**Sighting Report /Follow up investigation:**

Date and time: May 20, 2021 Time: 11:57 PM.

Location: Melcroft Fayette County PA

Weather: Warm and dry, clear visibility. Temperature 73

Summary: I was notified by Facebook of the sighting shortly after Midnight and did not see the information until Friday May 21, 2021 at 5:30 am. I immediately contacted the female witness by Facebook and then spoke to her by phone. A male and female co-worker were driving southwest on a back country road. The section of roadway is a very dark long straight away. While driving, a black figure illuminated by the vehicle high beams ran very quickly across the roadway from left to right and vanished from sight behind a set of bushes on the right side of the roadway. The driver and passenger of the vehicle spotted the figure about 150 to 175 feet ahead of them crossing the road. They slowed down as they both saw the figure in the high beams. The figure took three exceedingly long strides across the road and disappeared on the right side. The driver slowed down where they had sighted the figure. on their right where they lost site of the figure was a very steep grassy embankment going up the hillside. The entire sightings lasted approximately 3 to 5 seconds.

After speaking with the female witness, she agreed to meet me with her husband and take my son and I to the location. Once we arrived at the location, the witness recounted her experience and showed us where the event took place.

 **Female eyewitness testimony:**

It was 11:57 PM as they were driving southwest. A large dark figure appeared on the left side of the road and ran quickly from left to right across the road in three long strides. She stated when she first saw the figure, her hair immediately stood up on end. The female witness compared the strides to that of an Olympic long jumper but with a much larger stride. She stated the figure did not run like a person but very oddly raising its legs where its thigh was parallel to the road, its calf was pointed down as was the foot almost in an L shape like it was high stepping as it ran. She said the figure was slightly hunched forward and she could see its arms hanging down and slightly swinging but not pumping at its sides like a human would do while running. She did not see the head of the figure, as she was solely focused on its two legs. It was running bipedally. She did say her co-worker had the window down and they both noticed the smell of rotten decaying animal. She was unable to provide a height as she was watching the creatures’ legs of the figure.

The two witnesses slowed down at the spot where the figure crossed and saw no further signs of the figure. They drove down the road a short way and were able to turn around on a side road and come back. No further signs or sighting of the creature occurred. When asked if anything unusual occurred, she mentioned the vehicle they were driving in had some sort of electronic failure shortly after the sighting and the interior lights shut off for approximately 10 seconds before coming back on.

**Male eyewitness testimony:**

 The pair were driving down the road when he saw something ahead that caught his attention. Whatever it was ran across the roadway and it moved very quickly. He thought at first it was his mind playing tricks on him until his passenger asked if he saw what she did. That is when he acknowledged that he too saw something cross the road. Growing up on a farm and having spent a lot of time in the forests, he is familiar with a lot of different animals and this was no animal he was familiar with. He described the figure as being much larger than any animal he had ever seen before.

The figure had exceptionally long legs, and it was upright as it ran. He thought he could make out arms hanging down and stated if they were not arms, he did not know what else they could be. He said the figure was blacker than black in color and if he had to guess, stood around 6 ½ to 7 feet in height. The male witness stated that as they slowed down to pass where the figure crossed, that they did notice the strong smell of a dead animal. Aside from stating how fast everything happened, he was unable to add any additional details about the sighting.

When asked, the male witness said this was not any animal he was familiar with and did not look like someone in a costume. If it was a costume, it was a very elaborate one. The figure he was all one color and as it ran it did not look like someone in a suit. When questioned about any other unusual activity, he did bring up the electronic failure in the vehicle.

Preliminary Investigation Notes:

Upon arriving at the location on Friday morning after 8:00 am, it was noted that the roadway where the creature crossed is a busy and well-travelled road in the morning. From the witness perspective, at night, traffic is almost nonexistent, and the road is very dark except for the occasional pole light alongside of the road. There was one pole light in the front yard of a house on the left side of the road approximately 50 feet past where the figure had crossed providing some back lighting.

The area in general can best be described as a rural mountain road. There are scattered homes and businesses on the road. At the crossing location there are 3 houses and a business within a 300-foot stretch and behind them a large area of marsh and swamp that is about 150 yards wide before running into a large acreage of thick forest. On the right is a steep embankment that leads up to an open forested area of pines, and old growth. There is also an older mobile home park on the right just past the sighting location on the right that sat up on the hillside about 75 yards past the sighting location.

