

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

September 14, 2017

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2017-12

TO: ALL DIVISION HEADS AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

We are transmitting herewith for your information and records a copy of the Minutes of the Commission Meeting in Little Rock, AR on September 6, 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

September 6, 2017

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

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

2017-071 IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 9:30 a.m., September 6, 2017.

2017-072 WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on July 19, 2017 and August 7, 2017, in the amount of \$887,717.05 and \$2,132,994.60, respectively, totaling \$3,020,711.65, 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.

2017-073 WHEREAS, the Department utilizes automated planning, design, proposal management, letting and bid management, and construction pay estimate management systems to provide technical support in the development of highway projects; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) AASHTOWare software products provide the needed systems required by the Department.

2017-073 - Continued

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the annual licensing agreement for the AASHTOWare products.

2017-074

WHEREAS, the Highway System in Arkansas facilitates safe mobility, economic development, and tourism enhancement throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, public information and education activities play an important role in providing the citizens of our State with pertinent information relative to the issues facing the Commission and Department; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation serves as an effective group to provide this information and education to transportation stakeholders, elected officials, and the public.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to make a contribution of \$30,000 to the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation for its public information and education activities for State Fiscal Year 2018.

2017-075

WHEREAS, it has been determined that improvements are warranted to enhance safety at the 20 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.

2017-076

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2017) identified the full deployment of an improved crash data system (eCrash) as a priority safety strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Police (ASP) has been assisting local law enforcement agencies in upgrading their computer systems to allow for the implementation of the eCrash system; and

WHEREAS, the eCrash system implementation has been slow due to funding limitations; and

WHEREAS, a speedy deployment of the eCrash system will be highly beneficial to the safety of our transportation system; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to partner with the ASP to assist local law enforcement agencies in upgrading computer systems for the eCrash system.

2017-077

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired in fee, property from four different owners as noted on sheets two and three of the right of way map for Job No. 4460 Sec 3, Shibley Grade Separation at Alma; and

WHEREAS, Crawford County, Arkansas, has requested that a portion of said highway be transferred to it pursuant to Arkansas Code Ann. § 27-65-109, for the transportation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the District Engineer for District Four, desires to transfer the responsibility of maintenance to the County, as a portion of the road has been abandoned and closed by the County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's interest in that requested portion of Job No. 4460 Sec 3 that is the subject of the County's request is more specifically described as follows:

Part of the East half of the Southeast Quarter and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 10, part of the West half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15

all in Township 9 North, Range 31 West, Crawford County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point being used as the Quarter corner of Sections 10 and 15 also being on the Northerly right of way line of I-40 as established by AHTD Job 4460 Sec. 3; thence North $64^{\circ}34'57''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 322.62 feet to a point; thence North $66^{\circ}29'51''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 900.00 feet to a point; thence North $66^{\circ}29'51''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 1,580.44 feet to a point; thence North $34^{\circ}36'13''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 158.98 feet to a point; thence North $02^{\circ}42'34''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 76.40 feet to a point; thence North $12^{\circ}19'45''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 203.46 feet to a point; thence South $87^{\circ}17'26''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 5.30 feet to a point; thence South $00^{\circ}43'29''$ West along said right of way line a distance of 277.17 feet to a point; thence South $87^{\circ}17'26''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 41.10 feet to a point; thence South $00^{\circ}43'29''$ West along said right of way line a distance of 65.60 feet to a point; thence South $86^{\circ}23'56''$ East along said right of way line a distance of 75.56 feet to a point on the Northerly control of access of I-40 as established by AHTD Job 4460 Sec 3; thence South $63^{\circ}17'51''$ West along said C of A a distance of 88.36 feet to a point; thence South $62^{\circ}25'34''$ West along said C of A a distance of 148.48 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}06'58''$ West along said C of A a distance of 129.95 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}37'03''$ West along said C of A a distance of 229.41 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}33'37''$ West along said C of A a distance of 230.58 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}44'30''$ West along said C of A a distance of 282.83 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}45'54''$ West along said C of A a distance of 369.15 feet to a point; thence South $65^{\circ}09'27''$ West along said C of A a distance of 118.20 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}25'43''$ West along said C of A a distance of 255.82 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}29'25''$ West along said C of A a distance of 133.47 feet to a point; thence South $65^{\circ}59'22''$ West along said C of A a distance of 229.78 feet to a point; thence South $67^{\circ}37'26''$ West along said C of A a distance of 111.53 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}49'19''$ West along said C of A a distance of 222.93 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}47'13''$ West along said C of A a distance of 129.03 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}19'33''$ West along said C of A a distance of 92.56 feet to a point; thence South $66^{\circ}09'33''$ West along said C of A a distance of 127.37 feet to a point; thence South

