

April 25, 1927.

Minutes of the One Hundred and Seventh Regular Meeting of the State Highway Commission, held in the State Office Building, with the following members present:

R. S. Sterling, Chairman,
Cone Johnson, Member
W. R. Ely, Member.
R. A. Thompson, State Highway Engineer.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Federal Aid, as soon as available, to the extent of one-half of the cost of construction of 3.55 mile gap on Highway No. 5, Bonham east $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, not to exceed \$15,000.00 per mile, be allotted to Fannin County, and that State Aid to the extent of completing the same be allotted, less \$6,000.00 to be appropriated and contributed by Fannin County; and on the further condition that the town of Bonham will connect up the Highway through the town of Bonham to the city limits. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Mitchell County be allotted 50% Federal Aid, 25% State Aid and 25% County Aid on Highway No. 1, from the Nolan County line to Howard County line, approximately 31.2 miles, for grading and drainage structures. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, it is ordered that the bid of E. Blankenstein and Ebb White, for the construction of Job No. 94, F.A.P. 471, section C, Grimes County, be accepted and the State Highway Engineer directed to prepare contract covering same for submission to the Commission. It is further ordered that an allotment of \$21,710.54 is made to cover the cost of this work on Highway No. 6.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that 50% Federal Aid be allotted to Ellis County for Highway No. 6, F.A.P. 487-C, Job 71-D 1/6 State Aid, on condition that Ellis County contribute 1/3 of the total cost of the project, and that advertising for bids for surfacing this project be started. This is for hardsurfacing this mileage. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the matter of redesignating State Highway No. 33-A from Wheeler in Wheeler County, east to Oklahoma line, be passed until a report can be secured from the Division Engineer as to condition of the road, etc.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Mr. Mead, Division Engineer, be instructed to make survey of Highway No. 108, from Strawn to the Erath County line with a view of making proper location of the road. Motion carried. This is in Palo Pinto County.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Federal Aid to the extent of \$111,460.56, estimated to be the total amount of Federal Aid, be allotted on 6 miles of road in Milam County, Highway No. 43, from east Williamson County line to the west line of Road District No. 10, as soon as Federal Aid is available, and \$86,460.56 State Aid, conditioned that Milam County will contribute to the cost of said project \$25,000.00 for structures and drainage on F.A.P. 494-B, Highway No. 43, from east Williamson County line to the west line of Road District No. 10, in Milam County, and on the condition that Federal Aid can be obtained on said project. Motion carried.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the sum of \$100,000.00 Federal Aid, not to exceed 1/2 of the cost of construction, as soon as such aid is available, and \$50,000.00 State Aid, not to exceed 1/4 of total cost of construction, be allotted to Wilbarger County to construct a bridge over Pease River, and one mile of concrete road on Highway No. 5, on the condition that County contributes to the total cost of said construction 1/4 of the same. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that an allotment be made to Wilbarger County of \$97,976.59 Federal Aid, \$52,909.88 State Aid, upon the condition that Wilbarger County contribute one-third of the cost of the total cost of the project, to hard surface with concrete 6.97 miles on Highway No. 5, from Harrold to Oklaunion in Wilbarger County. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that State and Federal Aid, not to exceed \$75,000.00, be appropriated as soon as Federal Aid can be available, on this project, F.A.P. 354-B, to construct 1.31 miles of Highway No. 8, in Hardin County, from the end of the present construction on said Highway to the Neches River Bank, on the condition that Hardin and Jasper Counties will maintain a first-class free Ferry across the Neches River at said point until said River may be bridged.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the request of Jasper and Orange Counties for the designation of a Highway from intersection with Highway No. 8 at Evandale in Jasper County, to intersection with Highway No. 3 at Vidor in Orange County, be rejected. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Division Engineer, Mr. McCarty, be directed to report on the present condition of Highway No. 3, through Colorado and Fayette Counties, and the probable cost of topping this road; also showing in this report amount thus far spent by the Bureau of Public Roads, State and the County. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Bureau of Public Roads be requested to put Highway No. 85, from Dilley in Frio County, through Dimmit County to Eagle Pass in Maverick County, on the Federal System. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the State Highway Engineer cause to be made a survey and location of Highway No. 117 from the Hutchinson-Carson County line, via Borger to Stinnett to Spearman, in Hansford County, and north from Spearman to the Oklahoma State line, on the condition that Hutchinson County pays the expense of the survey. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Highway Engineer ascertain whether or not Federal Aid can be obtained on drainage structures and grading, Highway No. 33, across Carson County, from Potter County line to Gray County line. Motion carried.

