



Center Line

DECEMBER 2010

AHTD Now Accepting Bids Electronically

On November 16th, the most recent bid letting day for new construction projects, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department joined a growing number of Departments of Transportation (DOTs) across the country that are now using the Internet to accept electronic bids on construction projects.

With the AHTD's electronic bidding service, called "Bid Express", contractors can receive all the necessary information they need to prepare their bid over the Internet. They can proceed in preparing their bid and, when finished, submit their completed bid proposal over the Internet. The AHTD is able to electronically process the bid information. Contractors can withdraw or replace their bids at any time prior to opening on bid letting day.

Prior to the first electronic bids being accepted, AHTD staffers in the Programs and Contracts Division were trained and then tested the system for several months.

"We had over 100 people from the contracting community in for training in October before we went live with the November letting," stated Bill Bradberry, Staff Project Development Engineer in the Programs and Contracts Division.

According to Bradberry, 65% of the bids received on November 16th were electronic bids. There was at least one electronic bid on each project. Bids on one particular project were all electronic.

"We were pleasantly surprised by how many Internet bids were submitted. That tells me the contractors were ready for an Internet bidding option in Arkansas," stated Bradberry.

Internet bidding provides benefits to Departments of Transportation and contractors.

"It's quicker, easier and more efficient," says Bradberry. "Contractors no longer have to travel to Little Rock

to submit a bid. They can submit a bid up to the last minute from their home, office or anywhere with an Internet connection."

"This is a significant milestone for everyone in improving the bid letting process," stated AHTD Director Dan Flowers.



Tammy Goshien (seated) with Bill Bradberry (l.) of the Programs and Contracts Division, and David Fillipps (r.) with Info Tech of Gainesville, Florida, prepare to receive construction bids electronically for the first time on November 16th.

Commission & Letting Schedule

The Arkansas Highway Commission has scheduled the following Meeting and Bid Letting dates for 2011.

- January 6th
- February 23rd
- April 13th
- June 1st
- July 20th
- September 7th
- October 19th
- December 8th

United Way Campaign a Success!

Thanks to everyone that contributed to the United Way campaign this year! The AHTD raised \$23,300, which will be used to improve the lives of those in our local communities.



Merry Christmas



The Arkansas Highway Commission and AHTD Director wish you a safe and happy holiday season!



Cost-of-Living Raises Revived

Governor Mike Beebe announced on December 2nd that cost-of-living raises for state employees are being reinstated. As a result, the Arkansas State Highway Commission has authorized cost of living raises of 2% and satisfactory performance increases of .75% for AHTD employees. AHTD employees will see the adjustment with the pay period beginning December 30th.

In addition, service recognition payments have also been reinstated for eligible employees. Employees should receive the payment between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Ice and Snow: Take It Slow

SLIPPERY WHEN WET

First snow or ice: Drivers aren't prepared for winter driving and forget to take it slow. Remember to drive well below the posted speed limit and leave plenty of room between cars.

Black ice: Roads that seem dry may actually be slippery - and dangerous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas - all are hot spots for black ice. Remember, Ice and Snow... Take it Slow.

Limited visibility: Stay attentive and reduce speed. Know what's going on around you.

SNOWPLOWS & SPREADERS

Distance: Give snowplows and spreaders room to work. The vehicles are wide and can cross the centerline or shoulder. Don't tailgate and try not to pass. If you must pass, take extreme caution and beware of the snow cloud.

Speed: Snowplows and spreaders travel below the posted speed limit. Be patient. Ice and Snow... Take it Slow.

Vision: A snow truck operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they don't always see you. Keep your distance and watch for sudden stops or turns.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION



Brake: Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never slam on the brakes. If you have anti-lock brakes, press the pedal down firmly and hold it. If you don't have anti-lock brakes, gently pump the pedal. Either way, give yourself plenty of room to stop.

Control: When driving on ice and snow, do not use the cruise control and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers. When merging into traffic, take it slow. Sudden movements can cause your vehicle to slide.

Vision: Be aware of what's going on well ahead of you. Actions by other vehicles will alert you to problems more quickly, and give you that split-second of extra time to react safely.

BE PREPARED

Knowledge: Before leaving home, find out about the driving conditions.

Clear: Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights and signals. Make sure you can see and be seen.

Time: Leave in plenty of time to reach your destination safely.

