

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

May 16, 2017

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2017-06

TO: ALL DIVISION HEADS AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

We are transmitting herewith for your information and records a copy of the Minutes of the Commission Meetings in Little Rock, AR on March 6, 2017 and April 26, 2017.

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 of Highways  
and Transportation

c: Commission

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

March 6, 2017

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, March 6, 2017. Members present were:

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

2017-030                   IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 10:00 a.m., March 6, 2017.

Chairman Dick Trammel welcomed everyone and asked Director Bennett to give the Commissioners an update on the legislative highway funding proposal.

MOTION                   Commission Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Robert Moore seconded and the motion passed to support House Bill 1726 and House Bill 1727.

2017-031                   IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 11:55 a.m., March 6, 2017.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

April 26, 2017

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, April 26, 2017. Members present were:

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

2017-032                   IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 10:00 a.m., April 26, 2017.

2017-033                   WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on February 10, 2017, March 1, 13 and 28, 2017, and April 6, 2017, in the amount of \$3,797,365.00, \$3,483,073.22, \$175,018.00, \$1,507,132.91 and \$789,013.80, respectively, totaling \$9,751,602.93, 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.

2017-034                   WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has requested participation in the AASHTO's Engineering Technical Services Program – National Operations Center of Excellence (NOCoe); and

WHEREAS, this program provides benefit to the member departments through the pooling of resources and expertise from across the country; and

2017-034 - Continued

WHEREAS, the benefits include technical services in a wide variety of areas, pooled resources for a common goal, and reducing duplication of effort; and

WHEREAS, this program is regarded as being highly beneficial to the Department with the means to exchange ideas, information, and best practices with other highway agencies.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to utilize State Planning and Research funds to pay annual membership dues for participation in the National Operations Center of Excellence program.

2017-035

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's cartographic services maintain up-to-date and accurate mapping for the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the State Highway Map, which is widely requested and used within the Department and by other state agencies and the public, is continually updated as part of this process.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the necessary contracts and agreements for printing the 2017-2019 State Highway Map.

2017-036

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration sponsors the National Summer Transportation Institute, a program to encourage secondary school students to pursue transportation careers; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness about transportation related careers is important to the transportation industry; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has encouraged state transportation departments to continue this 100% federally funded program; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration's guidelines for selecting a host site, the Department issued a Request for Proposals; and

2017-036 - Continued

WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock has submitted a proposal that meets the scope of the program and is within the projected budget allowance provided by the Federal Highway Administration.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into an agreement with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to host the 2017 National Summer Transportation Institute.

2017-037

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired right of way for Job No. 11489, more commonly known as Phillips County Line – Marianna Road, near the township line of T-1N and T-2N line on Highway No. 1 in Lee County, Arkansas, by Lee County Court Order dated May 8, 1956, as it appears in Record Book M, Page 318 and being recorded in the County Court Records of Lee County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the District Engineer for District 1 has determined that an area inside the existing right of way is not now needed, nor in the foreseeable future will be needed, for highway purposes and recommends that these areas of the right of way be abandoned and are more particularly described below:

SUPPLEMENTAL REVISED  
CENTERLINE DESCRIPTION  
JOB 11489  
Phillips County Line-Marianna  
Route 1 Section 9  
LEE COUNTY

From designated P.T. Construction Centerline Station 629+75.00 to Station 632+08.26 of the originally executed Court Order for Job 11489 dated May 8, 1956 and being recorded in County Court Records of Lee County, AR, in Book “M” at Page 318 inclusive, said records shall hereby be revised for reduction of right of way as follows.

The width of the right of way conveyed to the left and right of the herein above described centerline shall be as follows:

2017-037 - Continued

FROM STATION	TO STATION	LIN. FT.	WIDTH LEFT	WIDTH RIGHT	TOTAL WIDTH
629+75.00	630+87.03	112.03	Var. 60' – 52.02'	60'	Var. 120' – 112.02'
630+87.03	631+24.44	37.41	Var. 52.02' – 52.14'	60'	Var. 112.02' – 112.14'
631+24.44	632+08.26	83.82	Var. 52.14' – 60'	60'	Var. 112.14' – 120'

DH: 12/6/16

NOW THEREFORE, the above-described right of way is hereby released to Lee County; that the Right of Way Division is authorized and directed to record a copy of this Minute Order in the records of Lee County; and, that the right of way shall, if necessary, be remonumented to reflect the new boundaries after the release of the above-designated area. Any Federal-Aid Funds from this disposal shall be credited to Federal-Aid Funds or otherwise credited as provided by Federal law.

