

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

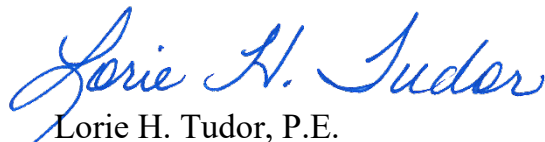
December 20, 2024

**ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2024-16**

TO: 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 December 3, and December 4, 2024.

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.

  
Lorie H. Tudor, P.E.  
Director

c: Commission

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

December 3, 2024

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, December 3, 2024. Members present were:

Alec Farmer, Chairman  
Philip Taldo, Vice Chairman  
Keith Gibson, Member  
Marie Holder, Member  
David Haak, Member

2024-067

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 3:00 p.m., December 3, 2024.

Chairman Farmer opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance in-person, as well as those who were watching online.

MOTIONS

MOTION Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Keith Gibson seconded, and the motion passed to authorize the use of electronic signatures for the December 3, 2024, Minute Orders.

MOTION Commissioner Keith Gibson moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to enter into Executive Session at 3:01 p.m. to discuss Director Lorie Tudor's letter of retirement to the Commission.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Keith Gibson seconded, and the motion passed to close Executive Session and reopen the public meeting at 3:51 p.m. Chairman Farmer reported the Commission accepted Director Tudor's letter of retirement and that no action was taken.

2024-068

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 3:51 p.m., December 3, 2024.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true recording of the proceedings taken by the Arkansas State Highway Commission at its meeting on December 3, 2024.



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Christie Heidelberg  
Commission Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

December 4, 2024

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, December 4, 2024. Members present were:

Alec Farmer, Chairman  
Philip Taldo, Vice Chairman  
Keith Gibson, Member  
Marie Holder, Member  
David Haak, Member

2024-069

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be opened at 10:00 a.m., December 4, 2024.

2024-070

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on October 7, October 14, October 17, October 25, and November 4, 2024, in the amounts of \$291,985.47, \$2,339,598.29, \$1,100,750.00, \$1,570,579.76, \$1,293,070.00, respectively, totaling \$6,595,983.52, 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.

2024-071

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated § 27-35-210(r) authorizes the issuance of a permit valid for one-year authorizing the movement of a truck tractor and single semi-trailer combination with a minimum of five axles hauling forestry

equipment to have a total gross weight of one hundred four thousand (104,000) pounds under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, rules have been promulgated to implement the permit issuance, including without limitation, the criteria required to qualify for the issuance of the permit; and

WHEREAS, certain changes in the promulgated rules are deemed necessary and desirable.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to promulgate the amended Rule 21 – Overweight Vehicles Carrying Forestry Equipment in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act for submission to the Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council for its review and approval.

2024-072

WHEREAS, some state highways are posted for weight restrictions below the maximum weight limits allowed by State law; and

WHEREAS, the “Process for Establishing Roadway Maintenance Assessments on Weight Restricted Highways” to accommodate non-divisible overweight loads by permit was developed due to the increase in damages caused by gas well production and implemented in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the current Maintenance Assessment agreements expire on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, an evaluation has determined that continuing with the previously established values, adjusted for inflation, for the Roadway Maintenance Assessment payments by the permit applicants is sufficient to recover damages caused by permitted loads on the weight restricted highways.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into new agreements with permit applicants using the values shown on the attached table through December 31, 2026.

2024-073

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) authorized funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for Federal Fiscal Years 2022 through 2026; and

WHEREAS, applications were solicited and received for these two programs from March 1, 2024 to May 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the Transportation Alternatives Program Advisory Committee, and the Arkansas Recreational Trails Advisory Committee have reviewed the applications submitted and developed funding recommendations.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into contracts with the projects' sponsors for implementation of the projects recommended for award on the attached list.

2024-074

WHEREAS, Arkansas receives Federal-aid Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA); and

WHEREAS, since 1998, a portion of CMAQ funds have been used in cooperative efforts to address air quality issues in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Minute Order 2020-042 approved \$213,000 per year in CMAQ funds to support air quality efforts of the Central Arkansas Transportation Study (CARTS) and the West Memphis-Marion Area Transportation Study (WMATS) through Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency is continuing to maintain air quality standards, which puts increasing pressure on local jurisdictions to address air quality issues in order to receive Federal-aid transportation funding; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Department to continue partnering efforts to address air quality issues with local jurisdictions.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to provide additional CMAQ or equivalent funds for use by CARTS and WMATS up to an annual total amount of \$213,000 for FFY 2025 through FFY 2028, to enter into appropriate

interagency agreements, and to participate in coordination activities for air quality planning.

