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Minutes of the Seventy-Eighth and Special 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, Member

Motion by Mr. Burkett, seconded by Mr. Lanham, that highway be designated from Santa Anna, Coleman County, to McCulloch County line, a distance of 20 miles. This road is known as the Santa Anna-Rockwood-Brady road. The County Engineer of Coleman County will send in map. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, to appropriate \$5,000.00 for graveling 2½ miles in Ellis County on Highway #68. For particulars, see map from Ellis County Engineer.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that Ellis County be granted aid to the amount of \$100,000.00 to be used on Highway #34 for grading and bridges. This money is to become available after January 1, 1926. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham that Paul Schriever, of Seguin, Texas, be awarded contract in Guadalupe County on projects F.A.P. 35-B and F.A.P. 35-A & C, for sum of \$41,435.73 and \$55,182.06. The reason for the rejection of the bid of Colglazier & Huff was on account of a clause in their bid which read as follows: - "This bid is submitted with the understanding that the base now existing will be put in proper shape to receive asphalt without expense to us." This clause was on Unit 2, section A & C, and for reason of the indeterminate amount of expense, this bid was rejected.

Bid for construction on Fort Bend County was awarded to M. Cravens & Son for the amount of \$348,632.04.

The topping of Smith County was referred to Commissioner Lanham, who will make an inspection and act accordingly. His report will be completed by July 27th.

Redesignation of road in Nacogdoches County referred to Commissioner Lanham, who will make inspection and act accordingly.

Bids for maintenance in Jefferson and Orange Counties will be advertised in the Orange and Jefferson county newspapers, bids to be opened at the next regular meeting, July 27th.

The Highway Department employed Mr. W. G. Hill, at a salary of \$20 per day, and one assistant, at a salary of \$15 per day for a 30 day trial to do the following auditing:

* To Audit Tax Collectors Account of Automobile Fees Collected as kept by the various County Depositories, or as many as you may elect, for the purpose of verifying Interest Payments.

To furnish your Department every fifteen (15) days with three (3) well bound Reports of each Audit made by us; one for your files, one for the Governor and one for the Depository.

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We agree to explain in detail our Report to the Officers of each Depository in order that you will not have any trouble in making collections.

If at any time, in our opinion, collections do not justify expenditure we will so advise you.

Our charges for this work will be, Twenty (\$20) Dollars per day for the services of W. G. Hill and Fifteen (\$15) Dollars per day for the services of his Assistants, together with necessary expenses.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. Hill Audit Co."

Mr. C. A. Schutze was appointed to relieve Mr. Harvey Deen on August 1st, as Superintendent of Construction.

Mr. A. S. McNeil was appointed to take the place of Mr. Schutze as Assistant Superintendent Aid Projects, at a salary of \$166.00 per month.

Mr. L. E. Lawrence was appointed to relieve Mr. F. E. Dickinson as Assistant Headquarters Maintenance Superintendent at a salary of \$200.00 per month, to become effective July 15th.

Motion made and carried that Comal County be granted 50% aid on bridge in Comal County, Highway #55 with the understanding that the bridge cost be not more than \$50,000.00.

The Qass County presentation was made by Geo. E. Ferguson, who will report by letter at the next meeting on July 27th.

Mr. Holland Page was instructed to proceed with the extra work in Guadalupe County, Highway #3A on a cost plus 10% basis, his estimates to be personally approved by Commissioner Bickett each month.

Motion by Commissioner Lanham, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that Kaufman County be granted aid on two $\frac{1}{2}$ mile gaps, which will cost approximately \$16,200.00, the state to pay 50% up to that amount.

Motion by Commissioner Lanham, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that over-pass in Bosque County be constructed, the cost not to exceed \$18,000.00. The Santa Fe Railroad Company has agreed to pay \$4,500.00, the County to pay \$3,000.00, and the State to pay \$10,760.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, that Llano County be granted \$10,000.00 for re-flooring Llano County Bridge and applying steel traffic safeties.

Motion by Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham, that Highway No. 13 from Amarillo to New Mexico line be put on 7% Federal System.

The application of the Bell Telephone Company for erecting posts on State Highway in and around Snyder, Texas, referred to Commissioner Burkett.

Motion by Commissioner Lanham, seconded by Commissioner Burkett that designation in Busk and Nacogdoches Counties going by Mt. Enterprise, thence to Timpson, be changed to go from Mt. Enterprise to Concord.

thence to Garrison. Motion carried. Designation to become effective January 1, 1926.

Motion made that the following designation be made, from San Antonio, in Bexar County, into Blanco County, through Johnson City, Marble Falls, Burnett County, through the town of Burnett, through Lampasas, Lampasas County. No money to be spent on this road until after January 1, 1926. Motion carried.

