

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

July 20, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2016-09

TO: ALL DIVISION HEADS AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

We are transmitting herewith for your information and records a copy of the Minutes of the Commission Meetings in Little Rock, AR on July 13, 2016.

After making a careful review of these proceedings, please take appropriate action through designated lines of authority to forward the carrying out of any orders applying to your respective divisions and districts.



Scott E. Bennett
Director of Highways
and Transportation

c: Commission

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

July 13, 2016

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, July 13, 2016. Members present were:

Dick Trammel, Chairman
Thomas B. Schueck, Vice Chairman
Robert S. Moore, Jr., Member
Frank D. Scott, Jr., Member
Alec Farmer, Member

2016-069 IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 10:00 a.m., July 13, 2016.

2016-070 WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on May 16 and 26, 2016, and June 6 and 22, 2016, in the amount of \$61,428.75, \$447,907.00, \$464,646.00 and \$79,500.00, respectively, totaling \$1,053,481.75, and supply and service contracts, in accordance with authority previously conveyed, all of which have been documented by official minutes which are of record in the files of the Commission and Equipment and Procurement Division.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the action of the Purchasing Committee be ratified and confirmed in all particulars.

2016-071 WHEREAS, the Highway System in Arkansas facilitates safe mobility, economic development, and tourism enhancement throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, public information and education activities play an important role in providing the citizens of our State with pertinent information relative to the issues facing the Commission and Department; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation serves as an effective group to provide this information and education to transportation stakeholders, elected officials, and the public.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to make a contribution of \$30,000 to the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation for its public information and education activities for State Fiscal Year 2017.

2016-072

WHEREAS, the Department utilizes automated planning, design, proposal management, letting and bid management, and construction pay estimate management systems to provide technical support in the development of highway projects; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) AASHTOWare software products provide the needed systems required by the Department.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the annual licensing agreement for the AASHTOWare products.

2016-073

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has requested participation in the AASHTO's Engineering Technical Service Programs; and

WHEREAS, these programs provide benefits to the member departments through the pooling of resources and expertise from across the country; and

WHEREAS, the benefits include technical services in a wide variety of areas, pooled resources for a common goal, and reducing duplication of effort; and

WHEREAS, these memberships include the Development of AASHTO Materials Standards (DAMS); Environmental Technical Assistance Program (ETAP); Equipment Management Technical Service Program (EMTSP); Highway Safety Policy and Management Technical Service Program (SAFETY); Load and Resistance Factor Design Bridges

2016-073 - Continued

and Structures Specification Maintenance (LRFDSM); National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP); Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TC3); and Transportation System Preservation Technical Service Program (TSP2); and

WHEREAS, these programs are regarded as being highly beneficial to the Department with the means to exchange ideas, information, and best practices with other highway agencies.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to utilize State Planning and Research funds to pay annual membership dues for participation in these programs.

2016-074

WHEREAS, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act continues the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act requirement that each state invest resources in projects that collectively will make progress toward national performance goals; and

WHEREAS, the collection of accurate pavement, bridge and other transportation-related asset condition data is necessary for better decision making based upon quality information and well defined objectives to make progress toward these goals; and

WHEREAS, on-call contract services have proven beneficial by providing innovative asset condition data collection techniques and supplementing in-house capabilities, allowing the Department's field personnel to perform other critical tasks.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to request proposals, select consulting firms, and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with firms for on-call pavement, bridge and other transportation-related asset condition data collection as needs are identified for calendar years 2017 through 2019.

2016-075

WHEREAS, the collection of accurate traffic information is necessary for planning, designing, and maintaining highways; and

WHEREAS, the Department has entered into contracts to provide necessary traffic data since 2002; and

WHEREAS, work performed under these contracts has proven beneficial by providing innovative data collection techniques and supplementing in-house capabilities, allowing the Department's field personnel to perform other critical tasks; and

WHEREAS, the current contract is set to expire on December 31, 2016.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to request proposals, select consulting firms, and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with firms for on-call traffic data collection services as needs are identified for calendar years 2017 through 2019

2016-076

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired right of way for Job No. 983, more commonly known as Harrison-Eureka Springs Road, near the south intersection of Highways 62 and 21, Sections 5 and 5, Carroll County, Arkansas, by Carroll County Court Order dated May 25, 1929, as it appears in Record Book 3 Road Record, of Page 26-27, and being recorded in the County Court Records of Carroll County in Berryville, AR; and

WHEREAS, the District Engineer for District 9 has determined that an area inside the existing right of way is not now needed, nor in the foreseeable future will be needed, for highway purposes and recommends that these areas of the right of way be abandoned and are more particularly described below:

