

May 23, 1927.

Minutes of the One Hundred and Ninth 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 Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Texas Highway Commission is in favor of adding to the U. S. Interstate Highway System as designated by the Joint Board appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture; a Highway connecting Amarillo, Texas, and Enid, Oklahoma, and it was further ordered that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to the Executive Committee of the American Association of State Highway Officials with the request that favorable action be taken whenever this matter may properly come before the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

(a) Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that one-third State Aid and one-third Federal Aid be allotted to Fort Bend County for grading and drainage structures on Highway No. 3 and 12 in said County, approximately 30 miles, on condition that Fort Bend County will be able to sell its bonds to pay the balance of one-third of the cost of said construction, the total of said Federal and State Aid allotted for grading and drainage structures to be approximately \$50,000.00. Motion carried.

(b) Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the application of Fort Bend County for aid on Highway No. 36, from Rosenberg to Fort Bend County-Brazoria County line, approximately 21 miles, be taken under advisement at this time.

(c) Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that one-third Federal Aid and one-third State Aid and one-third County Aid is allotted to Fort Bend County to pave a section 350 feet long on Highway No. 3, at the west end of F.A.P. 334, at the Brazos River in Fort Bend County, and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids. Motion carried.

(d) Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the request of Fort Bend County for aid to top Highway No. 19 be taken under advisement. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the County Judge and County Commissioners' Court of Wharton County ask leave to include in their written proposal of March 15, 1927, as appears in the minutes of the open session of the Highway Commission March 15, 1927, page 16, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Highway No. 12, from Hungerford to the Fort Bend County line, which leave was granted; thereupon the whole proposal of Wharton County was accepted; that is to say, that Wharton County is to finance the work of grading and drainage structures as proposed by them, the Highway Commission agreeing to give the County credit for money so expended by them. It is further ordered by the Commission that Federal Aid to the extent of \$1,000.00 per mile for such construction be allotted to Wharton County on said project of drainage and grading structures. Motion carried.

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(a) A request from Erath County for \$10,000.00 State Aid on Highway NO. 68 from Stephenville to Chalk Mountain was declined.

(b) Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Division Engineer be authorized to grade up Highway No. 108 in Erath County, from Strawn in Palo Pinto County to the Hamilton County line, on condition that Erath County furnish equipment for such work, and on the further condition that Erath County furnish 80 ft. right-of-way. And it is further ordered that the sum of \$30,000.00 which is the cost of the proposed work as estimated by the Division Engineer, be set aside out of the maintenance funds of the Department to defray cost of said work, and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to proceed with same and to advertise for bids for culverts and other drainage structures, as in his opinion is more economical. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that not exceeding \$60,000.00 State and \$60,000.00 Federal Aid be allotted to Panola County for the construction of grading and drainage structures on Highway No. 8 from Martin's Creek in Panola County to a connection on Highway No. 8 in Harrison County. Motion carried.

W. F. Littleton, County Judge of Val Verde County, requested \$194,975.55 Aid on Highway No. 3 in Val Verde County. Action was postponed by the Commission at this time.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for graveling 8.239 miles of Highway No. 73 from Fayetteville in Fayette County, to the Austin County line. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Motley County be allotted \$500.00 per mile Federal Aid on Highway No. 18 from the Dickens County line to Hall County line, a distance of approximately 38.75 miles, to cover the cost of grading and drainage structures on said project; on condition that Motley County pay the balance of the cost of such construction; the Highway Commission agreeing to make further allotments of Federal Aid and State Aid when/available, not to exceed two-thirds State and Federal Aid of the total Cost of construction; and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to make surveys, plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the construction of Unit I of said Highway. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Foard County be allotted \$500.00 per mile Federal Aid on Highway No. 28, from the Wilbarger County line to Cottle County line, approximately 44 miles, to cover the cost of grading and drainage structures on said project, on the condition that Foard County pay the balance of the cost of such construction; the Highway Commission agreeing to make further allotments of Federal and State Aid when available, not to exceed two-thirds State and Federal Aid of the total cost of construction; and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to make surveys, plans and specifications, and advertise for bids for the construction of Unit I of said Highway. Motion carried.

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Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Cottle County be allotted \$500.00 per mile Federal Aid on Highway No. 28, from the Foard County line to the Motley County line, approximately 33 miles, to cover the cost of grading and drainage structures on said project; on the condition that Cottle County pay the balance of the cost of such construction; the Highway Commission agreeing to make further allotments of Federal and State Aid when available, not to exceed two-thirds State and Federal Aid of the total cost of construction, and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to make surveys, plans and specifications, and to advertise for bids for the construction of Unit I of said Highway. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Wilbarger County be allotted \$500.00 per mile Federal Aid on Highway No. 28, from Vernon to the Foard County line, approximately 12.3 miles, to cover the cost of grading and drainage structures on said project; on condition that Wilbarger County pay the balance of the cost of such construction; the Highway Commission agreeing to make further allotments of Federal and State Aid when available, not to exceed two-thirds State and Federal Aid of the total cost of construction, and the State Highway Engineer be authorized to make surveys, plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the construction of Unit I of said Highway. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Federal Bureau of Public Roads be requested to designate as a Federal Highway, a continuation of Highway No. 37 from Winnsboro in Wood County, to Mount Vernon in Franklin County, to a connection with Highway No. 1; and further that the District Engineer be directed to make preliminary surveys of route of State Highway from Mount Vernon to a point near Talco, on Highway No. 49, with a view, if possible, of shortening the mileage and eliminating the cost of another bridge across the Sulphur River, and to report on that proposed routing as compared with the present routing from Mount Vernon to Bogata; also that it be suggested to the County to suspend further construction of the bridge across the Sulphur River on the route to Bogata until further investigation be made. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that \$60,000.00 State Aid and \$20,000.00 Federal Aid be allotted to Red River and Franklin Counties for the construction of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles across the Sulphur River bottom, including bridge across the Sulphur River on Highway No. 49, from a point from the Titus County line to a point near Johntown, in Red River County. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that State Aid not exceeding \$15,000.00 and Federal Aid, \$9,000.00, balance county aid is allotted to San Patricio County for the construction of 2.94 miles of Highway No. 16, from Portland in San Patricio County, to Corpus Christi in Nueces County, and that the Highway Engineer be authorized to approve plans and to advertise for bids on this project. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that Mr. Thompson, State Highway Engineer, be instructed to go to Live Oak County and personally investigate the situation in regard to the proper routing of Highway No. 9 in that County.

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Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the allotment made on April 13, 1927, to Cass County on Job 34-K, F.A.P. 457 A.B.C, Highway No. 8, be increased from \$120,000.00 to \$145,000.00 State Aid, and that all Federal Aid available be allotted to this project. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the matter of the location of the road from Gomez to Tokio, in Terry County, be passed until an Engineer can go over the proposed new location and make an investigation and report; and that pending the decision of the Commission whether the location follows the present route or be changed on the straight line, that the Division Engineer be instructed to do such work on the present location as will keep the road in a passable condition. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for grading and drainage structures as soon as plans are approved on Highway No. 84, from Clairemont to the Garza County line, a distance of 18.97 miles, on condition that Road District No. 1, Kent County furnish all the funds for said construction, with the understanding that at some future time, when funds are available, the Highway Commission will make an allotment of State Aid not exceeding fifty percent of the cost of such construction. Motion carried.

The Commission advised Hunt County Representatives to take up the matter of building an underpass with the Missouri Kansas Texas Railway on Highway No. 1, and in the event that the Railway will build said underpass, the State will assist in the construction of the road. Motion carried.

May 24, 1927.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Mr. Mead, Division Engineer at Fort Worth, be requested to report on the present condition of Highway No. 39 in Collin County, cost of maintenance, and whether or not there is any necessity for hard surfacing the same at this time; the kind of hard surface required; also estimated cost, and such other information as may be necessary for the guidance of this Department. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Division Engineer be requested to make a report on the condition of Highway No. 11 from Omaha to Daingerfield, in Morris County, cost of maintenance, and any other facts that would bear on the feasibility of improving the road. Motion carried.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that Clay County be authorized to proceed to surface as much of Highway No. 25 as they have funds to spend on the project, and that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids on said project. Motion carried.

The Highway Commission accepted the invitation of Judge Scott to visit Caddo Lake in Harrison County, with the end in view of determining the advisability of extending Highway No. 43 from Marshall to Caddo Lake.

May 24, 1927.

(a) The request of Tom Green County for \$35,393.75 Aid on Highway No. 70, from San Angelo north to Coke County line, a distance of 14.75 miles, was taken under advisement by the Commission.

(b) Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for the construction of grading and drainage structures on Highway No. 99, in Tom Green County, from the 12 mile bridge west to the Tom Green County line, a distance of $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, approximately. Motion carried.

In regard to Highway No. 102 from Lexington in Lee County, to Taylor in Williamson County, a distance of $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles, the Highway Commission accepted the proposal of Lee County as set out in the following letter:

May 21, 1927.

"The State Highway Commission,
Austin, Texas.

Gentlemen:-

With reference to the eight miles and one-half of road in Lee County on Highway No. 102, running from Taylor, Williamson County, Texas, to Lexington, Lee County, Texas, will say that Lee County in addition to the \$12,500.00 (Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) of bond money already pledged, is willing to furnish the right-of-way and move all fences and building off of said right-of-way.

Yours truly,

(signed) Ollie C. York,
County Judge, Lee County, Texas."

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that a State Highway be designated from Sinton in San Patricio County, to the Victoria County line, on a route to be approved by the State Highway Engineer, on the condition that before the same is taken over by the State Highway Department for maintenance, Refugio County shall put in the necessary drainage structures and grade up the road, subject to the approval of the Highway Commission. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that \$5,663.37 State Aid be allotted to Polk County for the construction of a project approximately 2 miles in length on Highway No. 106, from the Trinity County line to Carmona, on the condition that Polk County furnish an equal amount of funds for such project; and that the State Highway Engineer be instructed to advertise for bids. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the Division Engineer be authorized to put up grading and drainage structures on the proposed change from Little Brazos River to the Robertson County line, Highway No. 6, provided the cost does not exceed the cost of maintenance on that part of said Highway eliminated by said change; and provided further that Falls County will furnish 80 ft. right-of-way and clear and grub the same of timbers and other obstructions, and that Falls County will furnish the gravel for the same at the pit.

May 24, 1927.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the application for designation of a Highway from intersection with No. 71 at Bastrop in Bastrop County, via Lockhart, to intersection with Highway No. 80 at Fentress in Caldwell County, be postponed.

The request from Bowie County Representatives for a designation from Shaw State Farm Ferry, south to DeKalb connecting Highway No. 1, was declined by the Commission.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that P. S. & E. inspection on Highway No. 3 and 19 be made in Harris County. Motion carried.

The following action was taken in regard to Highway No. 7, in Freestone County:

Whereas, on May 9, 1927, an allotment of aid was made to Freestone County, for the construction of State Highway No. 7, through the County, or a distance of approximately 42 miles. In the allotment it was recited that the County had expended on this Highway \$313,000.00 and now has on hand \$152,000.00 for the further improvement of this highway.

Upon checking the records of this office it was found that the amount put up by the County does not agree with the amount as claimed by the County. The County was requested to furnish data supporting the amount that they claim as having expended, which they have done, as per statement filed by the County Auditor.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the figure of \$313,000.00 be accepted as being approximately correct for the purpose of computing the County's share of the construction of this Highway as set forth in the minutes of the State Highway Commission on May 9, 1927. It being further understood that the County's share of the entire 42 miles will be \$313,000.00 plus \$152,000.00 or \$465,000.00, and further, that the County proposes to spend said \$152,000.00 now on the 29 miles of this Highway from a point 2.79 miles east of Teague to the connection of Highway No. 43 near the Trinity River, with the understanding that when the remaining 13 miles from the Limestone County line to a point 2.79 miles east of Teague is hard surfaced, when funds are available, the County's share in the improvement of the 13 miles be absorbed in the amount which they have actually put up for the further improvement of the 29 mile stretch. Motion carried.

Mr. J. G. Irby, Resident Engineer of Gonzales County, requested \$140,000.00 aid on Highway No. 81 from Nixon to Westhoff, a distance of 10.88 miles. Action was postponed by the Commission at this time.

The request of J. A. Brooks, County Judge of Brooks County, to transfer \$6,000.00 aid allotted to Brooks County on Highway No. 12, to Highway No. 16, for the construction of 1200 ft of said highway, through the town of Falfurrias, was taken under advisement by the Commission.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that whereas, Dimit County proposes at their own expense to construct an underpass on Highway No. 55, under the Missouri Pacific Railroad, at what is known as the McClendon Crossing; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the location of said Highway remain as now designated, subject, however, to the report and investigation and recommendation of the Highway Engineering Department. Motion carried.

May 24, 1927.

Judge Dancy, County Judge of Cameron County, made a request for Federal Designation of Highway No. 100, from Bareda to Point Isabel; also requested State and Federal Aid in the amount of \$360,000.00, which matters the Commission took under advisement at this time.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the bid of Hanson-Pearce Construction Company, Beaumont, Texas, for \$125,321.44, being the lowest and best bid on F.A.P. 466-A and D, Unit 2, Harris County for concrete pavement on 3.777 miles of Highway No. 6, in Harris County, be accepted and contract awarded to said Hanson-Pearce Construction Company accordingly, upon the recommendation of the State Highway Engineer, concurred in by Mr. Everett, Engineer of Federal Bureau of Public Roads; also concurred by the County Engineer of Harris County. Motion carried in open session of Commission.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, the bid of J. P. Foty, Wichita Falls, Texas, for \$196,773.90, being the lowest and best bid on F.A.P. 451-A, Unit 2, Job 244-D, Highway No. 5 in Wilbarger County was accepted and contract awarded accordingly, upon the recommendation of the State Highway Engineer, concurred in by Mr. Everett, Engineer of Federal Bureau of Public Roads. Motion carried in open session of the Commission.

On motion of Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, it appearing that the bid of Gibson & Mitchell, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, for \$355,131.17 being the lowest and best bid on F.A.P. 460-B, Unit 2, Highway No. 19 in Walker County, was accepted and contract awarded accordingly upon the recommendation of the State Highway Engineer, concurred in by Mr. Everett, Engineer of Bureau of Public Roads. Motion carried in open session of the Commission.

On motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, it appearing that the bid of The McClung Construction Company of Fort Worth, Texas, for \$80,174.53, being the lowest and best bid on F.A.P. 52-D, Unit 2, Highway No. 1 in Callahan County, was accepted and the contract awarded accordingly to said Highway Engineer, concurred in by Mr. Everett, Engineer of the Federal Bureau of Public Roads. Motion carried in open session of the Commission.

It was ordered that all certified checks of other bidders on the projects hereinbefore stated, except the certified checks of those to whom contracts were awarded, be returned to the respective bidders. Motion carried in open session of Commission.

It was ordered that the Engineer of the Federal Bureau of Public Roads be requested to make a reinspection, or further inspection of the rerouting of Highway No. 3 in Harris County, through and adjacent to the city of Houston, Texas. Motion carried in open session of Commission.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, ~~it was ordered~~ that the sum of \$107,000.00 or so much thereof as is necessary, be allotted to Gregg County for the construction of a bridge across the Sabine River on Highway No. 31, near the town of Gladewater, Gregg County, 50% Federal Aid and 50% State Aid, on condition that Gregg County at its own cost, will use as much of the material of the present bridge as is practicable to replace the inferior bridge on Highway No. 15 in said Gregg County. Motion carried.

May 25, 1927.

The following allotment to Austin County is made in lieu of the allotment to said County of date April 26, 1927, as appears in the Minutes of the open session of the Commission of that date, page 30,

To hard surface Highway No. 36, from Fort Bend County line to Road District No. 3 line, 9.16 miles in Austin County, \$85,000.00 Federal Aid, \$54,618.05 County Aid to be furnished by Austin County and remainder of the cost of such construction to be paid out of State Aid. This re-allotment to bear date as of April 26, 1927, and is in lieu of the previous allotment referred to. Estimated amount of said cost being \$237,000.00

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that \$34,388.89 Federal Aid and \$34,388.89 State Aid be granted for the construction of Job 222-A, F.A.P. 324-D, in Terrell County, Texas, said section being 5.231 miles of Highway No. 3 in Lozier Canyon; and that the State Highway Engineer be directed to advertise for bids for the construction of said section. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Judge Ely, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to make surveys, prepare plans and advertise for bids for a timber trestle approach to the east end of the recently completed steel bridge across Brazos River on Highway No. 43 in Robertson County, Texas; and to notify Robertson County that said County will be required to furnish the necessary right-of-way, from the end of said bridge eastward to the town of Hearne. Motion carried.

May 26, 1927.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Sterling, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids on concrete pavement on Section F., F.A.P. 438 in Hall County, Texas, Highway No. 5.

Motion by Judge Ely, seconded by Mr. Sterling, that the State Highway Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for bituminous topping on 3.91 miles of Highway No. 6, being F.A.P. 113, Section 2-B Hill County, Texas; also for bituminous top on Highway No. 2-E in Hill County, F.A.P. 413-A and B.

APPROVED

R. A. Thompson
State Highway Engineer.

R. S. Sterling
Chairman

One Johnson
Member

W. R. Ely
Member

Ruth Majors
Acting Secretary