2024-075

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act created a new discretionary grant program for Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Central Arkansas, Metroplan, has requested to partner with the Department on the development of a Central Arkansas SMART Streets Plan and a regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture update; and

WHEREAS, a SMART Streets Plan would aim to benefit the State by studying potential technologies with a focus on applications relevant to Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, consistently integrating these technologies into transportation infrastructure across Central Arkansas and other regions will be a significant step forward in innovating for our future; and

WHEREAS, the development of such a plan would allow Metroplan and the Department to successfully compete for a SMART discretionary grant in future application cycles; and

WHEREAS, the Department would provide the twenty percent match to Metroplan's Federal-aid funding and allow the use of an on-call consultant for the development of the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any agreements necessary with Metroplan to develop a Central Arkansas SMART Streets Plan and regional ITS Architecture update.

2024-076

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission ("Commission") acquired property for highway right of way Job No. 1236, more commonly known as the "Old Garland City Weigh Scales" in Garland City within Miller County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Miller County Judge Cathy Harrison has requested, by County Resolution No. 2024-6, that the property be transferred to Miller County

pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 27-65-109, for public purposes to support a memorial and roadside park in recognition of thirteen flight crew members that lost their lives following the crash of two B26 bombers during a training exercise in February of 1944; and the City Council of Garland, by Resolution No. 2024-1, has agreed to allow the County to install and maintain the memorial and park; and

WHEREAS, the Commission interest in the property subject of the County's request is more specifically described as follows:

The Legal Description in Exhibit "A" and area and survey shown and depicted on Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

NOW THEREFORE, 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 interests herein transferred for said highway purposes, and provided that in the event the County fails to use and maintain the properties described herein, or abandons same, the transfer agreement shall, upon 30 days notice, be terminated and the transferred property shall revert back to the Commission.

2024-077

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract No. 9, Job No. 006518, from Kenneth D. Narigon and Gelda L. Narigon, husband and wife, and James G. Graham, a single man, by Warranty Deed dated April 17, 1972, and filed of record on May 24, 1972, book 165 page 329, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Hot Spring County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired Tract No. 9 for THIRTY THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$33,470.00); and

WHEREAS, Tract No. 9 was acquired as right of way by the Commission and is not exempt from reacquisition by the former owner under Ark. Code Ann. § 27-67-322; and

WHEREAS, the APJ, LLC, of Rockport, Arkansas has requested to purchase a portion of Tract No. 9, Job No. 006518, which the District Engineer for District 6 has determined is not now, nor in the foreseeable future will be, needed for highway purposes; which contained the following parcel of real property that is more particularly described as follows:



A part of the NE ¼ SW ¼ of Section 3, Township 4 South, Range 17 West, Hot Spring County, Arkansas, being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of the said NE ¼ SW ¼ being a found ¾” pipe; thence S 59°44’01” East 630.16’ to a t-post and the point of beginning; thence S 04°08’41” W 157.25’ to a ¾” pipe; thence S 89°46’37” W 150.00’ to a set rebar w/cap; thence N 31°30’45” E 184.36’; thence N 89°46’49” E 65.00’ to the point of beginning. Containing 0.39 acres more or less, and

WHEREAS, APJ, LLC offered to purchase the tract for SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$7,800.00), representing the Fair Market Value as determined as of September 30, 2024 by three qualified appraisers.

NOW THEREFORE, the above-described property is declared surplus and upon receipt and consideration of the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$7,800.00), from APJ, LLC, of Rockport, Arkansas, the Chairman of the Commission is authorized and directed to execute a Quitclaim Deed conveying the right, title, interest or equity of the above-described properties to APJ, LLC; 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 Hot Spring 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.

2024-078

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property identified as Job No. 001266 in Perry County, Arkansas, by Court Order dated November 7, 1952, and being recorded in County Court Records of Perry County, Arkansas in Book L, Page 559 and 560; and

WHEREAS, the District Engineer for District 8 has determined that the areas proposed for release of the existing right of way are not now, nor in the foreseeable future will be, needed for highway purposes and recommends that these areas of the right of way be declared surplus property and revised by this Minute Order as more particularly described as follows:

Part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 27, Township 3 North, Range 20 West, Perry County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a 3 inch Brass Cap being used as the Section corner of Sections 26, 27, 34 and 35; thence North 88°53'11" West along the South line of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 27 a distance of 620.97 feet to a point on the Westerly right of way line of Arkansas State Highway 7 as established by AHTD Job 1266; thence North 00°52'21" West along said right of way line a distance of 201.68 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue North 00°52'21" West along said right of way line a distance of 228.24 feet to a point; thence South 89°07'39" West along said right of way line a distance of 10.00 feet to a point; thence North 00°52'21" West along said right of way line a distance of 14.21 feet to a point as established by this Minute Order; thence North 86°01'04" East along said right of way line a distance of 53.12 feet to a point; thence in a Southeasterly direction along said right of way line along a curve to the right having a radius of 839.47 feet a distance of 71.76 feet, having a chord bearing of South 03°26'56" East a distance of 71.74 feet to a point; thence South 01°00'00" East along said right of way line a distance of 171.14 feet to a point; thence South 86°01'04" West along said right of way line a distance of 46.72 feet to the point of beginning and containing 0.26 acres more or less as shown on plans prepared by the ARDOT and referenced as Job 080439.

