

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

March 27, 2018

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2018-06

TO: ALL DIVISION HEADS AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

We are transmitting herewith for your information and records a copy of the Minutes of the Commission Meeting in Little Rock, AR on March 14, 2018.

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

c: Commission

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

March 14, 2018

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, March 14, 2018. Members present were:

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

2018-017                   IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 9:30 a.m., March 14, 2018.

2018-018                   WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on February 1 and 12, 2018, in the amount of \$2,609,426.06 and \$154,345.40, respectively, totaling \$2,763,771.46, 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.

2018-019                   WHEREAS, the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) is a nationally recognized industry group that was established to help members develop and advocate consensus on legislative and regulatory policy positions; and

WHEREAS, ARTBA delivers exclusive news and information via multiple communication platforms on transportation investment, policy, safety, environmental and other issues; and

WHEREAS, membership in ARTBA provides invaluable benefit to the Department from various services and publications.

2018-019 - Continued

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Director be authorized to pay the 2018 membership dues in the amount of \$1,000.

2018-020

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) Incentive program provides resources to make innovations standard practice in each State; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP), an FHWA Every Day Counts initiative, helps to promote cost-effective countermeasures with known safety benefits to help reduce pedestrian fatalities at uncontrolled crossing locations and un-signalized intersections; and

WHEREAS, FHWA allocated \$100,000 in Federal STIC Incentive funds to Arkansas to develop corridor studies to identify and implement STEP innovations in the Cities of Little Rock and Jonesboro; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (NARTPC) and the City of Little Rock have agreed to pay the required match for these federal funds.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the necessary agreements with the NARTPC and the City of Little Rock to implement these studies at no cost to the Department.

2018-021

WHEREAS, IN CHICOT AND DESHA COUNTIES, it has been requested to redesignate Highway 208 from its existing intersection with Highway 35 east to the Mississippi River as Highway 35 and Highway 35 from its existing intersection with Highway 159 south to the road's termination as Highway 208; and

WHEREAS, the redesignation of Highway 35 and Highway 208 will provide easier directions for travelers to the Yellow Bend Port, thereby reducing possible confusion; and

WHEREAS, the Desha County Judge and the Chicot County Judge both agree to the redesignation of Highways 35 and 208.

2018-021 - Continued

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon official notification by the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, the following changes are hereby made to the State Highway System as shown on the attached sketch.

- Highway 208 from its existing intersection with Highway 35 east to the Mississippi River will be redesignated as Highway 35, Sections 10 and 11.
- Highway 35 from its existing intersection with Highway 159 south to the road's termination will be redesignated as Highway 208, Sections 2 and 3.

2018-022

WHEREAS, IN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, the City of Jonesboro has expressed interest in partnering with the Department to improve Highway 226 from U.S. Highway 49 to U.S. Highway 63; and

WHEREAS, the City has agreed to accept ownership and responsibility for Highway 226, Section 3 between Highway 226 Spur and U.S. Highway 63 upon completion of the improvements to Highway 226.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon completion of the improvements to Highway 226 and official notification by the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, the following changes are hereby made to the State Highway System as shown on the attached sketch.

- The portion of Highway 226, Section 3 between Highway 226 Spur and U.S. Highway 63 is hereby removed from the State Highway System.
- Highway 226, Section 3S is hereby redesignated as Highway 226, Section 3.

2018-023

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will accept bids on the following projects at the April 4, 2018 letting; and

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
110567	01	CRITTENDEN	DEER BAYOU STR. & APPRS. (S)	42	N

2018-023 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
110655	01	CRITTENDEN	ST. FRANCIS CO. LINE – HWY. 77 (S)	70	Y
110657	01	PHILLIPS	HWY. 49B – HWY. 242S (HELENA-WEST HELENA) (S)	242	Y
110670	01	MONROE	HWYS. 49 & 70 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	49 & 70	Y
020616	02	ARKANSAS	DESHA CO. LINE – HWY. 144 (S)	165	Y
020625	02	ARKANSAS & JEFFERSON	BRADLEY SLOUGH – HWY. 13 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	79	Y
020627	02	CHICOT	LOUISIANA STATE LINE – EUDORA (S)	8 & 159	Y
020646	02	GRANT	LEOLA – SHERIDAN (SEL. SECS.) (S)	46	Y
020659	02	JEFFERSON	HWY. 270 – HWY. 365 (S)	104	N
030479	03	NEVADA	HWYS. 24, 67 & 371 (SEL. SECS.) (PRESCOTT) (S)	24, 67 & 371	Y
030487	03	LITTLE RIVER	HURRICANE CREEK STR. & APPRS. (S)	234	N
030503	03	VARIOUS	HWYS. 71 & 371 (SAFETY IMPVTS.) (SEL. SECS.) (S)	71 & 371	Y
BB0406	04	SEBASTIAN	HWY. 271 – HWY. 64 (SEL. SECS.) (F)	540	Y
040684	04	CRAWFORD	HWY. 71 & HWY. 282 SIGNAL (CRAWFORD CO.) (S)	71 & 282	Y
040729	04	WASHINGTON	BENTON CO. LINE – EAST (S)	16	Y
050316	05	CLEBURNE	HWY. 25 – WHITE CO. LINE (SAFETY IMPVTS.) (SEL. SECS.) (S)	16	Y
050320	05	FULTON	FULTON COUNTY AREA HEADQUARTERS (SALEM) (S)	62	Y
050353	05	JACKSON	ARRINGTON ST. – HWY. 157 (NEWPORT & DIAZ) (S)	14 & 367	Y
050355	05	WHITE & JACKSON	VELVET RIDGE – NORTH OF HWY. 87 (S)	167	Y
050357	05	SHARP	HWY. 62 – FULTON CO. LINE (S)	175	N
050358	05	WHITE	HWYS. 64 & 67B (SEL. SECS.) (BEEBE) (S)	64 & 67B	Y
050362	05	WHITE	HWY. 36 – BALD KNOB (S)	367	Y
050365	05	WHITE	HWY. 31 – HWY. 36 (S)	5	Y
CA0608	06	PULASKI	BAPTIST HOSPITAL – UNIVERSITY AVE. (WIDENING) (F)	630	Y
061471	06	GARLAND	HWY. 70B/WEST ST. LOUIS SIGNAL (HOT SPRINGS) (S)	70B	Y