Strategic Energy Plan

Save Energy at the AHTD with these vehicle tips:

- Carpool with other workers to worksites or to meetings when possible.
- Consider a program to help co-workers find others that are interested in carpooling.
- Avoid excessive idling.* Vehicles should not idle for more than three consecutive minutes.
- Keep tires properly inflated.



**Idling tip does not apply to vehicles in emergency situations or traffic control, or when using equipment that must have a vehicle running to operate.*

Thanks! These tips help make the AHTD Strategic Energy Plan more effective. Visit www.ArkansasHighways.com to learn more about our Energy Plan!

Energy Classes

Over 200 AHTD staff members attended Strategic Energy Plan classes at the Central Office on November 29th. The classes were offered to help staff learn more about going green at the office and at home. In addition to a presentation, staff members were invited to offer their own suggestions on additional ways the Department can save energy. Reducing energy use reduces the Department's energy costs and makes for a cleaner living environment. The class at the Central Office will also be presented in each of the Department's ten districts across the state. In addition, look for energy saving tips each month in the CenterLine newsletter.



what's COOKING

This month's "What's Cooking" recipe is from...

Billy Horne • District 4 Golden Rum Cake



- 1 Package Yellow Cake Mix
- 1 Package Instant Pudding Mix
- 4 Eggs
- 1/2 Cup Cold Water
- 1/2 Cup Vegetable Oil
- 1/2 Cup Dark Rum

Preheat oven to 325°. Grease and flour a 10-inch tube pan. Mix cake ingredients together, pour in pan and bake for one hour. Cool. Prick holes in top of cake with a large fork. Spoon glaze over cake and sides slowly. Use all the glaze.

Glaze:

Mix 1/4 cup butter in sauce pan. Stir in 1/4 cup water and 1 cup sugar. Boil 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in 1/2 cup dark rum.

Please submit your recipe for possible publication in the CenterLine. Send it to Shelli Russell, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 or shelli.russell@arkansashighways.com.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER DISTRICT 6



Work continues on improvements to the Interstate 430/630 interchange in Little Rock. This is a four-phase project designed to improve the flow of traffic through the area. Among the improvements are:

- Four new main lane bridges on Interstate 430.
- The addition of a second travel lane for traffic traveling from Interstate 630 West to Interstate 430 North.
- Relocation of traffic exiting Interstate 430 South in order to turn left onto Shackleford Road. That traffic now exits at Hermitage Road.
- Traffic signals at the intersection of Hermitage and Financial Center Parkway.
- Two new flyover ramps to carry traffic from Interstate 430 South to Interstate 630 East and from Interstate 630 West to Interstate 430 South.
- Construction of a bridge to carry traffic on Interstate 630 and Financial Center Parkway over Shackleford Road.
- A new travel lane from Interstate 430 North to Interstate 630 East dedicated to Baptist Med Center traffic, and a new overpass carrying traffic over Interstate 630 to and from Baptist Med Center.
- Widening Interstate 630 from Shackleford eastward toward John Barrow Road.

While most of the work has occurred during the day, a great deal of construction and inspection work has taken place at night.

Cost of the first three phases of construction is approximately \$144.2 million. Working on the project are Weaver-Bailey Contractors, Inc., Kiewit Southern Company and Manhattan Road & Bridge Company. A fourth and final phase will be scheduled at a later date.

Resident Engineer Office 62 in Little Rock has handled the first two phases and has been assigned to oversee Phase Three. Phase Two of the project utilizes American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

The Staff Minute



Name: Hobort Watson, District 6

Job Position: Maintenance Job Superintendent

Length of Service: 22 years

Job Duties: I supervise repairs to roadways and to right of way areas. My crew is assigned to assist with other crews because of our special equipment and special knowledge required for a job. I also supervise leveling of asphalt surfaces to restore riding quality to the pavements.

Favorite part of the job: Going out and working around the different crews. I really enjoy running the dozer.

Background: I went to school at Delta High School and then attended The University of Louisiana - Monroe. I have also had training classes for the Department. Previously, I worked in the oil fields for 12 years.

Family: I'm a single parent of three great kids, two boys and a girl: Labrisco, 29; Kaleena, 30; and Antonio, 33, the loves of my life. I also have two special grandsons, Dante and Little Brisco.

Hobbies/Interests: I love to garden. I enjoy looking at new flowers when I want to create a bouquet. I usually just go out in the garden and cut whatever is looking good right then.

Holidays

The following are state holidays for AHTD employees during the month of January. All work will be suspended except for cases of emergency.