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

2024-079

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract No. 47, Job No. 008438, from F.R. Mashek and Verlon Mashek, his wife; C. C. Mashek and Frances Mashek, his wife; Van Mashek, a single person, by Warranty Deed dated June 29, 1962, and filed of record on July 12, 1962, book 87 page 150-151, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Yell County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired Tract No. 47 for ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$1,450.00); and

WHEREAS, Tract No. 47 was acquired as right of way by the Commission and is not exempt from reacquisition by the former owner under Ark. Code Ann. § 27-67-322; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Taylor, of Dardanelle, Arkansas has requested to purchase a portion of Tract No. 47, Job No. 008438, which the District Engineer for District 8 has determined is not now, nor in the foreseeable future will be, needed for highway purposes; which contained the following parcel of real property that is more particularly described as follows:

A part of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4, and a part of the NE1/4 of the SW1/4, all in T-7-N, R-21-W, Yell County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the NE Corner of said NE1/4 of the SW1/4; thence S 01°09'56" W, along the East line thereof, 106.75 ft. to a point on the North right-of-way of State Highway No. 22; thence beginning N 77°12'37" W, along said right-of-way, along a curve to the right, having a radius of 5669.89 ft., and a curve length of 51.12 ft. to a point on the right-of-way of Old Highway 22 and the Point of Beginning; thence N 44°55'15" W, 92.61 ft.; thence N 17°29'32" E, 49.16 ft.; thence S 72°30'28" E, 39.00 ft. to a point on the right-of-way of Old Highway 22; thence S 61°42'16" W, along said right-of-way, 29.23 ft.; thence S 24°15'41" E, along said right-of-way, 95.31 ft. to the Point of Beginning. Containing 0.06 acres as surveyed. Subject to any right-of-way dedications and easements of record.

WHEREAS, Jackie Taylor offered to purchase the tract for ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$1,350.00), representing the Fair Market Value as determined as of September 25, 2024 by three qualified appraisers.

NOW THEREFORE, the above-described property is declared surplus and upon receipt and consideration of the sum of ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$1,350.00) from Jackie Taylor, of Dardanelle, Arkansas, the Chairman of the Commission is authorized and directed to execute a Quitclaim Deed conveying the right, title, interest or equity of the above-described properties to Jackie Taylor; 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 Yell 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.

2024-080

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract. 6, Job 090523, from Thomas Earl Keck, a married man, and Timothy Dale Keck, a married man, joined by their spouses Patricia K. Keck and Laura Keck, respectively, by Warranty Deed dated October 25, 2023, and filed of record on October 25, 2023, as Document No. L2023, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Madison County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, State Parks Division, in accordance with Public Law 91-646 as amended by Public Law 100-17, Title III, Section 301, et seq. of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, is entitled to receive an appraisal to establish the value of the lands donated by it as well as just compensation for such donation; has waived receipt of said authorized appraisal of the lands donated by it as well as just compensation for such donation herein for Tract 3 and Tract 5, Job 090523; and pursuant to the authority granted to the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, State Parks Division by § A.C.A. 22-4-108; and

WHEREAS, Tract 6 was acquired, by warranty deed, to facilitate the land transfer to satisfy this request; and

WHEREAS, the Commission acquired Tract 6 for TWENTY SIX THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$26,000.00), which the tract is more particularly described as follows:

Being a part of the NW1/4, SW1/4 and the SW1/4, SW1/4, Section 10, Township 17 North, Range 26 West, Madison County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a 2" aluminum cap stamped PLS# 1016 for the CW1/16 corner of said Section 10; thence S01°35'29"W a distance of 1329.91' along the east line of NW1/4, SW1/4 of said Section 10 to a calculated point for the SW1/16 corner of said Section 10; thence leaving said east line of the NW1/4, SW1/4 N87°10'25"W a distance of 351.94' along the south line of the NW1/4, SW1/4 of said Section 10 to a set 5/8" rebar and aluminum cap stamped "BDY PS 1731" for the point of beginning; thence leaving said south line of the NW1/4, SW1/4 of said section 10, S39°06'11"W a distance of 146.95' to a set 5/8" rebar and aluminum cap stamped "BDY PS 1731"; thence S24°06'11"W a distance of 180.18' to a set 5/8" rebar and aluminum cap stamped "BDY PS 1731"; thence S07°23'49"E a distance of 263.88' to a calculated point in the center of War Eagle Creek; thence along said centerline of War Eagle Creek S48°40'56"W a