Motion made to advise the County Judge and Division Engineer Obenchain in Hardeman County to be present on July 27th at the regular Commission Meeting with data concerning Hardeman County.

Motion by Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Burkett that Edwards County be allowed \$8,655.45, as 50% of over-run. This money will be taken out of previous allotment.

Motion made and passed that Highway #36 from Rosenberg, Fort Bend County, through Freeport, Brazoria County, via Needville and Damon be re-designated. No money from the State will be spent during the year of 1925.

Motion by Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham that Eugene T. Smith be granted the exclusive charge of the auto registration, and that for a sum of \$2.00 per M, that he be granted one extra copy of each form as used in registration, and that the Department not give out any other copies of this registration. Motion carried.

Letter by Mr. Losh as follows:

"The definite location at an early date of the designated State Highway System is of prime importance in order that both public and private enterprises and improvements may be developed logically along permanent lines.

"It is recognized as being highly advantageous in the building of roads to construct the earth and drainage works well in advance of the placing of improved surfaces thereon.

"With the limited funds available to this Commission, greater service can be given the people of the State at large by grading and draining the roads without waiting for the necessary funds for surfacing, than in postponing the improvements until funds are available for the entire work.

"It is further recognized that maintenance moneys can be used to better advantage on roads which are graded and drained and on the proper location than on those that are not.

Therefore, it is made the policy of the Texas Highway Commission to proceed as rapidly as possible with building the necessary earth works, culverts, and drainage on the main State Highways, and the State Highway Engineer is hereby instructed to develop plans for putting this policy into effect. The State Highway Engineer is further instructed to commit this plan to the representative of the Bureau of Public Roads with the view of this Department working out a policy of the Commission on the Federal Aid Highways of Texas. "

Motion made by the Commission to instruct Henry Cox to make report on the maintenance of the road running from the Montgomery County line to Humble, Texas.

Motion by Commission Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham that the Washington Construction Company be instructed to proceed with the maintenance work on Highway #36 in Washington County, on a cost plus 10% on force account basis.

Motion by Commissioner Lanham, seconded by Commissioner Burkett that the following proposal be accepted by the State Highway Commission:

"To the Hon. Members of the State Highway Commission.
Austin, Texas.

Gentlemen:-

Houston County has been requesting a small allotment of State and Federal aid to match bond money already set aside for the building of Highway #19 north and south through said County.

It is understood that allotments of aid are not now available for this work.

Houston County is very desirous to begin the construction of this road, in fact has all the available money required to pay for the work in full. In order to expedite matters, I am authorized by the Commissioners Court to state that with your permission, Houston County will advance all moneys needed for the State's one half of this work amounting to \$35,500.00. This money to be re-funded to said County by February 1st, 1926.

Respectfully,

(Signed) W. B. Collins."

Commission passed motion to send work order to Capt. Schlaflf instructing him to proceed with work on Colorado County on Highway #3. This will entail the claying of a gap $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. This work is to be done by the Fayette County Construction Co, on a work order force account, cost plus 10% basis. Also, a stretch of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of Weimar to be done the same as above.

Commission voted to grant State Aid to the amount of \$15,000.00 to resurface Highway through Uvalde County. Bids will be called for at an early date.

Commission also voted to grant 50% aid towards the topping of roads in Medina County.

Contract was awarded to John W. Goodrum of Sequin, Texas, on Highway 81 in Gonzales County F.A.P. 440-D, in sum of \$21,998.49. F. A. P. 440-E was awarded to L. E. Sanders, of Hallettsville, Texas, in sum of \$63,544.38.

Commission voted that Mr. Bradshaw, warehouse foreman, Division #16, stationed at Corpus Christi, to report to Engineer Fields, to go back on his job at once.

Contract for Job 227-M, F.A.P. 478-D, Travis County, grading and bridges on 2.68 miles of Highway #20, was awarded to the low bidders as follows:

Henry Kyle, grading, \$ 5,506.20 .
Johnson Bros. structures \$39,329.12.

Job 227-L, F.A.P. 409, Travis County, stone base and bituminous top on 5.57 miles of Highway No. 2 held up for further investigation.

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On motion of Commissioner Bickett, seconded by Commissioner Lanham, Walker County was granted \$60,000.00 aid on Highway No. 32 from Huntsville to the Madison County line. The estimated cost of the grading and drainage structure is \$120,000.00, and the County has its half of the money available now. The \$60,000.00 from the State will not be called for until March 1, 1926.

On motion of Commissioner Burkett Coleman County was hereby allowed \$7,500.00 for the purpose of connecting up State Highways through the City of Cokeman to be expended under the supervision of the Division Engineer.

On motion of Commissioner Burkett Highway #18 Jones County was diverted via Hamlin to Aspermont. Motion carried.