The roadway itself sits on the base of the Chestnut Ridge in Northeastern Fayette County outside the village of Indian Head, not far from the Westmoreland County border. The area does have a history of sightings dating back as far as the 1920’s. The most recent prior to this sighting took place in 2017 within 10-miles of this location.

We conducted a search of the location where the figure crossed the road. We took measurements of the roadway from berm to berm. The roadway measured 24 feet. If the creature crossed the road in 3 strides as the female witness described that would give the figure an 8-foot stride crossing the road.

Our examination of the right side of the road and embankment showed a very steep embankment with high weeds and grass. From the berm to the top of the embankment was a wide trail with what looked to be 3 large impressions in the hillside as the trail went up. The distance between from the berm to the first impression was 5 feet, and the distance between the first, second and third impression was 3 feet. We attempted to get measurements of the impressions; however, we were not successful at obtaining a length or width. Further investigation of the area at the top of the embankment yielded no additional signs nor evidence. The ground was very dry, with hard compacted dirt and only a few deer track along with droppings were found. The forest opened from that point and a search was conducted. No signs of any large animals were discovered. A search was conducted on the left side of the road from where the figure came did not yield anything in the way of evidence. On the left side of the roadway sits an empty house. It has a large yard on the right of the house with a wooded hillside behind the house. At the back of the property is a steep embankment that drops down to a large marshy swamp type of area. The thick brush and overgrowth made it impossible to get down to the swamp area to search for tracks. Approximately 100 to 150 yards across the marsh area is another large section of forest. Nothing noteworthy was discovered while searching the property on the left side of the roadway.

After we conducted our investigation, our small group were standing on a pull off on the right side of the road approximately 150 feet before where the figure was seen crossing. While we were talking and discussing the sighting, the four of us heard a series of 3 to 4 high pitch whoop type noises coming from the forest across from the marshy area on the other side of the road. We were not able to positively identify the strange sounds.

Additional information: After investigating the location of the crossing, we did notice there was a family of people sitting out on their porch. Their house sat about 50 yards past the sighting location on the right side of the road and up on the hill. The family consisted of a husband, wife, son and two girls. We approached the family and asked if we could ask them questions. They invited us over to their front yard. We asked them if they had previously heard or seen anything unusual. They had not. They asked why we wanted to know, and we explained ourselves the family began to laugh and chuckle. They said they did not know Bigfoot existed around that area and had not seen nor heard anything strange or unusual. The father did mention that he had seen an exceptionally large female black bear years prior that lived way up on top of the hill in the woods above their home.

There was one odd occurrence shared with us by both witnesses that happened right after their sighting. Although it is probably not related, the witnesses did tell us about the incident. While they were driving back to their place of employment, the vehicle they were driving had a temporary electronic failure. The interior lights inside the vehicle were on. There is a bright neon green light that back lights a center console control panel. There is a toggle switch by the drivers’ leg that turns on and off the console interior lights. As they were driving the lights shut off. No one had touched the toggle switch. After about 10 seconds the interior lights inside the vehicle turned back on again. This did not happen prior nor has it happened since. More than likely, this is not related with the sighting, but both felt noteworthy to mention it.

Final Impressions: I know the female witness very well and can personally vouch her character. I know that she is not someone who fabricates or embellishes things, and certainly is not a liar. I am convinced that she is telling the truth and she saw what she claims she saw on May 20. After speaking with the male eyewitness and learning of his background and outdoor experience, I felt he is also a very credible witness with no reason to lie or fabricate anything. Neither are seeking any sort of publicity and asked that I keep their names and information confidential so it will not affect their status with their current employer. There was circumstantial evidence discovered at the location of the sighting which shows that a large animal did travel up the embankment. Unfortunately, there is not enough evidence to show what type of animal it was. Based upon the witness testimony, the area in question and sign showing something large went up the embankment appearing to two do so on two legs, I am convinced the pair saw something large they could not identify cross the roadway in front of the vehicle on two legs. The case will remain open and unresolved. Members of the Pennsylvania Bigfoot Society will continue to monitor the area to see if we are able to collect any additional information and data to positively identify the animal that was witnessed crossing the roadway on May 20, 2021.