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Application for the extensions of State Highway from Honey Grove in Fannin County, due north to the Red River, was decided by the Commission to be left as is now designated.

Galveston County representatives were advised by the Commission that as soon as Federal Aid is released, bids will be advertised on Job No. 466, Sections D. J. E. F. and H. on Highway No. 6.

The matter of allotting aid on the construction of a 10 mile gap on Highway No. 24, in Palo Pinto County, was deferred indefinitely, and the Commission advised Judge Pitts, County Judge of Palo Pinto, County, to endeavor to get the county to vote bonds, and when this is done, the State will be inclined to assist in building this road.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Highway^{#8-A} from San Augustine in San Augustine County, to Zavalla in Angelina County be taken over for maintenance, on the condition that San Augustine and Angelina Counties shall furnish money to replace the washedout bridges and culverts. Motion carried.

Motion by ~~Mr.~~ Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that two-thirds of the cost, one-half Federal Aid and 1/6 State Aid, be allotted to Limestone County to build a concrete road, north and south through Limestone County, being Highway No. 14; said construction to be either concrete or first class asphalt macadam. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid, not to exceed \$15,000.00 per mile, as soon as Federal Aid is available, be allotted for the construction of a concrete road, or comparable type, through San Jacinto County, from the Liberty County line to Polk County line, Highway No. 35, and that State Aid be allotted on said project to complete the same, on the condition and provided that San Jacinto County will contribute \$10,000.00 per mile to said project, and on the further condition that the road does not cost exceeding \$30,000.00 per mile. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Hardeman County be allotted fifty percent Federal Aid, as soon as the same is available, to build a hard surface road through said County on Highway No. 5, from the Wilbarger County line to Childress County line, Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the location of Highway No. 19, north and south through Walker County, from Huntsville to Riverside, known as the "straight line" be and the same is hereby adopted, on the condition that the County Commissioners' Court of Walker County will pass a resolution that the road to Clines Prairie will be maintained as a first-class county road; and that as soon as the highway along the new designation is completed, that the designation via Clines Prairie be canceled. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid, of the total cost of hard surfacing Highway No. 19, from Huntsville south to the Montgomery County line, estimated distance 15.36 miles, 1/6 of the total cost of the same State Aid and the remainder to be contributed by Walker County. Motion carried.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Federal Aid, as soon as available, to the extent of 50% of cost of construction for hard surfacing Highway No. 19 through Walker County, from Huntsville to Riverside, be allotted, on the condition that Walker County will contribute, in the end, one-third of the cost of such construction, which cost is not to exceed \$30,000.00 per mile, it being understood that this allotment shall not be available until the drainage structures are completed, and the work is in shape for hard surfacing. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that State Aid of \$35,000.00 not to exceed one-half cost of said project, be allotted to Tarrant County for grading and drainage structures on Highway No. 121, from a point 12 miles northeast of Fort Worth to Grapevine, estimated distance 9 miles, upon the condition that Tarrant County will advance the funds for such construction and carry the same until the year 1928, and until State funds are available, at which time the State will rebate Tarrant County to the extent of \$35,000.00 on the condition that Tarrant County contributes to said construction the sum of \$35,000.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Tarrant County be allotted three-fourths of the cost of hard surfacing Highway No. 1, from the end of F.A.P. 42 to city limits of Fort Worth 1.59 miles, and from city limits of Fort Worth to a point within city limits 1.18 miles, total 2.77 miles, provided said cost does not exceed \$30,000.00 per mile, 50% Federal Aid, 25% State Aid on the condition that Tarrant County contributes 25% of the total cost of the same. Motion carried.

The request for designation of a road from Marshall in Harrison County, to Caddo Lake in same county was passed for the present until inspection can be made by the Division Engineer.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid, as soon as same is available, be allotted to Fort Bend County on Highway No. 12, from Rosenberg to Wharton County line, said cost not to exceed \$30,000.00 per mile, on the condition that Fort Bend County contributes to said construction \$10,000.00 per mile, the remainder of said cost to be allotted out of State Aid. The said construction to be of concrete or some comparable type. Motion carried.