SUPPLEMENTAL REVISED
CENTERLINE DESCRIPTION
JOB 983
HARRISON – EUREKA SPRINGS ROAD
AR HWY. 62/21
CARROLL COUNTY

From the designated Wye Construction Centerline Station 4+46.8 to Station 3+00.0 of the originally executed Court Order for Job 983, dated May 25, 1929 and being recorded in County Court Records of Carroll County, AR, Page 26-27, Book 3 Road Record, inclusive of said records shall hereby be revised, for reduced right of way, as follows:

The width of the right of way conveyed to the right of the herein above-described centerline shall be as follows and as shown on Sheet 6 of the Right of Way Plans for AHTD Job 090149 (Exhibit "A"):

FROM STATION	TO STATION	LIN. FT.	WIDTH LEFT	WIDTH RIGHT	TOTAL WIDTH
4+46.80	3+00.00	146.8	-	Var. 100' – 40'	Var.

DH 5/17/16

NOW THEREFORE, the above-described right of way is hereby released to Carroll County; that the Right of Way Division is authorized and directed to record a copy of this Minute Order in the records of Carroll County; and, that the right of way shall, if necessary, be remonumented to reflect the new boundaries after the release of the above-designated area. Any Federal-Aid Funds from this disposal shall be credited to Federal-Aid Funds or otherwise credited as provided by Federal law.

2016-077

WHEREAS, IN LITTLE RIVER COUNTY, Minute Order 2008-018 authorized a study to determine the need for and feasibility of traffic safety and operational improvements in the vicinity of Highway 71 and the Highway 32 Bypass; and

WHEREAS, the Highway 71 Corridor – Railroad Crossing Improvement Study in Ashdown has been prepared; and

WHEREAS, access improvements across the Kansas City Southern Railroad tracks identified in the study have been or are in the process of being implemented.

NOW THEREFORE, this study is adopted with no further action needed at this time.

2016-078

WHEREAS, Minute Order 96-050 authorized the Department to conduct a study to determine the need for and feasibility of an overpass of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks in the City of Beebe; and

WHEREAS, the Beebe Railroad Overpass Feasibility Study has been prepared; and

WHEREAS, the study determined that an overpass is not feasible due to environmental constraints and short delay times at the three existing rail crossings within the City; and

WHEREAS, local officials have agreed that no feasible options exist.

NOW THEREFORE, the study is adopted with no further action needed at this time.

2016-079

WHEREAS, IN CRAWFORD COUNTY, Job 040623, Natural Dam-North Strs. & Apprs. (S) calls for the removal of Bridge Number 01811, commonly known as the Lee Creek Bridge on Highway 59; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority (FCRA) located in Fort Smith, Arkansas, has requested that the Department transfer ownership of Bridge Number 01811 to the FCRA for use as a pedestrian bridge; and

WHEREAS, the FCRA shall agree to adopt a release of title holding the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, its officers and employees harmless from any action of any kind; and

WHEREAS, the FCRA shall prohibit motorized vehicular traffic on the bridge in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, the FCRA shall assume responsibility for maintenance and inspection of the bridge in consideration for the transfer of the bridge to the FCRA.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Bridge Number 01811 shall be released to the FCRA upon completion of Job 040623 with ownership to become effective upon physical possession of the bridge by FCRA.

2016-080

WHEREAS, IN VAN BUREN, SEARCY AND NEWTON COUNTIES, a crash analysis of Highway 65, Sections 4, 5, 6, and 7 from the Newton County line to Clinton has been completed; and

WHEREAS, the predominant type of crashes in the study area is roadway departure crashes; and

WHEREAS, the analysis identified various safety improvements to address roadway departure crashes and provide substantial safety benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2013) identified roadway departure crashes as an emphasis area; and

WHEREAS, these improvements are eligible for Federal-aid Safety funds.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with surveys, plans and construction of this safety improvement project along the portion of Highway 65 shown on the attached map as funds become available.

2016-081

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will receive bids on the following projects at the August 10, 2016 letting; and

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
CA0101	01	CRITTENDEN	CO. RD. 375 – HWY. 147 (WIDENING) (S)	64	Y
BB0202	02	JEFFERSON	HWY. 104 – HWY. 65B (F)	530	Y
020610	02	GRANT	HWY. 167/HWY. 167B INTERS. SAFETY IMPVTS. (S)	167	Y
030428	03	SEVIER	BURKE CREEK & COSSATOT RELIEF STRS. & APPRS. (S)	71	Y
BB0414	04	WASHINGTON	PORTER RD. – HWY. 112/71B WIDENING & INTCHNG. IMPVTS. (S)	49	Y
040623	04	CRAWFORD	NATURAL DAM – NORTH STRS. & APPRS. (S)	59	Y
050249	05	WHITE	HWY. 36 – HWY. 16 (S)	13	Y
050262	05	CLEBURNE	WEST OF WINDWOOD DR. – EAST (PASSING LANE) (S)	16	Y
061461	06	LONOKE	FUNTAISTIC DR./ODOM BLVD. EAST & WEST (HWY. 321) (CABOT) (S)	321	Y

