

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

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### **ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN POPE IN COUNTY**

**LITTLE ROCK (7-20)** -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Pope County, according to Commissioner John Burkhalter of Little Rock and Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

The purpose of the first project is to construct a bridge on Highway 64, near Pottsville. Crawford Construction Company of Fort Smith, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$2,140,648.95.

“This project will be located over Galla Creek,” stated Burkhalter.

The purpose of the second project is to resurface approximately 3.5 miles of Crow Mountain Road (County Road 32), near Russellville. Blackstone Construction, LLC of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$397,869.61.

“These improvements will begin at Highway 124 and continue eastward,” stated Judge Gibson.

Burkhalter noted that the County Road project is funded through the State Aid Road Program established by the legislature and administered by the State Aid Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This program provides approximately \$20 million annually from the state motor fuels tax to assist counties with projects of their choosing on the county road system.

Burkhalter said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. The bridge on Highway 64 will be completed in the summer of 2012. Completion is expected on Crow Mountain Road in the fall of this year.

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