

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

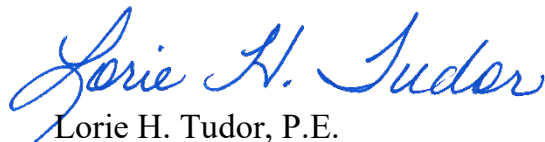
March 8, 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 2022-04

TO: DIVISION HEADS AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS

We are transmitting herewith for your information and records a copy of the Minutes of the Commission Meeting in Little Rock, AR on February 2, 2022.

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

February 2, 2022

Following is the record of proceedings of the Arkansas State Highway Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas, February 2, 2022. Members present were:

Robert S. Moore, Jr., Chairman
Alec Farmer, Vice Chairman
Philip Taldo, Member
Keith Gibson, Member
Marie Holder, Member

2022-001

IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Commission be opened at 10:00 a.m., February 2, 2022.

2022-002

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Committee has awarded purchases on December 22, 2021, totaling \$363,670.00, 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.

2022-003

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has billed the Arkansas Department of Transportation for membership dues for the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, this membership is regarded as being highly beneficial to the Department.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Director is authorized to process payment for AASHTO membership dues for the year 2022 in the amount of \$42,365.76.

2022-004

WHEREAS, the Highway System in Arkansas facilitates safe mobility, economic development, and tourism enhancement throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, public information and education activities play an important role in providing the citizens of our State with pertinent information relative to the issues facing the Commission and Department; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation serves as an effective group to provide this information and education to transportation stakeholders, elected officials, and the public.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to make a contribution of \$30,000 to the Arkansas Good Roads Foundation for its public information and education activities for the time period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

2022-005

WHEREAS, the Department relies on a variety of professionals that are vital to accomplishing our mission of providing safe and efficient transportation solutions to support Arkansas' economy and enhance the quality of life for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the COVID pandemic has resulted in the Department expanding the use of technology to develop an efficient and productive remote work process; and

WHEREAS, currently, all phases of project development, including design, are handled in the Department's Central Office in Little Rock; and

WHEREAS, an employee survey has revealed a strong desire for more flexibility in work location options; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a satellite office in Northwest Arkansas would facilitate and enhance the Department's ability to recruit, attract, and retain professional staff.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to establish a satellite office in Northwest Arkansas to supplement the Department's project delivery efforts.

2022-006

WHEREAS, Minute Order 2021-005 authorized the Director to update the Arkansas Marine Use of Motor Fuels study and recommend any subsequent changes to the Marine Fuel Tax Program; and

WHEREAS an updated funding formula for the Marine Fuel Tax Program has been recommended based on the new information; and

WHEREAS the group also recommended changes to the operation of the Marine Fuel Tax Program that will be beneficial to both agencies and the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, an updated Marine Fuel Tax Agreement has been drafted for execution by both agencies; and

WHEREAS, at their January 13, 2022 meeting, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission passed Minute Order 22-005 authorizing their Director to sign the new agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, the addendum to the agreement is hereby adopted for use as a guide for future implementation of the Marine Fuel Tax Program.

FUTHERMORE, the Director is authorized to enter into the new Marine Fuel Tax Agreement with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and to operate the program as specified therein.

2022-007

WHEREAS, the 93rd General Assembly of the State of Arkansas enacted Act 871 during the 2021 Regular Session, which amended the law concerning maximum vehicle height in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, as required by Act 871 of 2021 the attached amendment to the Permit Rules for the Movement of Oversize and Overweight Vehicles On the Arkansas State Highway System shall be promulgated.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Arkansas law, the Director is authorized to promulgate these amended rules.

2022-008

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

WHEREAS, funding for these programs will be made available to the Department for each of these years.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to solicit applications from local sponsors to fund eligible projects under these programs annually through Federal Fiscal Year 2026.

2022-009

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Department to provide timely engineering surveys for the design and construction of highways and land surveys necessary for the purchase of highway rights of way; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Minute Order 2018-007 passed on February 6, 2018, the Department entered into contracts to conduct on-call surveying services; and

WHEREAS, work performed under these on-call services contracts has been an effective method of producing timely surveying services and supplementing in-house capabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to employ consultant engineering firms and land surveying firms qualified to perform these surveys, as well as to perform photogrammetric services and land title abstract services, as needs are identified for Fiscal Years 2023 through 2026.

2022-010

WHEREAS, the Department currently uses computer software systems to assist with the administration of the Department's equipment fleet; and

WHEREAS, due to the age of the current systems, the computer software is antiquated and has little room for enhancement or modernization; and

WHEREAS, implementation of a modern, cloud-based Equipment Management System (EMS) will improve efficiencies in the management of the Department's equipment fleet; and

WHEREAS, implementation of an EMS will also support enhanced data-driven decisions which will improve equipment fleet administration.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to issue a Request for Proposals to retain the services of a qualified consultant to implement an EMS for the Department.

