones in the middle of, for instance, commercial property and straightening up lines.

Finally the BOC approved a $9,500 contract with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government contract for an analysis of county administrative structure, i.e., among other things, should the full-time chairman become part-time and a county manager be employed.