2016-081 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
061503	06	PULASKI	I-630 – MARKHAM ST. (LITTLE ROCK) (MILL & INLAY) (S)	70	Y
070284	07	CALHOUN	HWY. 172 – HAMPTON (S)	167	Y
C04007	09	BENTON	DECATUR & SPRINGTOWN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C04009	09	BENTON	SILLOAM SPRINGS MOUNT OLIVE ST. OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C10002	07	CLARK	AMITY, GUM SPRINGS & WHELEN SPRINGS OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C10003	07	CLARK	GURDON OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C30001	06	HOT SPRING	DONALDSON & MALVERN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C40002	02	LINCOLN	GRADY OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C41003	03	LITTLE RIVER	FOREMAN, OGDEN & WILTON OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C49001	08	MONTGOMERY	NORMAN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C51001	09	NEWTON	JASPER OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C57002	04	POLK	COVE & WICKES OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C60005	06	PULASKI	WRIGHTSVILLE OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C66001	03	SEVIER	DE QUEEN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C72006	04	WASHINGTON	WEST FORK OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C76032	03	NEVADA & HEMPSTEAD	EMMET & OAKHAVEN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C76033	03	SEVIER & HOWARD	BEN LOMOND & TOLLETTE OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0243	02	ASHLEY	ASHLEY CO. OVERLAY NO. 5 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0441	09	BENTON	ELM SPRINGS CITY LIMITS – HWY. 264 (BASE & SURFACING) (S)	---	-
SA0557	09	BOONE	BOONE COUNTY SURFACING NO. 8 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0762	07	CALHOUN	HWY. 274 – SOUTH (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA1146	10	CLAY	PIGGOTT CITY LIMITS – WEST OVERLAY (S)	---	-

2016-081 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
SA1770	04	CRAWFORD	HWY. 162 – HWY. 64 (SUNNYSIDE RD.) (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
FA1915	01	CROSS	VANNDALÉ – EAST (PHASE 1) (RECONSTRUCTION) (S)	---	-
SA2037	07	DALLAS	HWY. 167 – HWY. 229 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA2246	02	DREW	DREW COUNTY OVERLAY NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2862	10	GREENE	GREENE CO. OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA3049	06	HOT SPRING	CO. RD. 39 – HWY. 9 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA3344	05	IZARD	IZARD CO. SURFACING NO. 15 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA4434	09	MADISON	HWY. 127 – SOUTHEAST (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA4545	09	MARION	HWY. 14 – SOUTH (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA4936	08	MONTGOMERY	MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESEAL NO. 17 (S)	---	-
SA5642	10	POINSETT	POINSETT CO. OVERLAY & PAV. MARKINGS (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA5858	08	POPE	POPE COUNTY OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA6048	06	PULASKI	JACKSONVILLE-CATO RD. – WATSON RD. (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA6342	04	SCOTT	HWY. 28 – CO. RD. 18 (RECONSTRUCTION) (S)	---	-
BR7208	04	WASHINGTON	WEST FORK WHITE RIVER (WOOLSEY) STR. & APPRS. (S)	---	-

WHEREAS, a thorough bid review and analysis is undertaken by the Department to ensure that only those projects are awarded which are judged to be in the best interests of the State; and

WHEREAS, the right is retained to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities, or to advertise for new proposals, also as judged to be in the best public interests of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to expedite work on these important projects; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 42, Section 6, as well as other laws of this State, the Commission has the authority to delegate certain powers to the Director of Highways and Transportation.

NOW THEREFORE, upon the Contractors furnishing the necessary performance and payment bonds and submitting all additional information required for the above mentioned projects, the Director is hereby authorized to enter into contracts and supplemental agreements for any projects deemed to be in the best interests of the State.

FURTHERMORE, the Director is authorized to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities, and/or to advertise for new proposals whenever deemed to be in the best interests of the State.

Chairman Trammel opened the Commission meeting by recognizing any new guests: Sylvester Smith, Arkansas Outdoor Advertising Association; Tom Gibbens, Lamar Advertising, and Kelly Robbins, with the Arkansas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, introduced themselves.

MOTION Commission Chairman Dick Trammel brought up the previous Commission Minutes of June 1, 2016. Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr. moved, Commissioner Alec Farmer seconded and the motion passed to approve these previous Minutes.