distance of 106.39' to a calculated point; thence leaving said centerline of War Eagle Creek N01°35'29"E a distance of 620.30' to the north line of the SW1/4, SW1/4 Section 10 and a set 5/8" rebar and aluminum cap stamped "BDY PS 1731"; thence continuing N01°35'29"E a distance of 34.53' to a set 5/8" rebar and aluminum cap stamped "BDY PS 1731"; thence N88°36'11"E a distance of 234.61' to a found 3/4" pipe; thence S39°06'11"W a distance of 64.25' to the point of beginning. Containing 1.30 acres, more or less; (0.21 acres lying in the NW1/4, SW1/4 and 1.09 acres lying in the SW1/4, SW1/4). Subject to all roadways, easements and reservations that are of record or physically in place.

A portion of this property lies in the 100-year flood plain as indicated on FEMA FIRM PANEL 050449B, EFFECTIVE DATE 8/01/2008.

2024-081

WHEREAS, the existing Ashley County Area Headquarters facility in Hamburg, on Hwy 82, was constructed in 1961; and

WHEREAS, this facility will require relocation as part of the planned Job No. 020770, currently scheduled for November 2025; and

WHEREAS, the existing Area Headquarters property size of 2.3 acres is already severely undersized for the current operations and provides no space to relocate the building elsewhere on the lot; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to identify the most appropriate location for the new facility, acquire the necessary property, and construct an Area Headquarters facility, including buildings, appurtenances, fencing, and related items as funds become available.

2024-082

WHEREAS, the existing property serving the Nevada County Area Headquarters property near Prescott on Highway 371 is marginal in size; and

WHEREAS, an additional adjoining property of approximately 5 acres is available; and

WHEREAS, enlarging the size of the existing property would better accommodate the need for equipment parking and materials storage.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to purchase the additional property and make improvements including reconfiguring of the parking, fencing, and related items as funds become available.

Work will be done by contract and state forces.

2024-083

WHEREAS, the existing 100,000-gallon elevated water storage tank at the District Nine Headquarters was built in 1970; and

WHEREAS, the tank is used for fire suppression storage and all non-potable water needs by District crews, such as salt brine production, washing equipment, and bridge cleaning; and

WHEREAS, the exterior and interior paint coatings have deteriorated and oxidized, exposing the lead base primer; and

WHEREAS, the water tank needs complete internal and external surface rehabilitation, including new paint; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to proceed with the required work to rehab the water tower as funds become available.

Work to be done by contract as a Building Project.

2024-084

WHEREAS, IN BENTON AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, a project is programmed to construct the final new location segment of the Springdale Northern Bypass (Highway 612) between Highway 265 and Highway 412 east of Springdale; and

WHEREAS, various local entities have expressed interest in partnering with the Department for the construction of this segment of Springdale Northern Bypass.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary agreements with the local entities and to proceed with surveys, plans, and construction of the improvements as funds become available.

2024-085

WHEREAS, the City of Cave Springs has agreed to partner with the Department on Job 090513 to widen Highway 112 between the Springdale Bypass and West Wallis Road, including a portion of a new location alignment in Cave Springs, as shown on Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, the City has agreed to accept ownership of and responsibility for portions of Highway 112 and Highway 264 upon completion of Job 090513 as shown on Exhibit “B”; and

WHEREAS, funding for this improvement is included in the 2025-2028 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary agreements with the City of Cave Springs and to proceed with project development and construction of these improvements as funding becomes available.

FURTHERMORE, upon completion of Job 090513 and official notification by the Chief Engineer - Preconstruction, the following changes are hereby made to the State Highway System as shown on the attached sketch.

- The portion of Highway 264, Section 3 beginning at the junction with Highway 112, Section 2 and continuing west to the newly constructed segment of Highway 112 is to be removed from the State Highway System.
- The portion of Highway 112, Section 2 beginning at the newly constructed segment of Highway 112 and continuing north to the junction with Highway 264, Section 2 is to be redesignated as part of Highway 264, Section 2.

2024-086

WHEREAS, IN RANDOLPH COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF POCAHONTAS, local officials have requested a project to construct a center turn lane on Highway 67 between McDonald Street and Geneva Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pocahontas has offered to partner with the Department to improve this section of Highway 67 by providing twenty percent (20%) non-Federal match towards the project cost.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary agreements with the City of Pocahontas and to proceed with surveys, plans, and construction of the improvements as funds become available.