2017-038

WHEREAS, IN RANDOLPH COUNTY, Minute Order 2014-025 initiated a study to determine the feasibility of improving Highway 90 in Pocahontas from Park Street to Country Club Road; and

WHEREAS, the Highway 90 Improvement Study has been prepared and has identified feasible improvement alternatives to enhance safety and mobility for all modes of transportation.

NOW THEREFORE, this study is adopted for use as a planning guide for scheduling future improvements.

FURTHERMORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with surveys, plans, and construction of a project to improve this segment of Highway 90 as funds become available.

2017-039

WHEREAS, IN SEBASTIAN COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF GREENWOOD, state and local officials have expressed concerns about east-west traffic flow; and

WHEREAS, the Greenwood Bypass Study was adopted by the Commission in 2007; and

2017-039 - Continued

WHEREAS, state and local officials have requested that an additional alternative be studied as illustrated on the attached map.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to conduct an updated study to determine the need for and feasibility of a bypass around Greenwood.

2017-040

WHEREAS, IN PRAIRIE COUNTY, a box culvert that conveys Biene Creek under Highway 323 near Des Arc has failed; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the repair work required is outside the Department's maintenance personnel's abilities and available equipment; and

WHEREAS, in order to reopen Highway 323 as expeditiously as possible, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will accept bids on this project upon completion of project development; and

WHEREAS, a thorough bid review and analysis is undertaken by the Department to ensure that 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, 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 contractor furnishing the necessary performance and payment bonds and submitting all additional information required for the above mentioned project, the Director is hereby authorized to enter into a contract and supplemental agreements for this project deemed to be in the best interests of the State.

2017-040 - Continued

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.

2017-041

WHEREAS, IN FAULKNER AND WHITE COUNTIES, a crash analysis of Highway 36, Sections 1 and 2 from Highway 64 to Rose Bud has been completed; and

WHEREAS, the predominant type of crashes in the study area is roadway departure crashes; and

WHEREAS, the analysis identified various safety improvements to address roadway departure crashes and provide substantial safety benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2013) identified roadway departure crashes as an emphasis area; and

WHEREAS, these improvements are eligible for Federal-aid Safety funds.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with surveys, plans and construction of this safety improvement project on Highway 36 from Highway 64 to Rose Bud as funds become available.

2017-042

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2013) identified roadway departures as a primary emphasis area; and

WHEREAS, high friction surface treatment (HFST) and ultra-thin bonded wearing course (UTBWC), are proven safety countermeasures to reduce roadway departure crashes due to wet pavement; and

WHEREAS, a wet pavement crash analysis on the State Highway System has recently been completed; and



2017-042 - Continued

WHEREAS, the analysis identified various locations where HFST and UTBWC treatments would provide substantial safety benefits; and

WHEREAS, this work is eligible for Federal-aid Safety funds.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with plans and construction of a safety improvement project(s) at the locations shown on the attached maps as funds become available.

2017-043

WHEREAS, it has been determined that improvements are warranted to enhance safety at the 18 railroad crossings indicated on the attached list; and

WHEREAS, Federal-aid Rail-Highway Crossing Safety funds are eligible for these improvements.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with improvements at these crossings as funds become available subject to the following conditions:

- Maintenance of the signals and surfaces shall be performed by the Railroad Company at no cost to the State.
- All required right-of-way shall be furnished at no cost to the State.

2017-044

WHEREAS, landslides have occurred at the locations noted below; and

WHEREAS, these landslides are in need of repair and stabilization to prevent additional damage to the highway; and

WHEREAS, there are methods to repair and stabilize these landslides using soil nails, wire mesh, shotcrete surface treatments and geosynthetically confined soil walls; and

2017-044 - Continued

WHEREAS, these methods of repair and stabilization cost less than the conventional methods of repair by excavation and the installation of rock buttresses; and

WHEREAS, the Department does not have the capability to perform these methods of repair and stabilization.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary contracts and agreements to repair and stabilize landslides utilizing the methods above as funds become available.