Monday, January 17

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
& Robert E. Lee Birthdays**



Fiscal Services: Gary Martin, Senior Accountant, with his granddaughter, Zoey Kaye Goodman. Zoey was born Sept 19th.



Programs & Contracts: (l. to r.) Don Young, Section Head - Reproduction, receives his 20-year service award from Ed Hoppe, Division Head.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance: (l. to r.) Mike Hill, Staff HBM Engineer, presents Hickey Hill, Bridge Repairer I, with his 10-year service award.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance: (l. to r.) Glenn Cheatham, HBM Engineer, presents David Boutwell, Statewide Bridge Inspector, with his 25-year service award.



Legal: Holding service certificates are (l. to r.) Lillian Williams, Legal Aide, 5 years; Sharon Blakley, Legal Assistant, 5 years; and Dana McClellan, External EEO Coordinator, 15 years. Others are (l. to r.) Maria Schenetzke, Deputy Chief Counsel; Robert Wilson, Chief Counsel; and James Moore, Section Head - EEO.



District 1: (l. to r.) James Wallace, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Rommie Jackson, Maintenance Aide I, with his 10-year service award.



District 1: Receiving their 15-year service awards were (l. to r.) Joyce A. Davenport, Rest Area Attendant; Virgie Walton, Distributor Operator; Gloris Cox, Area Headquarters Attendant; and Roy M. Ferrell, Maintenance Aide II.



District 1: Receiving their 10-year service awards were (l. to r.) Joseph Hutto, Roller Operator; Jeff Kaiser, Senior Inspector; Clinton A. Melton, Assistant Bridge Inspector and John Holcombe, Jr., Single Axle Truck Driver.



District 1: Receiving their 5-year service awards were (l. to r.) Clark Hill, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; and Ronald Oliver, Construction Aide I.



District 4: (l. to r.) Jerry Howe, Crew Leader, and wife, Melody, have girl triplets Calli, Autumn and Brylee.



District 4: (l. to r.) Jeff Stroud, Resident Engineer, presents David Edwards, Construction Materials Inspector, with his 30-year service award.



District 4: (l. to r.) Delores Carr, Field Clerk II, receives her 10-year service award from Jeff Stroud, Resident Engineer.



District 5: (l. to r.) Luke Seaton, age 7, with his 8-point buck and sister Sophie, age 3. They are the children of Jason Seaton, Hydraulic Excavator Operator - Finish.



District 6: (l. to r.) Doug Hicks, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, presents Derrick Marshall, Lowboy or Float Truck Driver, with his 15-year service award.



District 6: (l. to r.) Mark Mason, Maintenance Aide I, receives his 5-year service award from Janet Bogle, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 6: (l. to r.) Stanley Rogers, District Sealing Job Superintendent, presents Terry Smith, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, with her 5-year service award.



District 6: (l. to r.) Robert Gray, Asphalt Tank Truck Driver, receives his 5-year service award from Stanley Rogers, District Sealing Job Superintendent.



District 6: (l. to r.) Larry Hazeslip, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, receives his 10-year service award from Stanley Rogers, District Sealing Job Superintendent.



District 6: (l. to r.) Doug Hicks, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, presents Kenjuan Washington, Senior Mechanic, with his 5-year service award.



District 6: (l. to r.) Floyd Palmer, Maintenance Aide II, receives his 5-year service award from Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 6: (l. to r.) Alton Pack, Backhoe/ Front End Loader Operator, receives his 5-year service award from Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 6: (l. to r.) Adrin Ward, Maintenance Aide I, receives his 5-year service award from Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 6: (l. to r.) Larry Acker, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, receives his 5-year service award from Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 6: (l. to r.) Rebecca Larney, Area Headquarters Attendant, receives her 15-year service award from Jerry Stovall, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 7: (l. to r.) Mark Simecek, Resident Engineer, presents Ralph Hodge, Construction Aide II, with his 10-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) Mark Simecek, Resident Engineer, presents Jerry "Bo" Graham, Senior Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) Mark Simecek, Resident Engineer, presents Chris Stanfield, Senior Construction Materials Inspector, with his 10-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) Dannie Launius, District Office Manager, presents Stephanie Cummings, District Fuel Clerk, with her 5-year service award.



District 7: Jeff Venable, District Maintenance Engineer (l.), and Carl Bachelor District Engineer (r.), present Alan Hearnberger, Area Maintenance Supervisor, with his 35-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Stan Stormont, Sealing Job Superintendent, presents Paul Charton, Hydraulic Excavator Operator-Finish, with his 10-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Stan Stormont, Sealing Job Superintendent, presents Kyle Ritchie, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, with his 15-year service award.