2017-077 - Continued

66°12'32" West along said C of A a distance of 107.41 feet to a point; thence South 66°34'40" West along said C of A a distance of 162.42 feet to a point; thence South 66°40'06" West along said C of A a distance of 220.41 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right, having a radius of 1,188.26 feet a distance of 454.66 feet, having a chord bearing of South 79°18'36" West for a distance of 451.89 feet to a point; thence North 89°43'42" West a distance of 398.97 feet to a point; thence North 00°16'18" East a distance of 65.00 feet to a point on the Northerly right of way line of I-40 as established by AHTD Job 4460 Sec. 3; thence South 89°44'56" East along said right of way line a distance of 417.31 feet to a point; thence North 87°20'13" East along said right of way line a distance of 78.37 feet to a point; thence North 80°27'16" East along said right of way line a distance of 191.24 feet to a point; thence North 71°02'03" East along said right of way line a distance of 177.70 feet to a point; thence North 68°36'49" East along said right of way line a distance of 291.96 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 6.62 acres or (288224 sq. ft.) more or less as shown on plans prepared by the AHTD referenced as Job 4460 Sec 3. 11/29/16 DJH

NOW THEREFORE, upon receipt of a proper resolution from the Crawford County, the Director is authorized to enter into a transfer agreement for the above described property pursuant to Minute Order 2012-008, conditioned upon the County's continued maintenance of the property interest herein transferred for said highway purposes, and provided that in the event the Crawford County fails to use and maintain the property described herein, or abandons same, then the transfer agreement shall, upon 30 days notice, be terminated, and all interest transferred shall revert to the Commission.

2017-078

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract No. 25R from Charles Masterson and Ada Masterson, husband and wife, for Job No. 040039, by Warranty Deed dated April 4, 1995, and filed of record on May 23, 1995, as Document No. 95024933, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Washington County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, John Looney and Myriah Johnson have requested to purchase Tract No. 25R, which the District Engineer for

District 4 has determined is not now, nor in the foreseeable future will be, needed for highway purposes; and

WHEREAS, this tract was acquired as surplus by the Commission and is exempt from reacquisition by the former owner under Ark. Code Ann. §27-67-322. John Looney and Myriah Johnson offered to purchase this tract for ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$1,650.00), the fair market value by three Commission appraisers.

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired Tract No. 25R for ONE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$100.00), which the tract is more particularly described as follows:

Part of Lots 5 and 6, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision of part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 20, Township 16 North, Range 30 West, Washington County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Starting at the Southwest Corner of Lot 6, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision of part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 20; thence South 87° 08' 33" East along the South line of Lot 6, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision a distance of 94.05 feet for the point of beginning; thence North 03° 11' 48" East a distance of 100.23 feet to a point on the North line of Lot 5, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision; thence South 87° 08' 27" East along the North line of Lot 5, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision a distance of 35.55 feet to a point on the Westerly proposed right of way line of proposed Razorback Drive; thence South 18° 22' 30" West along said proposed right of way line a distance of 104.02 feet to a point on the South line of Lot 6, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision; thence North 87° 08' 33" West along the South line of Lot 6, Block 1 of Meadow Vale Subdivision a distance of 8.32 feet to the point of beginning and containing 2,198 square feet more or less.