2018-023 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
061514	06	GARLAND	HWY. 270 – NORTH (S)	227	Y
070444	07	COLUMBIA	HWYS. 82B & 371 (SEL. SECS.) (MAGNOLIA) (S)	82B & 371	Y
080531	08	VAN BUREN	HWY. 65 (VAN BUREN CO.) (SEL. SECS.) (S)	65	Y
080551	08	MONTGOMERY	SILVER – GARLAND CO. LINE (SEL. SECS.) (S)	270	Y
080557	08	CONWAY & POPE	HWY. 105 – HWY. 213 (S)	247	N
090487	09	NEWTON	HWY. 16 – BOONE CO. LINE (SEL. SECS.) (S)	7	Y
090488	09	BENTON	BEAVER LAKE BRIDGE DECK REHAB. (S)	12	Y
090509	09	BENTON	HWYS. 12, 16, 62 & 127 SAFETY IMPVTS. (SEL. SECS.) (S)	VAR	Y
100904	10	GREENE	HWY. 49B – HOOKER (S)	135	Y
100905	10	RANDOLPH	NORTH OF LAWRENCE CO. LINE – HWY. 62 (S)	166 & 361	N
100908	10	MISSISSIPPI	HWY. 14 – HWY. 198 (S)	61	Y
100927	10	RANDOLPH	HWY. 67 – WEST (POCAHONTAS) (S)	90	Y
100947	10	POINSETT	LEFT HAND CHUTE OF LITTLE RIVER – EAST (S)	140	Y
012274	07 & 02	CLEVELAND & GRANT	HWY. 167 – BIG CREEK (SEL. SECS.) (S)	35	N
012297	VAR	VARIOUS	DISTRICTS 1, 5, 9 & 10 PAVEMENT FRICTION IMPVTS. (SEL. SECS.) (S)	VAR	Y
C01006	02	ARKANSAS	ST. CHARLES OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C02005	02	ASHLEY	HAMBURG & WILMOT OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C06002	07	BRADLEY	HERMITAGE & WARREN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C07001	07	CALHOUN	HAMPTON & THORNTON OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C12004	05	CLEBURNE	GREERS FERRY OVERLAY NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C14004	07	COLUMBIA	TAYLOR OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C17008	04	CRAWFORD	DYER, MULBERRY & RUDY OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C21004	02	DESHA	DUMAS OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-

2018-023 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
C21005	02	DESHA	MCGEHEE OVERLAY & REHAB. (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C25004	05	FULTON	MAMMOTH SPRING & SALEM OVERLAY NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C29004	03	HEMPSTEAD	WASHINGTON OVERLAY & SURFACING (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C35005	02	JEFFERSON	ALTHEIMER OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C38008	10	LAWRENCE	BLACK ROCK, PORTIA & SEDGWICK OVERLAY & SURF. (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C43006	06	LONOKE	ENGLAND OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C48001	01	MONROE	CLARENDON OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C50003	03	NEVADA	ROSSTON NEVADA RD. 17 SURFACING (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
C60007	06	PULASKI	NLR LYNCH DR. & FAULKNER LAKE RD. OVERLAY (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
C64003	09	SEARCY	MARSHALL OVERLAY NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C65009	04	SEBASTIAN	FORT SMITH CUSTER BLVD. OVERLAY (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
C71001	08	VAN BUREN	CLINTON MEMORY LN. OVERLAY (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
C74004	01	WOODRUFF	COTTON PLANT & MCCRORY OVERLAY & SURF. (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C76049	10	LAWRENCE & RANDOLPH	IMBODEN, RAVENDEN & RAVENDEN SPRINGS OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0245	02	ASHLEY	ASHLEY CO. OVERLAY NO. 6 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA1059	07	CLARK	HWY. 7 – HWY. 128 (SLURRY SEAL) (S)	---	-
SA1253	05	CLEBURNE	HWY. 25 – WEST (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA2133	02	DESHA	OAKWOOD BAYOU RD. SURFACING (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
SA3050	06	HOT SPRING	HWY. 84 – HWY. 128 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA3459	05	JACKSON	HWY. 37 – CO. RD. 117 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA3650	08	JOHNSON	JOHNSON COUNTY SURFACING NO. 3 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA3938	01	LEE	HWY. 238 – CO. RD. 30 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA4043	02	LINCOLN	CO. RD. 12 OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-