2024-087

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court of Poinsett County, by Resolution No. 2024-22, has requested that a section of Highway 1 near the Northeast Rice & Research Center be designated as the “Rice Research Mile”; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to permit the installation of signs on each end of this Highway 1 section, as requested by the County, in accordance with Commission Policy.

2024-088

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court of Izard County, by Resolution No. 2024-22, has requested that the new Highway 56 Bridge over Piney Creek be designated as the “Forty Four Bridge”; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to permit the installation of signs on each end of this Highway 56 Bridge, as requested by the County, in accordance with Commission Policy.

2024-089

Dalton A. “Alec” Farmer, Jr.  
Commissioner Emeritus

WHEREAS, ten years have passed since January 2015, and with their passing will cause to expire in January 2025, your term as a Member of the Arkansas State Highway Commission. We the undersigned, your friends and fellow Commissioners, those who will miss your comradeship, sound counsel, and words of encouragement, wish for your future the best of everything. We wish



to recognize you for your tireless efforts and acclaim your devotion to the service of this Commission. Your personal contributions over the past ten years have promoted progress and economic growth in this Great State through sound planning and the application of business principles in the development, construction, and maintenance of our overall State Highway System; and

WHEREAS, because of the imminent loss of the aforementioned knowledge and service to this Commission, these members, acting in their best interest, do herewith, through this instrument, serve formal notice that you are hereby directed and expected to continue to serve this Commission and the State of Arkansas.

NOW THEREFORE, with high esteem, we do hereby bestow upon you, ad infinitum, the title "Commissioner Emeritus."

Chairman Farmer opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance in-person, as well as those who were watching online.

#### MOTIONS

MOTION Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Keith Gibson seconded, and the motion passed to authorize the use of electronic signatures for the December 4, 2024, Minute Orders.

MOTION Commissioner Keith Gibson moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Minutes from the October 2, 2024 Commission Meeting.

MOTION The Commission approved Minute Order 2015-017 on March 11, 2015, authorizing the Department to request proposals, select consulting firms and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with the firms for environmental services in accordance with state and federal laws. Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to accept the Staff's recommendation to begin negotiations to provide on-call bat surveying services for calendar years 2025-2029 with the following firms:

- Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. – Franklin, Tennessee
- Copperhead Environmental Consulting, Inc. – Paint Lick, Kentucky
- Environmental Consultants of Habitats and Organisms, LLC – Tahlequah, Oklahoma
- Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc. – Cincinnati, Ohio
- Mitigation Surveying Services, Inc. – Benton, Arkansas
- Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. – Greenwood, Arkansas

MOTION

The Commission approved Minute Order 2015-017 on March 11, 2015, authorizing the Department to request proposals, select consulting firms and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with the firms for environmental services in accordance with state and federal laws. Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to accept the Staff’s recommendation to begin negotiations to provide on-call cultural resources services for calendar years 2025-2027 with the following firms:

- Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. – Springdale, Arkansas
- Chronicle Heritage – Memphis, Tennessee
- Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. – West Fork, Arkansas
- Flat Earth Archeology, LLC – Cabot, Arkansas
- Johnson, Mirmiran, & Thompson, Inc. – Brentwood, Tennessee
- Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. – Tulsa, Oklahoma
- WSP USA Inc. – Kansas City, Missouri

MOTION

The Commission approved Minute Order 2024-030 on June 19, 2024, authorizing the Department to request proposals, select consulting firms and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with the firms for on-call independent cost estimating services as needs are identified for calendar years 2025 through 2027 with an option to extend through calendar year 2030. Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to accept the Staff’s recommendation to begin negotiations to provide on-call independent cost estimating services for calendar years 2025-2027, with an option to extend through calendar year 2030 with the following firms:

- ELLE Consultants Incorporated—Rancho Cordova, California
- Innovative Contracting and Engineering—Highland, Utah

- Krebs Corporation—Park City, Utah
- Stanton Constructability Services, LLC—Holladay, Utah

MOTION

The Commission approved Minute Order 2024-007 on February 13, 2024, authorizing the Department to request proposals, select consulting firms and enter into any necessary contracts with firms to perform design services in accordance with state and federal laws. Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to begin negotiations to provide on-call design services for calendar years 2025-2028 with the following firms:

- AECOM Technical Services, Inc. – Little Rock, AR
- Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co., Inc. – Springdale, AR
- Crafton, Tull & Associates, Inc. – Rogers, AR
- Garver, LLC – North Little Rock, AR
- HDR Engineering, Inc. – Little Rock, AR
- HNTB Corporation – Little Rock, AR
- McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. – Fayetteville, AR
- Michael Baker International, Inc. – Little Rock, AR
- Modjeski and Masters, Inc. – New Orleans, LA
- Neel-Schaffer, Inc. – Jackson, MS
- NTB Associates, Inc. – Little Rock, AR
- Pickering Firm, Inc. – Jonesboro, AR
- TranSystems Corporation – Kansas City, MO
- Universal Surveying & Mapping, LLC – Stillwater, OK
- Volkert, Inc. – Little Rock, AR

MOTION

Commissioner Keith Gibson moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to submit the following applications for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program:

- Springdale Northern Bypass in Benton and Washington Counties
- Highway 7 (Union Street) Reconstruction and Pedestrian/Bicycle Improvement project in downtown Dardanelle in Yell County.

