INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT P. O. Box 2261 – Little Rock, Arkansas Telephone (501) 569-2227

Contact: Randy Ort/David Nilles

AHC-180 May 2, 2012

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN GARLAND COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (5-2) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Garland County, according to Garland County Judge Rick Davis.

The purpose of the first project is to resurface approximately three miles of County Road 55, near Fountain Lake. Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$282,478.24.

"This work will begin at Highway 7 and continue southward to the Hot Springs city limits," stated Judge Davis.

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.

The second project calls for the resurfacing of 1.5 miles of Albert Pike Road (Highway 70B), in Hot Springs. Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$607,197.01. The work will begin at Highway 270B and extend eastward.

A final project calls for the widening of one-half mile of Higdon Ferry Road from two to five lanes. Redstone Construction Group, Inc. of Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$2,992,203.44. The work will begin at the Martin Luther King Expressway (Highway 270) and continue northward to Printers Place.

Work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion of the County Road 55 project is expected in late summer of this year, while the Albert Pike Road project should be completed in the fall of 2012, and the Higdon Ferry Road project should finish in early 2013.

####

SA2665 061113 061374 .