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Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the State Highway Engineer be instructed to see about placing Highway No. 5, from Texarkana, in Bowie County, to Henrietta in Clay County on the United States System. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Sterling, that Hopkins County be allotted \$180,000.00 Federal Aid, as soon as same is available, and \$148,160.36 State Aid, for the construction of 15.24 miles of Highway No. 1, said construction to be 18' concrete, county to pay \$73,752.14. Motion carried. Mr. Johnson objected to this allotment and voted No.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid as soon as the same is available, be allotted to Montgomery County for the construction of Highway No. 35 through said county, on the condition that Montgomery County contributes \$100,000.00 to the cost of said construction, the remainder to be allotted as State Aid, and on the further condition that said construction does not cost more than \$30,000.00 per mile. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid be allotted as soon as available, to Austin County, \$8,000.00 per mile County Aid, and the balance to be State Aid, for hard surfacing Highway No. 36, from Fort Bend County line to Road District No. 3 line, a distance of 9.16 miles; it being understood that \$8,000.00 per mile to be contributed by Austin County shall include contributions already made by said county for structures and grading. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that an allotment of 50% Federal Aid be made on 15 miles of Highway No. 33 in Randall County, from Canyon to Amarillo, and one-sixth State Aid, on said project, on the condition that Randall County will contribute one-third of the total cost of said construction, same not to exceed \$30,000.00 per mile, and conditioned further that Randall County will furnish 80ft. right of way. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Federal Aid, as soon as same is available, be allotted to Carson County for hard surfacing highway 33 F.A.P. 421 D. and E., a distance of approximately 20 miles; one-sixth of the cost of such construction out of State Aid and one-third of total cost of same to be borne by Carson County. Motion carried.

The Commission advised the representatives from Blanco, Burnet and Lampasas Counties that it was not the intention of the Commission to cancel designation of Highway No. 108 at this time, or in the future, as far as is now known.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Engineer be required to report on the condition of Highway No. 16 from Nueces County line through Kleberg County to Brooks County line, a distance of 30 miles, and make an estimate of probable cost of topping said Highway.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Division Engineer, Mr. Finley, be requested to make inspection on 5.231 miles on Highway No. 3, from Pecos in Terrell County to Val Verde County line, and recommend what is needed at this time. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that 50% Federal Aid, first and last, as soon as same is available, and one-sixth State Aid be allotted to Grimes County for concrete paving on Highway No. 6, from the Waller County line to a point 5 miles south of Navasota, a distance of approximately 6.7 miles, on the condition that Grimes County will contribute, first and last, one-third of the total cost of the construction of said Highway. Motion carried.

Lavaca County representatives were advised by the Commission that they would be willing to make an allotment of State and Federal Aid for topping S.A.P. No. 320, Unit No. 2, a distance of 11.07 miles, as soon as Federal Aid project No. 373-B a distance of 14.23 miles is completed.

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(a) Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that all Federal Aid available on approximately 10 miles of Highway No. 43 North from Palestine, be allotted to Anderson County for a concrete slab, and 25% of the cost of such concrete structure out of State Aid, on the condition that Anderson County will contribute the remainder of said cost. Motion carried.

(b) Also that 50% Federal Aid, as soon as same is available, be allotted to Anderson County on Project F.A.P. 453-F, Highway No. 43, approximately 4 miles, to the Neches River Bridge, for grading and drainage structures; and that 25% of the cost of such construction be allotted out of State Aid, and the remainder of cost of such construction be contributed by Anderson County. Motion carried.

The State Highway Engineer is instructed by the Commission to investigate location of Highway No. 81, from Cuero in De Witt County to the Gonzales County line. There being a controversy over same at this time.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Sterling, that Baylor County be allotted, for asphalt surfacing 13.68 miles on Highway No. 30, from Seymour to Knox County line, and for asphalt surfacing 6.5 miles on Highway No. 24, from Seymour to Knox County line, 50% Federal Aid, and 1/6 State Aid; County to pay the balance of the cost of such construction. Also that bids be advertised for drainage structures and grading on Highway No. 24, from Seymour southeast to the Archer County line, for which drainage structures and grading 50% Federal Aid is allotted, and State Aid equal to 1/6 of the cost of such construction; County to pay balance of the cost. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the matter be taken under advisement in regard to refunding \$4,730.00 to Orange County, which sum represents one-half the cost of building a Ferry detour to be used during the construction of the Sabine River Bridge.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that contract be awarded to L. J. Miles, Fort Worth, Texas, covering grading and drainage structure on Job 54-B, S.A.P. No. 715, Highway No. 53, Crosby County, length 0.549 miles, in the amount of \$11,401.11. Motion carried.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Chairman of the Commission be authorized to notify the Aransas and Refugio County authorities that the matter in connection with Highway No. 113, (see minutes of April 11, 12, 1927) will be held in abeyance until the controversy concerning same is settled.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that 50% Federal Aid be allotted to Ellis County, for Highway No. 6, F.A.P. 487-C, Job 71-D 1/6 State Aid on condition that Ellis County contribute 1/3 of the total cost of the project, and that advertising for bids for surfacing this project be started. This is for hard surfacing this mileage. Motion carried.