NOW THEREFORE, the above-described property is declared surplus and upon receipt and consideration of the sum of ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$1,650.00) from John Looney and Myriah Johnson, the Chairman of the Commission is authorized and directed to execute a Quitclaim Deed

2017-078 - Continued

conveying the right, title, interest or equity of the above-described property to John Looney and Myriah Johnson, husband and wife; and hereby releasing the same from the State Highway System, that the Right of Way Division is directed and authorized to record a copy of this Minute Order and the Quitclaim Deed in the records of Washington County, Arkansas; and, if necessary, the right of way shall be remonumented to reflect the boundaries designated herein. Any Federal-Aid funds from this disposal shall be credited to Federal-Aid Funds or otherwise credited as permitted by Federal Law.

2017-079 WHEREAS, the Department maintains certain drives on the University of Arkansas at Monticello campus as part of the Institutional Drives System; and

 WHEREAS, the University has revised their traffic plan resulting in the addition of certain drives within the campus.

 NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon official notification by the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, drives totaling approximately 0.16 miles, as shown on the attached sketch, are hereby added to the Institutional Drives System as a portion of State Highway 871, Section 1.

2017-080 WHEREAS, IN FAULKNER COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF CONWAY, a project to relocate a portion of Highway 25, Section 0, is nearing completion; and

 WHEREAS, the City of Conway has passed Resolution No. R-11-50 agreeing to accept ownership of the bypassed portion of Highway 25, Section 0, in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-301-102; and

 WHEREAS, Faulkner County has passed Resolution No. 11-06, agreeing to accept ownership of the bypassed portion of Highway 25, Section 0, in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-301-102.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon official notification by the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, the following changes are hereby made to the State Highway System as shown on the attached sketch.

- The bypassed portion of Highway 25, Section 0 is hereby removed from the State Highway System.
- U.S. Highway 64 Spur, Section 8S, will be redesignated as Highway 25, Section 0.
- The newly constructed portion of roadway built by Job 080397 is hereby added to the State Highway System as Highway 25, Section 0.

2017-081

WHEREAS, IN FAULKNER COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF CONWAY, Minute Order 2004-012 adopted the *Highway 64/Highway 65 Connection (Conway) Study* as a guide for future project development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Conway has requested an update of this study.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with updating this feasibility study of an improved connection between Highway 64 east and Highway 65 north in Conway.

2017-082

WHEREAS, IN GARLAND COUNTY, the City of Hot Springs, Garland County, and the Department have identified a need to study the Highway 270 interchanges at Highway 270B, Highway 70/70B, Highway 88, and Highway 7, in the City of Hot Springs; and

WHEREAS, Garland County and the City of Hot Springs have expressed interest in partnering with the Department to study these interchanges; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of all four interchanges, including a portion of Highway 7, is needed to identify feasible and

2017-082 - Continued

reasonable alternatives that would provide congestion relief and improve safety for motorists and pedestrians.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the necessary partnering agreements for completion of the study.

FURTHERMORE, upon the completion of the study, warranted improvements will be considered for funding as future Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs are developed.

2017-083

WHEREAS, IN PERRY COUNTY, local officials and community leaders have requested a study to determine the need for and feasibility of raising a portion of Highway 60 west of the Arkansas River; and

WHEREAS, flooding of Highway 60 west of the Arkansas River for approximately one-half mile has been an ongoing problem; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that this flooding could be alleviated by improvements that include raising this portion of Highway 60.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to conduct a study to determine the need for and feasibility of raising a portion of Highway 60 west of the Arkansas River.

2017-084

WHEREAS, IN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, the City of Jonesboro has expressed interest in partnering with the Department on various state highway projects within the City as shown on the attached list; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro has agreed to contribute \$7.81 million in partnering funds towards these projects included in the 2016-2020 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); and

WHEREAS, as part of the partnering commitment, Highway 141, Section 0 and a portion of Highway 226, Section 3, as shown

2017-084 - Continued

on the attached sketch, will be removed from the State Highway System upon completion of Job 100657, I-555 - Hwy. 49 (Commerce Dr. Extension) (Jonesboro).