SLIDE PRIORITY	RTE./SEC./L.M.	DISTRICT	LOCATION	ESTIMATED COST
1	40/12/35.28	4	I-40 at Ozark	\$3,300,000
2	07/18/11.73	9	Hwy. 7 South of Jasper	\$843,000
3	07/18/12.00	9	Hwy. 7 South of Jasper	\$2,200,000
4	59/04/15.5	4	Hwy. 59 South of Evansville	\$2,800,000
5	23/07/22.23	4	Hwy. 23 North of Cass	\$650,000
6	23/08/12.52	9	Hwy. 23 South of Huntsville	\$350,000
7	59/05/23.20	4	Hwy. 59 North of Van Buren	\$275,000
8	74/05/11.18	9	Hwy. 74 Northwest of Jasper	\$525,000
9	71/05/1.9	3	Hwy. 71 South of Lockesburg	\$4,000,000
10	71/04/16.7	3	Hwy. 71 North of Wilton	\$500,000

2017-045

WHEREAS, the Commission at its November 5, 2014 meeting authorized the staff to enter into negotiations with the firm of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. of Austin, TX to provide consultant services for the development of an ITS Traffic Management Center; and

WHEREAS, Kimley-Horn has completed their assigned tasks and submitted their Final Report to the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Final Report has recommended the expansion of the existing radio room located in the basement of the Central Office building as the most cost effective location for a Traffic Management Center.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with a project to expand the existing radio room and purchase and install the equipment necessary to operate a Traffic Management Center as funds become available.

2017-046

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will accept bids on the following projects at the May 31, 2017 letting; and

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
BB0116	01	ST. FRANCIS	SHEARERVILLE – WEST (PVMT. IMPVTS.) (F)	40	Y
020636	02	ASHLEY	HWY. 133S – HWY. 189 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	133	Y
030486	03	SEVIER	OKLAHOMA STATE LINE – EAST (S)	70	Y
040686	04	CRAWFORD	HWY. 64 – NORTH (ALMA) (S)	71 & 162	Y
040728	04	CRAWFORD	HWY. 64 – HWY. 71 (S)	282	N
040730	04	SEBASTIAN	HWY. 10 – HWY. 45 (S)	253	N
050363	05	JACKSON	HWY. 367 IMPVTS. (TUCKERMAN) (S)	367	Y
050366	05	IZARD	HWY. 69B – INDEPENDENCE CO. LINE (S)	69	Y
050379	05	IZARD	STONE CO. LINE – BAXTER CO. LINE (S)	5	Y
061515	06	PULASKI	HWY. 365 – HWY. 70 (NORTH LITTLE ROCK) (S)	100	Y
070443	07	CLARK	HWY. 67 EAST & WEST (GUM SPRINGS) (S)	26	N
070451	07	UNION	HWY. 167 – EAST (S)	63	Y
070456	07	CLARK	HWY. 51 – SOUTH (S)	7	Y
070457	07	OUACHITA	HWY. 79B – NORTH (S)	7	N
080539	08	POPE	HWY. 326 – TYLER RD. (RUSSELLVILLE) (S)	64	Y
080553	08	FAULKNER	CONWAY – SALTILLO (S)	286	Y
080554	08	POPE	I-40 – NORTH (SEL. SECS.) (S)	363	Y
080556	08	JOHNSON	CO. RD. 2530 – BIG PINEY CREEK (KNOXVILLE) (S)	64	Y
090491	09	NEWTON & SEARCY	WESTERN GROVE – ST. JOE (S)	65	Y
100895	10	CRAIGHEAD	HWY. 1 – HWY. 18 (JONESBORO) (S)	1B	Y
100900	10	GREENE	HWYS. 69 & 358 (PARAGOULD) (SEL. SECS.) (S)	69 & 358	Y
100914	10	CRAIGHEAD	HWY. 91 – NORTH (JONESBORO) (S)	141	Y
100923	10	CLAY	LITTLE CACHE RIVER – EAST (S)	62	Y
100940	10	CLAY	HWY. 62 – MISSOURI STATE LINE (HWY. 139) (S)	139	N