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Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the State Highway Commission recognizes the emergency caused by the neglect to maintain properly certain Federal aided roads and now directs the State Highway Engineer to provide for expedited and intensive maintenance of those roads reported to the Commission by the Bureau of Public Roads to be in an unsatisfactory condition of maintenance. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Karnes County be granted \$5,900.00 State Aid to pay for overruns on Federal Aid Project No. 434-D caused by changing the source of caliche material on highway No. 16. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that in addition to previous funds set aside in the project agreement dated December 16, 1926, for maintenance on Highway No. 71, from the Montopolis Bridge to Onion Creek in Travis County, there is appropriated \$7,836.27 for the purpose of widening the base from the Montopolis Bridge to Onion Creek from 16' to 18', and the maintenance of the 1-1/2 mile stretch of asphalt pavement between Del Valley and Austin, which is estimated to cost \$5,500.11; and also for the purpose of paving certain overruns caused by necessary field changes, the cost of which was \$2,336.16. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Callahan County be granted \$8,493.62, or 50% Federal Aid and \$8,493.62, or 50% State Aid for the construction of the grading and drainage structures on 0.649 miles of State Highway No. 1-A through the corner of the county. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Jones County be granted \$1,384.17, or 50% Federal Aid and \$1,384.17, or 50% State Aid for the construction of the grading and drainage structures on 0.579 miles of Highway No. 1-A through the corner of the County. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that an allotment for 50% Federal Aid and 1/6 State Aid be granted to Shackelford County for grading and drainage structures on Highway No. 1-A, F.A.P. 495-A, a distance of approximately 17.358 miles, on condition that Shackelford County contribute 1/3 of the total cost of said project. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that a revolving fund, in the sum of \$1,000.00 be appropriated and set aside for the use of the Equipment Engineer, in advance, to cover the expense of equipment inspection. Motion carried.

Motion by Chairman Sterling, seconded by Mr. Johnson, it is ordered that, whereas a controversy has arisen in the location of Highway No. 81, through the town of Cuero in De Witt County, it being claimed that a portion of the bond fund of the road district is being used for purposes outside of said district, further work on the said project of location be suspended until the matter can be investigated and determined, and that the interested parties be notified. Motion carried.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to employ, temporarily for the period of ninety days, a competent Engineer to assist the Construction Engineer in the preparation of plans and specifications, and to otherwise assist in the inauguration of construction projects, at a salary not to exceed \$275.00 per month. Motion carried.

It is ordered, on motion by Mr. Johnson, that the bond of the Chief Clerk be set at the sum of \$10,000.00 payable as conditioned by Law. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the maintenance and equipment budget for 1927, amounting to the total sum of \$10,000,000.00 be approved. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, it was ordered that the request of State Highway Engineer for the purchase of maintenance equipment amounting to the sum of \$1,341,700.00 as contained in his recommendation, be and the same is hereby approved; and that plans and specifications and other necessary data for the requisition to the Board of Control, in accordance with the State Hgwy. Engineer's recommendation, be submitted accordingly. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that all Resident Engineers be appointed by the State Highway Engineer, subject to the approval of the Commission; and that the compensation of such Resident Engineers be fixed by the State Highway Engineer, subject to the approval of the Commission, and be paid by the Highway Department. Motion Carried.

Resolved that the participation by the State Highway Department, in the cost of service of County Engineers, be limited to the reasonable actual cost of such service independent of any arrangement between such County Engineers and the Commissioners' Court. Seconded by Judge Ely. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to purchase seventeen Load 6' Meters for weighing trucks and other motor vehicles; and that requisition accordingly be made to the Board of Control for bids on same. Motion carried.

APPROVED:

P. A. Thompson
State Highway Engineer.

P. S. Sterling
Chairman

Eric Johnson
Member

W. R. Ely
Member

B. H. Marshall
Acting Secretary.