MOTION

Commissioner Keith Gibson moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to elect Vice Chairman Philip Taldo

as the new Chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, effective January 1, 2025.

MOTION Commissioner Marie Holder moved, Commissioner David Haak seconded, and the motion passed to elect Commissioner Keith Gibson as the new Vice Chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, effective January 1, 2025.

MOTION Commissioner Keith Gibson moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to enter into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. to discuss Director Lorie Tudor's retirement and the selection of the new Director.

MOTION Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Marie Holder seconded, and the motion passed to close Executive Session and reopen the public meeting at 1:59 p.m.

MOTION Vice Chairman Philip Taldo moved, Commissioner Keith Gibson seconded, and the motion unanimously passed to appoint Jared Wiley as Director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation upon the retirement of current Director Lorie Tudor. Jared Wiley will assume the responsibilities of Director January 11, 2025.

#### OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Patrick Patton, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the October 2024 State Highway Revenue update. For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025 Budgeted vs. Actual Operating Expenses for ARDOT, overall expenses (maintenance, operations, administrative, and construction) were below budget by -18.7% (-\$12.6 million). Mr. Patton noted that State Highway Revenues to the Department from traditional sources for the year were down a total of -3.7% (-\$8.9 million) in SFY 2025 compared to SFY 2024. Revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax was lower compared to the previous year. Total revenues available in SFY 2025 were -3.9% (-\$9.5 million) below last year. Actual State Revenue received was -3.4% (-\$8.3 million) below projected (budgeted) revenue for the year.

Kevin Thornton, Chief of Administration, provided an update on Federal and State legislative activities. The Federal government continues to operate under a Continuing

Resolution (CR), which is set to expire on December 20. By this time, Congress will have to pass an Appropriations bill for the remainder of 2025 or enact another CR. Thornton also provided an update of the members of the 119<sup>th</sup> US Congress and of the 95<sup>th</sup> Arkansas General Assembly.

Crystal Woods, Assistant Chief of Administration, provided an update on the Arkansas Legislative Council Efficiency Study Recommendations Rules for Implementation. Woods also reported that the monthly updates submitted for October and November 2024 included the following accomplishments:

- Recommendation #3 noted that the Department should "publish the status of construction projects and maintenance activities".
  - The process of soliciting input from key ARDOT staff members and stakeholders regarding how the information should be presented is complete.
  - Garver is finalizing all data connections and information into a draft dashboard for final approval.
  - Staff is working to be able to show the final dashboard at the February 2025 Commission meeting.
- Recommendation #10 noted that the Department should "implement mid-term IT initiatives that can optimize business operations".
  - In the past year, all applications and databases have been inventoried and a scoring system has been developed based on relevance, risk and cost of ownership. A target state for each one has been identified and a phased approach for migration has been used.
  - This recommendation is now complete.

Woods also presented an overall update of the implementation of the recommendations. Within the 13 recommendations are 90 rules that will be completed. To date, the Department has completed 70 (78%) of these rules. Five recommendations have been fully implemented.

Keli Wylie, Assistant Chief Engineer – Program Delivery provided the bid letting update from the October 9, and November 6, 2024, bid lettings.

Rex Vines, Chief Engineer – Operations provided a maintenance activity update, which included the Department's preparations for winter weather.

Director Tudor updated the Commission on recent Department activities. Since the October 2 meeting, several noteworthy Department activities occurred as listed below:

- On October 3, Vice Chairman Taldo, Commissioner Gibson, Director Tudor and staff attended the Joint Committee on Transportation in Fort Smith to provide updates on Interstate 49 and the Department' trails program.
- Director Tudor spoke at the Conway Business Expo luncheon on October 10.
- The I-57 Designation event was held on November 7 in Beebe. Chairman Farmer, Vice Chairman Taldo, Director Tudor, ARDOT Staff attended, as well as Arkansas State Representative Brian Evans, Congressmen French Hill and Rick Crawford and Senator John Boozman.
- Chairman Farmer and Director Tudor attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the Corning Bypass on November 14.
- On November 18, Vice Chairman Taldo spoke to the Springdale Rotary Club.
- The Good Roads Annual Meeting was held on November 20. Director Tudor spoke to the group and Chairman Farmer was presented a plaque acknowledging his 10 years of service on the Highway Commission.
- All five Commissioners, Director Tudor and staff attended the ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of the 30 Crossing project in Little Rock on December 3.