MOTION Director Bennett gave a review of the Department's Restore Sign Visibility Policy (RSVP) which provides procedures whereby sign owners may obtain permits from the Department to restore the visibility to their signs from adjacent State Highways controlled pursuant to the Regulations for the Control of Outdoor Advertising. The revisions were presented for clarification and for the efficient administration of the policy. Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr. moved, Commissioner Robert Moore seconded and the motion passed to submit the revised policy dated July 12, 2016, to the Legislative Council's Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee for their review and comment.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mike Boyd, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the June 2016 update on state highway revenue. Mr. Boyd noted that state highway revenues to the Department from traditional sources are up a total of \$12.6 million in the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016 compared to the same period for SFY 2015. With the revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax coming in significantly lower for this year compared to last year, total revenues available are \$10.6 million lower for this year. Actual state revenue received is \$5.4 million lower compared to projected (budgeted) revenue for this year.

In closing, Mr. Boyd stated that June revenue from the 0.5% General Sales Tax for the Connecting Arkansas Program was 2.08% higher, (\$299,167) than projected by the Department of Finance and Administration (DF&A). Current Fiscal Year to date revenues are above the forecast by 1.14% (\$1.9 million). This revenue source is cumulatively 0.03%, or \$132,983, over DF&A's projections to date.

Director Bennett provided the latest information on the Federal highway and transit funding issues. Director Bennett noted that the passage of the FAST Act has ensured federal funding for the next five years. The passage of the Arkansas Highway Improvement Plan of 2016 has ensured state matching funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2016. Now the issues become dependable long-term State revenue to provide the match for Federal-aid funds beyond 2016, and the additional State revenue needed to adequately maintain and improve Arkansas' transportation system.

Director Bennett gave a brief presentation of transportation news from other states, including New Jersey, Louisiana, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Director Bennett gave an update on the status of the 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program (IRP) and Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP). The 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program was approved by Arkansas voters in November 2011. Under this program, the Commission has the authority to issue up to \$575 million in GARVEE bonds for Interstate rehabilitation. Three series of bonds have been issued. The first

Item Discussion - Continued

was sold in September 2012 at a par value of \$197 million (true interest cost of 1.6%) with a premium of \$33 million (total of \$230 million available for construction). The second was sold in October 2013 at a par value of \$172 million (true interest cost of 2.2%) with a premium of \$29 million (total of \$201 million available for construction). The third was sold in November 2014 at a par value of \$206 million (true interest cost of 2.1%) with a premium of \$37 million (total of \$243 million available for construction).

The Connecting Arkansas Program was approved by Arkansas voters in November 2012. Under this program, the Commission has the authority to issue up to \$1.3 billion in revenue bonds for four-lane highway construction. The first series of bonds was sold in September 2013 at a par value of \$469 million (true interest cost of 3.1%) with a premium of \$25 million (total of \$494 million available for construction). No other bond sales under this program are expected.

Director Bennett presented a summary of the apparent low bids and bidders from the June 22, 2016, Bid Letting.

Director Bennett provided a list of upcoming meetings and events, including the Highways 67 and 226 Dedications in Walnut Ridge and Jonesboro on August 11, and the 2016 SASHTO Convention in White Sulphur Springs, WV on August 26-31.

Director Bennett presented the Commission with two choices (Big Rock Interchange and Powhatan Courthouse) for the 2016-2017 Map Cover. The Commission voted 3 to 2 to go with the Powhatan Courthouse for the next map cover.

Director Bennett gave an update on the Ouachita River Bridge (State Highway 51) in Arkadelphia that was hit on June 28 by a Clark County Road Dept. truck and closed to normal traffic. The bridge is currently opened to one lane of traffic. A new replacement bridge is currently under construction with an expected completion being in the Summer of 2017.

Director Bennett presented the Commission the 3 medals from the Arkansas Concrete Pavement Association – Oklahoma/Arkansas Chapter that were awarded to the Department:

Category: Divided Highways (Urban)

Big Rock Interchange – Gold Medal

Reconstruction of I-40 (Highway 77 to I-55) – Silver Medal

Category: Divided Highway (Rural)

Reconstruction of I-40 (Cache River to Bayou DeView) – Gold Medal

Director Bennett gave a summary of the U. S. Department of Labor –Update Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The new rules raised the pay threshold for mandatory overtime eligibility from \$23,660 to \$47,476. The Department only had 28 employees that were impacted (22 are in non-supervisory positions and 6 serve in supervisory capacities).

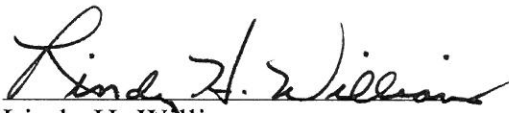
Director Bennett handed out a Draft Calendar for 2017 Commission Meeting Dates.

Director Bennett ended the meeting with the introduction of Park Estes as the new Executive Director for the Arkansas Asphalt Pavement Association.

2016-082

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 11:50 a.m., July 13, 2016.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true record of the proceedings taken by the Arkansas Highway Commission at its meeting on July 13, 2016.


Lindy H. Williams
Commission Secretary