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the necessary agreements with the City of Jonesboro and to proceed with surveys, plans and construction of improvements upon receipt of a resolution from the City and as funds become available.

2017-085

WHEREAS, the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) provides funding to improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands; and

WHEREAS, the Department applied for and was awarded FLAP funding to improve Highway 8 from Black Springs to Caddo Gap; and

WHEREAS, the Department must enter into an agreement with FHWA Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division to establish roles and responsibilities for implementation of the project.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary agreements with Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division and to proceed with surveys, plans, and construction of a project to improve this segment of Highway 8.

2017-086

WHEREAS, the City Council of Alma, by Resolution 2017-9, has requested a bridge on Highway 162, within the City Limits of Alma, be named in honor of Bill Blasingame; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Highway Commission has adopted guidelines for the installation of commemorative signs by Minute Order 2014-023 and the City's request meets these guidelines.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to permit the installation of signs in each direction at the ends of the bridge on Highway 162, as requested by the City, in accordance with Commission Policy.

2017-087

WHEREAS, the Highway Commission, by Minute Order 2014-109, adopted a policy to conduct snow and ice removal operations; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve acceptable results on Highway 27, District 8 personnel have identified the need for a satellite salt storage facility in the mountainous area of Van Buren County; and

WHEREAS, District personnel have located a tract of land suitable for the location of this facility.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with the purchase of the property needed for the construction of a satellite salt storage facility on Highway 27 in northern Van Buren County.

2017-088

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will accept bids on the following projects at the October 11, 2017 letting; and

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
040750	04	WASHINGTON & CRAWFORD	HWY. 59 SLIDE REPAIR (WASHINGTON & CRAWFORD COS.) (S)	59	Y
080423	08	VAN BUREN	BEE BRANCH - NORTH (S)	65	Y
090501	09	NEWTON	HWY. 7 SLIDE REPAIR (NEWTON CO.) (S)	7	Y
100822	10	CRAIGHEAD	HENSON RD. RR SIG. UPGRADE & TRAFFIC SIG. (JONESBORO) (S)	91	Y
012288	VAR	VARIOUS	LOW-COST SAFETY IMPVTS. (DISTS. 5, 6, 8 & 9) (S)	VAR	Y
C72003	04	WASHINGTON	FARMINGTON DOUBLE SPRINGS RD. IMPROVEMENTS (S)	---	-
BR5007	03	NEVADA	WILSON CREEK STR. & APPRS. (S)	---	-
BR6507	04	SEBASTIAN	BRANCH OF VINEYARD CREEK STR. & APPRS. (S)	---	-
BR6812	01	ST. FRANCIS	FIRST CREEK STR. & APPRS. (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 opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. He also recognized and complimented Vice Chairman Tom Schueck for the recent article in Arkansas Business titled "The Influencers: Tom Schueck of Lexicon, Inc."

MOTION Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Philip Taldo seconded and the motion passed to approve the Minutes from the previous Commission Meeting of July 26, 2017.

MOTION Commissioner Robert Moore moved, Commissioner Alec Farmer seconded and the motion passed to submit three (3) applications to receive INFRA (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America) Grants, Federal Fiscal Years 2017-2018. The following projects are:

- 30 Crossing in Pulaski County
- Highway 70 - Sevier St. (I-30) in Saline County
- Interstate 69 in Drew and Desha Counties

MOTION

The Commission approved Minute Order 2016-074 on July 13, 2016, to authorize the Department to advertise for consultant services for On-Call Consultant Data Collection Services. Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Vice Chairman Tom Schueck seconded and the motion passed to accept the Staff's recommendation to enter into negotiations with the following two (2) firms:

Pavement Performance Data and Imagery Collection
Fugro Roadware, Inc. - Austin, Texas

Model Inventory of Roadway Element (MIRE) Data Collection
Pathway Service, Inc. - Tulsa, Oklahoma

MOTION

After Director Bennett presented the highlights of the Act 1 Section 19 Report - Draft Rules for the Distribution of Highway Funds and Prioritization of Highway Construction Projects, Commissioner Alec Farmer moved, Vice Chairman Tom Schueck seconded and the motion passed to submit the proposed rules to the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee of the Legislative Council by October 1, 2017. These rules are not required to be promulgated, but shall be published after the review by the Subcommittee.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mike Boyd, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the July 2017 update on state highway revenue. Mr. Boyd noted that state highway revenues to the Department from traditional sources are up a total of 14.0% (\$4.3 million) in the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 compared to the same period for SFY 2017. With the revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax coming in higher for this year compared to last year, total revenues available are 16.5% (\$5.1 million) higher for this year. Actual state revenue received is 18.4% (\$5.6 million) above projected (budgeted) revenue for this year.

In closing, Mr. Boyd stated that July revenue from the 0.5% General Sales Tax for the Connecting Arkansas Program was 1.23% lower, (\$186,478) than projected by the Department of Finance and Administration (DF&A). Since inception this revenue source is 0.45%, or \$3.1 million, under DF&A's projections.

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. After three Continuing Resolutions, Congress was able to pass a budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2017. The budget will provide full funding for the FAST Act until September 30, 2017. On May 23, 2017, President Trump released his full budget proposal for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 entitled "The New Foundation for American Greatness". This budget would provide full funding for the FAST Act in Federal Fiscal Year 2018. However, beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2021, funding would be limited to revenue that is deposited into the Highway Trust Fund. This would result in a 40% reduction in the Federal-aid Highway Program.

In closing, Director Bennett stated that not only are there questions regarding future Federal-aid funding, but the source of dependable long-term State revenue to provide the match for Federal-aid funds beyond 2017 and the additional State revenue needed to adequately maintain and improve Arkansas' transportation system have not been identified.

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

Discussion Item - Continued

premium of \$25 million (total of \$494 million available for construction). No other bond sales under this program are expected.

Director Bennett presented a summary of the apparent low bids and bidders from the August 30, 2017, Bid Letting.

Danny Straessle, Section Head of Public Information, gave a presentation of the IDrive Arkansas Cameras. On August 29, 2017, the Department added statewide cameras to IDrive Arkansas. Currently over 90 cameras are available for viewing. Video information is obtained from cameras belonging to ArDOT, TDOT, MDOT, the City of North Little Rock and KFSM-Channel 5 in Fort Smith.

Director Bennett presented a summary of the possible 2018 Initiated Act Timeline and where the Department is on the timeline. In addition, Arkansas Legislative Audit completed the audit of the Department's revenue and needs. The report was part of the discussion and will be presented to the Legislative Joint Audit Committee on September 8.

Director Bennett presented a list of upcoming meetings and events that the Commissioners and Director will be attending, including the Legislative Joint Audit Committee Meeting on September 8, AR Asphalt Pavement Assoc. Luncheon on September 14, Red River Welcome Center Dedication on September 18, and a Joint House Public Transportation/Senate Transportation, Technology, and Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting on October 26.

Director Bennett gave a brief summary of the August 9 accident where a semi-truck collided with the overpass and spilled frozen pizza along I-30 just outside the main offices. Within a day the story, and the Department's photos and tweets, had gone viral and were being featured in overseas publications.

Director Bennett reported that the Broadway Bridge was among twelve finalists announced in the 2017 America's Transportation Awards competition sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), AAA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The project is now competing for the Grand Prize, determined by an independent panel of expert judges and the People's Choice Award, selected by the general public. He encouraged everyone to vote.


Director Bennett concluded the meeting with recognizing a couple of employees that have received awards recently:

- Sergeant James Hamrick, Arkansas Highway Police - CVSA - North American Standard Level V - Passenger Carrier Vehicle Inspection - 3rd Place
- Matt Barnett, Videographer - TransComm Skills Award - 1st Runner Up - Inside IDriveArkansas - Construction Zone Tutorial

2017-089

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 12:55 p.m., September 6, 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 September 6, 2017.


Lindy H. Williams
Commission Secretary