District 9: Carly Lynn Davidson, granddaughter of Joe Davidson, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, and wife JaNell Davidson, Office Administrative Assistant III, was born April 30th, weighing 6 lbs., 6 oz, and measuring 18 inches long.



District 9: (l. to r.) Jeff Hudgens, Motor Patrol Operator, receives his 10-year service award from Stan Stormont, Area Maintenance Supervisor.

AHTD PEOPLE • EMPLOYEE STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 2010

new employees

CONSTRUCTION - Brian Liles, Construction Helper

DISTRICT 1 - Richard Brickey, Single Axle Truck Driver, RE 62 - Jerry Wallis, Single Axle Truck Driver - Brenda Wiggins, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 2 - Robert Brown, General Laborer - Derrick Dutton, General Laborer - Charlie Gipson, Skill Trades Trainee - Jimmy Mainer, Single Axle Truck Driver - Miguel Rios, General Laborer

DISTRICT 5 - Randy Brackenridge, Single Axle Truck Driver - Austin Dillman, Single Axle Truck Driver - Jimmy King, Single Axle Truck Driver - Robert Marin, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 6 - Deanta Burnett, Single Axle Truck Driver - Jeff Johnston, Single Axle Truck Driver - Jessie Rice, Rest Area Attendant

DISTRICT 7 - Alex Golden, General Laborer - William Holt, Single Axle Truck Driver - Blake Jackson, General Laborer - Ernest Jones, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 8 - Kevin Hughes, Single Axle Truck Driver - Loretta Polite, General Laborer - Marvin White, General Laborer

DISTRICT 10 - Michael Cook, General Laborer - Travis Harkins, General Laborer - Blake Meridith, Single Axle Truck Driver - Jerry Yancy, Single Axle Truck Driver

promotions

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Robert Eddings, Data Collection Technician

SURVEYS - Lynn Christie, Senior Survey Office Tech

MATERIALS - James Mitchell, Laboratory Coordinator

DISTRICT 2 - Rory Benson, Station Attendant II - Charlie Morrison, Crew Leader - Luke Stovall, Engineer, RE 24

DISTRICT 3 - Simon Ocampo, Single Axle Truck Driver, Sevier Co.

DISTRICT 4 - Frederick Trent, Bridge Repairer II

DISTRICT 5 - Johnny Jason, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Stone Co.

DISTRICT 5 - Darell Hill, Distributor/Roller Operator, White Co.

DISTRICT 6 - Michael McLernon, Sr., Distributor/Roller Operator, Prairie Co.

DISTRICT 6 - Le'Gusta Rodan, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Prairie

DISTRICT 7 - Michael Forrest, Distributor Operator - Elbert Lybrand, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Cleveland Co. - Donald Crawford, Crew Leader, Columbia Co. - Matthew Childers, Maintenance Aide I, Ouachita Co.

DISTRICT 8 - Walter Edwards, Crew Leader - Michael Bunton, Paver Operator - Abner Perdomo, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope Co.

DISTRICT 9 - Steve Lawrence, District Engineer - Timothy Edgmon, Spreader Operator - Chanda Horton, Distributor/Roller Operator, Searcy Co.

service

CONSTRUCTION - Joanna Stewart, Adm. Aide II, 5 yrs. - Katrina Heaggans, Estimates Tech, 5 yrs. - Ricky Benson, Const. Aide I, RE 13, 20 yrs. - Richard Yocum, Const. Materials Insp., RE 13, 10 yrs. - Matthew Bearden, Const. Aide II, RE 31, 5 yrs. - Jeff Eckhart, Senior Insp., RE 32, 25 yrs. - Stephen Callicott, Asst. Resident Eng., RE 32, 15 yrs. - Timothy Baber, Resident Eng., RE 64, 30 yrs. - Holly Fowler, Field Clerk II, RE 84, 10 yrs.

COMPUTER SERVICES - Jodi Shell, Computer Tech. II, 5 yrs.

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT - Cass Neighbors, Station Attendant II, 15 yrs.

HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE - David Boutwell, Statewide Bridge Inspector, 25 yrs.

HIGHWAY POLICE - Woodrow Jones, Ark Hwy Police Sergeant, 25 yrs. - Anthony Sain, Ark Hwy Police Corporal, 25 yrs. - Cecile Knight, Division Office Manager, 10 yrs. - John Clark, Jr., Patrol Officer 1CL, 5 yrs.