2017 - 046 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
100943	10	CRAIGHEAD	HWYS. 18 & 139 (SEL. SECS.) (MONETTE) (S)	18 & 139	Y
100948	10	MISSISSIPPI	HWY. 312 (MISSISSIPPI CO.) (SEL. SECS.) (S)	312	Y
C45002	09	MARION	YELLVILLE 4TH ST. IMPROVEMENTS (S)	---	-
C53003	08	PERRY	CASA & FOURCHE OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C72007	04	WASHINGTON	GOSHEN OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C74003	01	WOODRUFF	PATTERSON OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
C76039	10	CRAIGHEAD & POINSETT	BLACK OAK, LEPANTO & TYRONZA OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
GF0460	04	LOGAN	LAKE DARDANELLE ACCESS (THOMPSON BAY RD.) SURFACING (S)	---	-
SA0138	02	ARKANSAS	ARKANSAS CO. BASE & SURFACING NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0244	02	ASHLEY	HWY. 133 - HWY. 52 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
BR0405	09	BENTON	WILDCAT CREEK STR. & APPRS. (S)	---	-
SA0442	09	BENTON	CO. RD. 40 - HWY. 72 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA0648	07	BRADLEY	BRADLEY COUNTY LEVEL & RESEAL (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0763	07	CALHOUN	CALHOUN CO. REPAIR & OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA0853	09	CARROLL	HWY. 62 - NORTH (LEVELING & RESEAL) (S)	---	-
SA0940	02	CHICOT	HWY. 160 - NORTH (SURFACING) (S)	---	-
SA1059	07	CLARK	HWY. 7 - HWY. 128 (SLURRY SEAL) (S)	---	-
SA1060	07	CLARK	CLARK CO. LEVELING AND RESEAL NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA1252	05	CLEBURNE	HWY. 225 - HWY. 16 (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA1356	07	CLEVELAND	CLEVELAND CO. RESEAL NO. 11 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA1445	07	COLUMBIA	MAGNOLIA CITY LIMITS - EAST (RESEAL) (S)	---	-

2017 - 046 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
SA1553	08	CONWAY	HWY. 92 – WEST (BASE) (S)	---	-
SA2131	02	DESHA	OAKWOOD BAYOU RD. WIDENING & BASE (SEL. SEC.) (S)	---	-
SA2132	02	DESHA	DESHA COUNTY RESEAL NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2371	08	FAULKNER	FAULKNER CO. WIDENING & OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2452	04	FRANKLIN	FRANKLIN COUNTY SURFACING (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2453	04	FRANKLIN	FRANKLIN COUNTY OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2669	06	GARLAND	GARLAND CO. WIDENING & OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA2746	02	GRANT	CO. RD. 53 RESEAL (S)	---	-
SA2944	03	HEMPSTEAD	INDUSTRIAL ACCESS ROAD (OAKHAVEN) (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA2945	03	HEMPSTEAD	HEMPSTEAD CO. LEVELING & RESEAL (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA3143	03	HOWARD	HWY. 27 – HWY. 371 SURFACING (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA3649	08	JOHNSON	JOHNSON COUNTY RESEAL NO. 5 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA4276	04	LOGAN	HWY. 23 – EAST (LEVELING & RESEAL) (S)	---	-
SA4435	09	MADISON	MADISON CO. LEVELING & RESEAL (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA4647	03	MILLER	MILLER COUNTY RESEAL NO. 15 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA4745	10	MISSISSIPPI	HWY. 158 – HWY. 61 OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA4937	08	MONTGOMERY	HWY. 27 – EAST (OVERLAY) (S)	---	-
SA4938	08	MONTGOMERY	HWY. 8 – CO. RD. 96 (RESEAL) (S)	---	-
SA5137	09	NEWTON	NEWTON CO. SURFACING NO. 2 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA5347	08	PERRY	PERRY CO. SURFACING & RESEAL (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-

2017 - 046 - Continued

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
SA5555	03	PIKE	PIKE COUNTY SURFACING NO. 6 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA5556	03	PIKE	PIKE COUNTY RESEAL NO. 4 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA5948	06	PRAIRIE	PRAIRIE COUNTY RESEAL (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA6140	10	RANDOLPH	RANDOLPH CO. OVERLAY NO. 6 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA6343	04	SCOTT	WALDRON CITY LIMITS – HWY. 248 (LEVEL & RESEAL) (S)	---	-
SA6643	03	SEVIER	SEVIER COUNTY RESEAL NO. 17 (S)	---	-
SA7296	04	WASHINGTON	CO. RDS. 65 & 63 OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (S)	---	-
SA7535	08	YELL	YELL COUNTY OVERLAY (SEL. SECS.) (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 welcomed everyone and complimented each person that was involved with the 2017 Transportation Planning Conference that was held on April 18 & 19 at The Chancellor Hotel in Fayetteville. Chairman Trammel stated that the Conference was a great success.

MOTION Vice Chairman Alec Farmer moved, Vice Chairman Tom Schueck seconded and the motion passed to approve the Minutes from the previous Commission Meeting of February 10, 2017.

MOTION Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Robert Moore seconded and the motion passed 3-2 to allocate Commission flexible funding at a rate of 85% for Pavement Preservation and 15% for Congestion Relief and/or Capital Improvements. Capital Improvements would require at least a 50% local contribution. This allocation would begin Federal Fiscal Year 2021. Commissioners Farmer and Moore and Chairman Trammel voted for the motion.