2018-023 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
SA4436	09	MADISON	HWY. 74 – WASHINGTON CO. LINE (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA4836	01	MONROE	HWY. 86 – WEST (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA5557	03	PIKE	PIKE COUNTY SURFACING NO. 7 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA5738	04	POLK	POLK COUNTY LEVELING AND RESEAL NO. 5 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA7298	04	WASHINGTON	HWY. 265 – SOUTH (SEL. SEC.) (SURFACING) (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 Amendment 42 of the Arkansas Constitution, 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 Dick Trammel opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. He recognized Joey Dean as the new Executive Vice President of AGC Arkansas. Chairman Trammel also complimented Commissioner Alec Farmer for the recent article in Talk Business and Commissioner Robert Moore for the recent editorial by Rex Nelson about Arkansas City.

MOTION Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Vice Chairman Tom Schueck seconded and the motion passed to approve the Minutes from the previous Commission Meeting of February 6, 2018.

MOTION The Commission approved Minute Order 2017-121 on December 6, 2017, authorizing the Department to advertise for consultant services to inspect the underwater portion of bridges. Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Robert Moore seconded and the motion passed to accept the Staff's recommendation to enter into negotiations to provide consultant services for Statewide Underwater Bridge Inspection Services with the following firms:

Collins Engineers, Inc. - Charleston, SC  
Garver, LLC - North Little Rock, AR  
Infrastructure Engineers, Inc. - Edmond, OK

#### OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mike Boyd, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided February 2018 update on state highway revenue. Mr. Boyd noted that state highway revenues to the Department from traditional sources are up a total of 3.0% (\$7.7 million) in the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 compared to the same period for SFY 2017. Revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax is higher this year compared to last year, resulting in total revenues available being 2.7% (\$7.1 million) above last year. Actual state revenue received is 2.8% (\$7.4 million) above projected (budgeted) revenue for this year.

In closing, Mr. Boyd stated that February revenue from the 0.5% General Sales Tax for the Connecting Arkansas Program was 0.86% higher, (\$122,000) than projected by the Department of Finance and

Discussion Item - Continued

Administration (DF&A) for the month. Year to date actual revenue is below projections by 2.23% (\$2.7 million). Since inception this revenue source is 0.71%, or \$5.6 million, under DF&A's projections.

Director Bennett provided the latest information on the Federal highway and transit funding issues. Director Bennett noted that the passage of the FAST Act, passed in December 2015, provided increased funding over its five-year term. On February 9, 2018 Congress passed a budget for Federal Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. However, we are currently operating under the fifth Continuing Resolution for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 which will expire on March 23, 2018. If Congress fails to act by then, we will experience another shutdown as we did on January 20, 2018 and February 8, 2018. Long-term funding for the Highway Trust Fund continues to be an issue. President Trump has stated that beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2021, funding should be limited to revenue that is deposited into the Highway Trust Fund. This would result in a 40% reduction in the Federal-aid Highway Program.

In closing, Director Bennett stated that not only are there questions regarding future Federal-aid funding, but the source(s) of dependable long-term State revenue to provide the match for Federal-aid funds beyond 2017 and the additional State revenue needed to adequately maintain and improve Arkansas' transportation system have not been identified.

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 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

## Discussion Item - Continued

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 February 21, 2018, Bid Letting.

Director Bennett presented a list of upcoming meetings and events that the Commissioners and Director will be attending, including the Legislative Special Session from March 13-15, and the Springdale Bypass Ribbon Cutting on April 18.

Director Bennett gave an update on "The Arkansas Casino Gaming and Highway Funding Amendment of 2018". The Attorney General rejected the ballot title, saying it was ambiguous. The revised amendment is known as "The Arkansas Casino Gaming Amendment of 2018".

Director Bennett gave an update on all the road closings from flooding around the state during the months of February and March.

Director Bennett recognized the Department for a couple of awards recently received from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)/Arkansas:

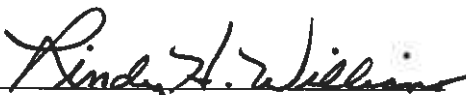
- First award for Qualifications Based Selection. This award was for the Department's overall selection process on consultants, not for a specific project. This is the first year that the award has been presented.
- The Grand Conceptor Award. This is chosen from among all of the award winners. This is for the top-rated project of all other award winning projects. This year, the Broadway Bridge project was selected to receive this award.

The meeting ended with Director Bennett recognizing Public Information Officer Danny Straessle for his 5 years of service, and Randy Ort, Assistant Chief -Administration for his 30 years of service.

2018-024

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 10:40 a.m., March 14, 2018.

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 March 14, 2018.

  
Lindy H. Williams  
Commission Secretary