HUMAN RESOURCES - Bethany Swindell, Training Specialist, 5 yrs.

LEGAL/EEO - Dana McClellan, External EEO Coord., 15 yrs.

MATERIALS - Tony Thurman, Jr., Materials Tech. II, 5 yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY - Gregory Davis, Realty Appraiser/Negotiator, 20 yrs. - Dale Hodges, ROW Engineering Spec., 15 yrs. - Glenda Wright, Abstractor, 10 yrs. - Marybelle Jackson, Realty Appraiser III, 10 yrs.

SURVEYS - Kenneth Scott, Surveys Technician II, 15 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Charles Brewer, Transportation Specialist, 15 yrs.

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS - Christopher Davis, Advanced Programming & Contracts Specialist, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - Billie Banks, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 yrs. - Rueben Gilmer, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 2 - Donald Earnest, Distributor Operator, 15 yrs. - Max Watts, Senior Body Rep. and Painter, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Sidney Zimmer, Crew Leader, 25 yrs. - Gregory Allen, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 15 yrs. - Jimmy Rosenbaum, Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs. - Robyn Freeman, Area Headquarters Attendant, 15 yrs. - David Austin, Backhoe/Front End Loader Op., 10 yrs. - Selu Kelesoma, Backhoe/Front End Loader Op., 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - William Nixon, Senior Mechanic, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Gladis Calamese, Area Headquarters Attendant, 25 yrs. - Daryl Pitts, Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs. - Jeremy Matheny, Bridge Repairer II, 15 yrs. - Loren Trewyn, Roller Operator, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Derrick Marshall, Lowboy or Float Tr. Dr., 15 yrs. - Charles Spencer, Dozer Op. - Finish, 10 yrs. - Charles Mason, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs. - Adrin Ward, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs. - Alton Pack, Backh./Front End Loader Op., 5 yrs. - Floyd Palmer, Maint. Aide II, 5 yrs. - Harvey Peterson, Single Axle Tr. Dr., 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Clifford Cox, Motor Patrol, 30 yrs. - Douglas Scharbor, Rest Area Attendant, 25 yrs. - Robert Johnson, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. - Robin Teague, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 8 - Paul Charton, Hydraulic Excavator Opr-Fin., 10 yrs. - Randy Tankersley, Hydraulic Excavator Opr-Fin., 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 9 - Darwin Barrett, Maintenance Aide II, 25 yrs. - George Risley, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 20 yrs. - Jeffrey Hudgens, Motor Patrol Operator, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - Charles Evans, Senior Mechanic, 30 yrs. - Anthony Williams, Crew Leader, 20 yrs.

retirement

COMPUTER SERVICES - Ray Moix, Apps Analyst/Programmer V, 28+ yrs.

HIGHWAY POLICE - Billy Smith, Corporal, 29+ yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Jon Waldrip, Section Head - Traffic Safety, 32+ yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Erma Collins, Area Headquarters Attendant, 25+ yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Vance Moudy, Distributor Operator, 11+ yrs.

DISTRICT 9 - Ralph Fulton, District Engineer, 40+ yrs.

memorials

HIGHWAY POLICE - Clara Harris, 11/21/10 - Alma Lea Stephens, 11/18/10, retired - Thomas White, 12/4/10, retired

FISCAL SERVICES - Judy Marchese, 12/10/10, retired

MATERIALS - Jerl Burks, 12/10/10, retired

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Charles Frazier, 12/3/10, retired

DISTRICT 2 - Thomas Smith, 12/5/10, retired

DISTRICT 5 - William Crow, 11/28/10, retired - Ronald Yates, 11/19/10, retired

DISTRICT 6 - Alfred Kisner, 11/20/10, retired

DISTRICT 7 - Evandrew Washington, 11/15/10, retired

active duty

As of 12/14/10, the AHTD had 6 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Deployment dates noted.

RIGHT OF WAY - William Kirk, ROW Plans Designer I, 08/7/10

DISTRICT 1 - Ricky L. Benson, Const. Helper II, 10/5/09

DISTRICT 4 - Donald R. Ullrich, Jr., Roller Op., 5/5/10

DISTRICT 6 - Shirley Hammett, Area Hq. Attendant, 7/20/04

DISTRICT 9 - Douglas Henry, Single Axle Tr. Dr., 10/1/07

DISTRICT 10 - Dustin Miller, Bridge Repairer, 11/11/09