

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN JOHNSON COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (6-1) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Johnson County, according to Commissioner John Burkhalter of Little Rock and Johnson County Judge Mike Jacobs.

The first project will resurface 3.5 miles of Highway 64, near Lamar. Blackstone Construction, LLC, of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$1,030,591.10.

“Improvements will begin at Interstate 40, continue westward through Lamar, and then extend towards Highway 123,” Burkhalter stated.

The second project will resurface approximately one mile of Highway 315, near Lamar. Blackstone Construction, LLC, of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$196,837.34.

“These improvements will begin at Highway 359 and extend northward,” stated Burkhalter.

The purpose of the third project is to resurface selected sections of 1.5 miles of County Road 30, east of Oak Grove. Salt Creek Paving & Construction Company, Inc. of Benton, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$148,367.80.

“This project is going to begin at Highway 103 and continue to the west,” stated Judge Jacobs.

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 also noted that the project on Highway 315 is being funded with proceeds from the increase in the natural gas severance tax passed by the state legislature in 2008.

Burkhalter said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on County Road 30 in the summer of this year. Work on Highways 64 and 315 will be completed in late October of this year.

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