MOTION The Commission approved Minute Order 2016-075 on July 13, 2016 authorizing the Department to advertise for consultant services for Traffic Data Collection Services for calendar years 2017 through 2019. Vice Chairman Tom Schueck moved, Commissioner Philip Taldo seconded and the motion passed 4-0 (Commissioner Moore was not present for the voting) to enter into negotiations with the firm of The Traffic Group, Baltimore, MD, for consultant services for Traffic Data Collection Services.

## OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

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. However, Congress was unable to reach an agreement on appropriating funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2017. On December 9, 2016, Congress passed the second short-term Continuing Resolution for Federal Fiscal Year 2017. The Continuing Resolution will extend funding at 2016 levels until April 28, 2017. Now the issue becomes dependable long-term State revenue to provide the match for Federal-aid funds beyond 2016 and the additional State revenue needed to adequately maintain and improve Arkansas' transportation system.

Mike Boyd, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the March 2017 update on state highway revenue. Mr. Boyd noted that state highway revenues to the Department from traditional sources are up a total of 0.8% (\$2.4 million) in the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017 compared to the same period for SFY 2016. With the revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax coming in higher for this year compared to last year, total revenues available are 0.7% (\$2.0 million) higher for this year. Actual state revenue received is 4.7% (\$13.6 million) above projected (budgeted) revenue for this year.

In closing, Mr. Boyd stated that March revenue from the 0.5% General Sales Tax for the Connecting Arkansas Program was 4.55% lower, (\$690,861) than projected by the Department of Finance and Administration (DF&A). Current Fiscal Year to date revenues are below the forecast by 2.1% (\$2.8 million). Since inception this revenue source is 0.43%, or \$2.7 million, under DF&A's projections.

Director Bennett gave a brief presentation of transportation news from other states, including the following subjects: Utah to Issue \$1 Billion in Bonds; Montana House Approves Tax Hike; Louisiana May Lose Federal Dollars; California Unveils Major Plan For Increased Transportation Funding; Indiana Lawmakers Boost Road Funds; and Tennessee Approves Road Funding Bill.



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 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 gave an update on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Projects for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2018-2021. In summary the Department is facing significant challenges.

Director Bennett presented the Commission with information on pavement condition and the impact of different funding scenarios for the STIP beginning in FFY 2021.

- #1 - Continue Current Investments
  - 80% System Preservation, which includes Pavement Preservation and Congestion Relief
  - 20% Capital Improvements
- #2 - No Capital Investments
  - 80% Pavement Preservation
  - 20% Congestion Relief
- #3 - Pavement Preservation Only
  - 100% Pavement Preservation with No Congestion Relief or Capacity Improvements

Discussion Item - Continued

After much discussion, Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Robert Moore seconded a motion to allocate Commission flexible funding at a rate of 85% for Pavement Preservation and 15% for Congestion Relief and/or Capital Improvements. Capital Improvements would require at least a 50% local contribution. This allocation would begin in Federal Fiscal Year 2021.

Commissioner Tom Schueck then made a substitute motion to allocate 85% of Commission flexible funding for System Preservation, which is either Pavement Preservation or Congestion Relief, and 15% for Capital Improvements, which would require at least a 50% local partnership. Commissioner Taldo seconded the motion. The motion failed with a vote of 2-2. Chairman Trammel did not vote.

With the substitute motion failing, Chairman Trammel called for a vote on the original motion. The original motion passed and can be found under MOTIONS.

Director Bennett gave an update on the 2017 Legislative Session, including the name change of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department to the Arkansas Department of Transportation.

Director Bennett presented a summary of the apparent low bids and bidders from the February 22, 2017, and April 12, 2017, Bid Lettings.

Director Bennett presented a list of upcoming meetings and events, including the Bella Vista Bypass Ribbon Cutting on May 10 and the ROADeo Finals on June 1.

Director Bennett presented details of the Minute Order being submitted for consideration to approve adoption of the Traffic Management Center Study recently completed by Kimley-Horn and Associates. The Minute Order will allow the Department to proceed with a project to

Discussion Item - Continued

expand the existing radio room and purchase and install the equipment necessary to operate a Traffic Management Center as funds become available. Director Bennett stated that the plans are ready; the renovation can begin as soon as funding is in place. The Minute Order was passed.

2017-047

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 3:10 p.m., April 26, 2017.

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 April 26, 2017.

  
Lindy H. Williams  
Commission Secretary