Jared Wiley, Chief Engineer – Preconstruction completed his presentation series on the project development process.

Director Tudor presented a list of upcoming meetings and events that the Director and Commission will be attending.

In closing, Danny Keene, Division Head of Equipment and Procurement reported on the results of the 2024 Fall Equipment Auction.

Chairman Farmer thanked the Commissioners and Staff for the support and friendships he made at ARDOT during his time as a Commissioner. He stepped down as Chairman, effective December 31. Dave Parker, Public Information Officer presented Farmer with a Commissioner Emeritus plaque on behalf of the Commission.

2024-090

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Highway Commission be closed at 2:02 p.m., December 4, 2024.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true recording of the proceedings taken by the Arkansas State Highway Commission at its meeting on December 4, 2024.



Christie Heidelberg  
Commission Secretary

\*In accordance with Minute Order 2023-042, attached to this record is the awards list of the October 9, and November 6, 2024 bid lettings.

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**CONTRACTS AWARDED FROM LETTING OF OCTOBER 9, 2024**

JOB NO.	STATUS	JOB NAME	ROUTE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
040901 DISTRICT 4 CRAWFORD & SEBASTIAN	05 08	HWY. 22 – GUN CLUB RD. (F)	FUTURE I-49	MANHATTAN ROAD & BRIDGE CO. 5601 S. 122ND E. AVE. TULSA, OK 74146-6912 (918)437-9560	\$282,499,739.25

**TOTAL AMOUNT FOR JOBS AWARDED TO CONTRACT**      **\$282,499,739.25**

- 01 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
- 02 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY
- 03 SUBJECT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S SATISFACTORY COMPLIANCE WITH ARKANSAS CONTRACTORS LICENSING LAWS
- 04 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY
- 05 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONTRACTOR'S SATISFACTORY FULFILLMENT OF DBE REQUIREMENTS
- 06 SUBJECT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S SATISFACTORY FULFILLMENT OF DBE REQUIREMENTS
- 07 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE STATE AID STREET COMMITTEE
- 08 SUBJECT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S SATISFACTORY FULFILLMENT OF THE BID SCHEDULE AND BID SCHEDULE NARRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

APPROVED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

*VW*      *JSW*



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## CONTRACTS AWARDED FROM LETTING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2024

JOB NO.	STATUS	JOB NAME	ROUTE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
110717 DISTRICT 1 ST. FRANCIS	06	N.E. ST. FRANCIS CO. STRS. & APPRS. (S)	50, 75 & 357	CAPITAL PAVING & CONSTRUCTION, LLC P.O. BOX 104960 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65110 (573)635-6229	\$6,711,300.00
A10028 DISTRICT 1 CRITTENDEN	06	HWY. 50 – HWY. 70 (S)	147	REDSTONE CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC. 505 WEST DIXON RD. LITTLE ROCK, AR 72206-4320 (501)374-1557	\$4,862,389.76
A10029 DISTRICT 1 CROSS	06	HICKORY RIDGE – GUM SLOUGH (S)	42	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$1,474,521.82
A10034 DISTRICT 1 MONROE	06	PRAIRIE CO. LINE – HWY. 79B (S)	79	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$760,037.77
A20027 DISTRICT 2 DREW	06	ASHLEY CO. LINE – MONTICELLO (SEL. SECS.) (S)	425	PINE BLUFF SAND & GRAVEL CO. P.O. BOX 7008 PINE BLUFF, AR 71611-7008 (870)534-7120	\$10,451,616.00
030598 DISTRICT 3 PIKE	06	HWY. 301 FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIRS (PIKE CO.) (S)	301	KESSER INTERNATIONAL, INC. P.O. BOX 723 LITTLE ROCK, AR 72203-0723 (501)244-2450	\$2,474,908.13
040899 DISTRICT 4 SEBASTIAN	04	HWY. 64 ARKANSAS RIVER BRIDGE PAINTING (S)	64	ELITE INDUSTRIAL PAINTING, INC. 1505 SAVANNAH AVE. TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689 (727)940-6001	\$3,676,000.00
A40037 DISTRICT 4 CRAWFORD	06	I-40 – HWY. 282 (S)	71	EMERY SAPP & SONS, INC. 2301 INTERSTATE 70 DR. N.W. COLUMBIA, MO 65202-1347 (573)445-8331	\$2,430,059.62
A50029 DISTRICT 5 IZARD	06	HWY. 69 – HWY. 56 (S)	9	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$2,259,293.70
A60050 DISTRICT 6 LONOKE & PULASKI	06	HWY. 161 – HWY. 89 (S)	294	ROGERS GROUP, INC. P.O. BOX 25250 NASHVILLE, TN 37202-5250 (615)780-5773	\$1,861,375.00
A60051 DISTRICT 6 PULASKI	06	SNIPES RD. – HWY. 10 (S)	300	REDSTONE CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC. 505 WEST DIXON RD. LITTLE ROCK, AR 72206-4320 (501)374-1557	\$3,320,181.97

# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## CONTRACTS AWARDED FROM LETTING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2024

JOB NO.	STATUS	JOB NAME	ROUTE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
A80030 DISTRICT 8 POPE		LAKE DARDANELLE STATE PARK – HWY. 7 (RUSSELLVILLE) (S)	326		ALL BIDS REJECTED
A80037 DISTRICT 8 POPE	06	I-40 – DOVER (S)	7	BLACKSTONE CONSTRUCTION, LLC P.O. BOX 11840 RUSSELLVILLE, AR 72812-1840 (479)968-1149	\$5,792,488.71
090490 DISTRICT 9 BOONE	04 06	HWY. 65 INTERS. IMPVTS. & SIGNAL COORDINATION (HARRISON) (S)	65	CROUSE CONSTRUCTION CO. P.O. BOX 1816 HARRISON, AR 72602-1816 (870)741-8622	\$2,347,027.49
A90024 DISTRICT 9 BENTON	06	HWYS. 16 & 59 (SEL. SECS.) (S)	16 & 59	APAC-CENTRAL, INC. P.O. BOX 9208 FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72704-0021 (479)587-3300	\$4,585,994.55
A90025 DISTRICT 9 BOONE	06	HWY. 65B – MAXIE CAMP RD. (S)	65	APAC-CENTRAL, INC. P.O. BOX 9208 FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72704-0021 (479)587-3300	\$3,183,531.00
A90026 DISTRICT 9 CARROLL	06	HWY. 62 – MISSOURI STATE LINE (S)	143	EMERY SAPP & SONS, INC. 2301 INTERSTATE 70 DR. N.W. COLUMBIA, MO 65202-1347 (573)445-8331	\$4,239,850.33
101017 DISTRICT 10 POINSETT	06	TYRONZA RIVER & DITCH NO. 6 STRS. & APPRS. (S)	118	ROBERTSON CONTRACTORS, INC. 1909 S. WESTWOOD BLVD. POPLAR BLUFF, MO 63901-6121 (573)785-0880	\$15,279,732.25
A00059 DISTRICT 10 CRAIGHEAD	06	CO. RD. 150 – W. OF CO. RD. 132 (S)	91	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$1,101,993.82
A00065 DISTRICT 10 POINSETT	06	HWY. 163 – I-555 (S)	14	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$1,876,572.46
A00066 DISTRICT 10 POINSETT	06	HWY. 214 – CROSS CO. LINE (S)	49	ATLAS ASPHALT, INC. P.O. BOX 2236 BATESVILLE, AR 72503 (870)251-2371	\$764,120.63
A00071 DISTRICT 10 VARIOUS	06	HWY. 412B – PEACH ORCHARD (SEL. SECS.) (S)	34, 67Y & 90	DELTA ASPHALT OF ARKANSAS, INC. 11719 HWY. 412 W. PARAGOULD, AR 72450-8252 (870)573-6882	\$5,868,078.32

# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## CONTRACTS AWARDED FROM LETTING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2024

JOB NO.	STATUS	JOB NAME	ROUTE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
012506 DISTRICTS 1, 5 & 10 VARIOUS	06	DISTRICTS 1, 5 & 10 RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS (2025) (S)	VARIOUS	CONTRACTOR'S SPECIALTY SERVICE CO. 1809 RUSSENBERGER ROAD LITTLE ROCK, AR 72206 (501)847-1300	\$1,021,397.90
012508 DISTRICTS 4 & 9 VARIOUS	03 06	DISTRICTS 4 & 9 RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS (2025) (S)	VARIOUS	BRYDL CONTRACTING, LLC 811 FM 3236 SULPHUR SPRINGS, TX 75482 (903)885-6191	\$1,050,672.75
AX0007 DISTRICTS 5 & 6 LONOKE & WHITE	06	HWY. 70 – HWY. 67B (SEL. SECS.) (S)	31	DELTA ASPHALT OF ARKANSAS, INC. 11719 HWY. 412 W. PARAGOULD, AR 72450-8252 (870)573-6882	\$6,322,211.11

**TOTAL AMOUNT FOR JOBS AWARDED TO CONTRACT**

**\$93,715,355.09**

- 01 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
- 02 SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
AND THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY
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- 08 SUBJECT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S SATISFACTORY FULFILLMENT OF THE BID SCHEDULE  
AND BID SCHEDULE NARRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

APPROVED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTOR

November 8, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE