

Minutes of the Eighty-first Regular meeting of the State Highway Commission, held in the State Office Building with the following members present:

Frank V. Lanham, Chairman  
Joe Burkett, Member  
John H. Bickett, Sr., Member

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham, that Miss Kathleen Trigg be appointed Assistant Secretary, at a salary of \$150 per month, fixed by budget. Motion carried.

Order passed that James E. Ferguson be authorized to enter into correspondence with Wharton County Commissioner's Court, relative to the depositing of \$700,000 in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Department, for the purpose of hard surfacing road in accordance with application of said county.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that the awarding of the contract on the Jones County bids be postponed, until both the bids and the contractors can be investigated further. Motion carried.

" Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that the application of Victoria, Refugio and Aransas Counties for a designation from Victoria to the Refugio County line, thence via Tivoli and Austwell to the Aransas County line, thence on to Rockport, in Aransas County, and for 50% aid on the said road, be granted, on the condition that Aransas County deposit in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Department \$250,000.00,; and that Refugio County deposit in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Department at once \$360,000.00 or more; and that Victoria County vote bonds to pay for one-half the cost of road in said county, and deposit that amount in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Department. This road is to be a high type standard hard surface road, subject to the approval of the Federal and State Departments. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that the County Judge of Fort Bend County be notified by letter that the Highway Commission refuses to participate in any way with either State or Federal funds in the construction of the 15.14 miles of highway No. 3 in Fort Bend County under the bid of the Tibbetts Construction Company, which Fort Bend County is said to have accepted in letter to the Commission under date of August 10th, as the commission had in good faith previously awarded this contract to Mr. M. M. Cravens which was the lowest and best bid submitted, and unless the county funds now in escrow, are not by the next meeting of the Commission placed in the State Treasury to the credit of the Highway Commission, the Commission will presume that Fort Bend County does not want to participate in the acceptance of the Cravens bid and the Commission will then withdraw all connection with the project and will allot the funds set aside for this purpose to other projects. Motion carried.

Order passed by the Commission to request a report from the Resident Engineer of Hunt County on the application of the town of Caddo Mills for the Bankhead Highway to be so changed as to run through the town of Caddo Mills.

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Motion by Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Bickett, that the engineering expenses, which have here-to-fore, been paid by the County and under the new law will be paid by the Highway Department, be paid as they come in, and that the Counties will reimburse the State for the money paid out on such expenses at once. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Bickett, that the application for re-location of Waco to Corsicana Highway in Navarro County be granted as follows:

"That the said Corsicana-Corbet-Purdon and Dawson Public Road to the Navarro County line, be and the same is, hereby designated as a part of said Highway No. 31, and

That the said Highway No. 31 be extended parallel with the Cotton Belt track from the town of Kerens to the town of Trinidad; thence crossing the Trinity River to a connection with the Trinidad-Malakoff Public Road, and that as extended the same constitute Highway No. 31, connecting the city of Corsicana with the city of Athens, and it is accordingly so ordered." Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham, that the engineers be requested to get up an estimate of the cost of building an entirely new road west from Arlington to the Tarrant County line. Motion carried.

The bids on Parker and Johnson Counties on Highway No. 10 F.A.P.#\_\_\_\_, and the bids on Travis County on F.A.P.#478, Highway No. 20 were referred to the next meeting also, the bids on Hopkins County, F.A.P.#\_\_\_\_ were deferred until the next meeting of the Commission, on September 14.

The Hannah Construction Company was awarded the contract on F.A.P. 444-E in Nolan County, being the lowest bidder, for sum of \$7,181.69.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett that Wichita County be granted their application in regard to the Burk Burnett Bridge, on the condition that the State will not be called upon to expend any money until July 1, 1926, and on the further condition that the counties involved will bear the expense of any suits, that might be brought. Motion carried.

With reference to the routing of the highway in DeWitt County, through the city of Guero, the Commission agreed to further consider the two proposed routes, one leading in through Pine Street, and the other into West Main street, and some time in the near future send an engineer to inspect the routes and make his recommendations then to the Commission.

The application of DeWitt, Karnes and Wilson Counties for a designation of roads from Yorktown to Kenedy to connect with State Highway No. 16, and also from Goliad, through Weesatche, Yorktown, Davy, Gillett, and Denhawkin, to Stockdale was granted on the condition that the counties through which the roads run vote sufficient bonds to pay for 50% of the cost of constructing a high-type standard hard surface road, the proceeds of the bonds to be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Highway Department not later than January 1, 1926.

Motion by Commissioner Burkett that the road from Rising Star to Brownwood, via Angel, May and Clio, be widened, without expense to the State, to 60 feet, and the sharp corners cut off, and the road be put in shape generally for maintenance within 60 days, subject to the approval of the State Highway Engineer.

The application of Haskell, Stonewall and Jones Counties with reference to change in Highway No. 18 from Stamford to Old Glory via Sagerton to Stamford to Aspermont via Hamlin was deferred until engineers could make report.

The application of Gonzales and Guadalupe Counties for hard surfacing State Highway No. 3 through Gonzales, Fayette and Colorado Counties, and the graveling of Highway No. 3-A through Guadalupe County, from Seguin to the Caldwell County line, a distance of 15 miles, and from the Caldwell County line east to the Fayette County line, was deferred for further consideration Tuesday, August 25.

The request of Anderson County to transfer \$12,000 aid already allotted from Highway 43 to Highway 43-A in Anderson County, was granted.

The request of Freestone and Anderson Counties for a further allotment to finance the Freestone County side of a bridge at Bonner's Ferry, owing to a bank failure and the consequent tying up of that county's funds, was not granted at this time.

The request of Schleicher County for aid from the State for the improving of eight miles on Highway #30 in Schleicher County, which would connect up the highway from San Angelo to twenty miles south of Sonora was not granted at this time.

The application of Willacy County for a designation from Raymondville north to the county line, a distance of eight miles, was granted, on condition that bonds be voted to pay for 50% of the cost of construction, and that the proceeds from these bonds be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway Department.

The proposed designation from Raymondville, Willacy County, west to the county line, was not granted.

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On motion of Commissioner Bickett, order was passed instructing Engineer Nachtrab to survey the road from Burnet to Lampasas, on the San Antonio to Lampasas highway, with reference to securing a right of way of not less than 70 feet, making said survey within a week's time.

On the application of the County Judge of Travis County, the Commission voted to instruct the Division Engineer of Travis County to see that the contractor, who holds a contract for the maintenance of said county, made proper repairs on the Jollyville road in Travis County.

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On complaint of Judge M. U. Smith, of Caldwell County, the Commission voted to instruct Engineer Nachtrab, Division Engineer of Division No. 14, to instruct the contractor, who holds the maintenance contract for Caldwell County, to blade the road from Luling to Lockhart; to blade the road from the Travis County line to Lockhart; to blade the road from the Hays County line, through Martindale, to the Gonzales County line, and to further instruct the Engineer Nachtrab to confer with Judge Smith with reference to any needed repairs on the State Highways now under contract for maintenance.

Judge Porter, County Judge of Hays County, came before the Commission with reference to the maintaining of the highways in Hays County, asking if it were possible to give Hays County contract for maintaining the highways. Owing to the fact that the contract has already been awarded for a twelve month period from May 1, 1925, this could not be done. Judge Porter was requested to confer with the Division Engineer or the Commission at any time, he deemed it advisable.

On the request of Judge Perkins, County Judge of Bastrop County, the Commission agreed to send Maintenance Engineer, Henry J. Cox, for an inspection of State Highways Nos. 20 and 71 with Judge Perkins.

It was also ordered that Bastrop County be transferred from Division No. 17 to Division No. 14 for maintenance purposes.

The application of Childress County for a designation of six miles on the Tell road was not granted at this time.

The designation from Lampasas to Gatesville was granted on the condition that the bond issue of \$800,000.00 carries within 60 days.

The application of Falls County for \$12,500.00 aid for the resurfacing of 6.2 miles of road on Highway No. 6, north of Marlin, making a gap in highway between Waco and Marlin was deferred until a later date.

The application of Henderson County for a designation through Crossroads, Malakoff and on to the Kaufman County line was deferred until the Commission can secure a report from the Engineer concerning the construction difficulties.

Motion by Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Bickett, that the road from Winnsboro to Bogota be re-designated, to take effect July 1, 1926, conditioned that the county maintain it until that date, and on July 1, 1926, \$87,500.00, (one-half of the \$175,000.00 promised heretofore) will be available, and on January 1, 1927, \$87,500.00 more will become available, and conditioned further that the citizens of the counties will construct and pay for a \$10,000.00 bridge over Sulphur River, and raise an additional \$10,000.00 for road work. Commissioner Lanham voted "No." Motion carried.

The Commission agreed to take under advisement the application of Red River County for aid on Highway No. 37, from Pecan Bayou to Bryarly Ferry, a distance of five miles. Red River County is asking for \$31,000.00 aid.

On motion of Commissioner Lanham the request of Shelby County for \$9,900.00 additional aid on Highway No. 35 from Timpson to Atoyac River, a distance of six miles was referred to the State Highway Engineer, for consideration.

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Application of Panola County for \$10,000.00 aid on Highway No. 43 from Tatum to Carter's Ferry, a distance of 4.2 miles was not granted.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that Travis County be granted \$17,000.62. aid on Austin-Jollyville road. Motion carried.

The application for hard surfacing State Highway No. 3 through Gonzales, Fayette and Colorado Counties, and the graveling of Highway No. 3-A through Guadalupe County from Seguin to the Caldwell County line, and from the Caldwell County line east to the Fayette County line, was granted. Bids will be advertised for as soon as the money is available.