2022-011

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) sets aside Federal aid funds for project sponsors such as municipalities, other local, state, and federal agencies, schools, and not for profit entities to utilize on projects that are not typically on the State Highway System; and

WHEREAS, these projects may include improvements to roads and bridges, intersections, railroad crossings, trails and sidewalks, and other eligible facilities; and

WHEREAS, in most cases, the Arkansas Department of Transportation will be designated the authority to provide oversight of these improvement projects.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into any necessary agreements and proceed with all required actions to plan, program, and construct eligible projects as funds become available.

FURTHERMORE, this action is subject to all of the following requirements.

- Non-Federal-aid matching funds being provided by others.
- Appropriate Federal Highway Administration approval.

2022-012

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) owns property in Chicot County, Arkansas acquired in 1956 from A.R. Bennett and Nora P. Bennett, his wife, by Warranty Deed filed of record on February 21, 1956 in the Circuit Clerk's office for Chicot County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Commission owns property in Chicot County, Arkansas acquired in 1990 from the Chicot Land Company, Inc., an Arkansas corporation,

by Warranty Deed filed of record on August 29, 1990 in the Circuit Clerk's office for Chicot County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the combined acquired properties are now being used as the site for the Arkansas Department of Transportation's Chicot County Area Maintenance Headquarters and are classified as a capital asset; and

WHEREAS, the site is contiguous to U. S. Highway 82 and a portion of these properties is now necessary for Job 020675, Montrose – Lake Village, in Chicot County, more fully described as:

Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 16 South, Range 2 West, Chicot County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a ½ inch rebar with an orange cap being used as the Quarter corner of Sections 8 and 17; thence South 88°31'28" West along the North line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 17 a distance of 863.30 feet to a point on the Northerly right of way line of U.S. Highway 82 as established by AHTD Job 2260; thence South 66°49'33" West along said right of way line a distance of 955.14 feet to a point; thence South 23°10'27" East along said right of way line a distance of 10.00 feet to a point; thence in a Southwesterly direction along said right of way line on a curve to the right having a radius of 5669.60 feet a distance of 109.01 feet having a chord bearing of South 67°22'36" West a distance of 109.01 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue in a Southwesterly direction along said right of way line on a curve to the right having a radius of 5,669.60 feet a distance of 209.34 feet having a chord bearing of South 68°59'07" West a distance of 209.33 feet to a point; thence continue in a Southwesterly direction along said right of way line on a curve to the right having a radius of 5,669.60 feet a distance of 199.35 feet having a chord bearing of South 71°03'01" West a distance of 199.34 feet to a point; thence North 20°58'18" West a distance of 25.32 feet to a point on the Northerly right of way line of U.S. Highway 82 as established by ARDOT Job 020675; thence North 71°08'19" East along said right of way line a distance of 408.84 feet to a point; thence South 20°53'31" East a distance of 17.14 feet to the point of beginning and containing 0.22 acres more or less as shown on plans prepared by the ARDOT and referenced as Job 020675.

NOW THEREFORE, the character of the above-described properties is hereby changed from capital asset to that of right of way, hereafter designated as Tract No. 52, Job No. 020675; a copy of this Minute Order shall, if required, be

recorded in the Circuit Clerk and Recorder’s office of Chicot County, Arkansas, and the right of way shall, if necessary, be remonumented.

2022-013

WHEREAS, IN CRAWFORD COUNTY, Job 040721, Fayetteville Ave. – Hwy. 162 (Alma) (S) calls for the removal of Bridge Number M1144, commonly known as the Little Frog Bayou Bridge (or the Canner Bridge) on Highway 64B; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Alma has requested that the Department transfer ownership of Bridge Number M1144 to the City of Alma, Arkansas, for transportation use as a pedestrian bridge; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alma shall agree to accept a transfer of title holding the Department, its officers, and employees harmless from any action of any kind; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alma shall assume responsibility for reassembly, adherence to weight restrictions, and assume responsibility for maintenance and inspection of the bridge in consideration for the transfer of the bridge.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Bridge Number M1144 shall be released to the City of Alma upon disassembly and delivery of the bridge with ownership effective upon physical possession of the bridge by the City of Alma.

2022-014

WHEREAS, Jobs 050344, 100993, and 101054 will replace the bridges listed below; and

Bridge No.	Description	Job No.	County	Route
M2728	English Creek Bridge	050344	Fulton	289
M2165	Fourche River Bridge	100993	Randolph	166
M3187	East Cache River Bridge (Bono)	101054	Lawrence	230
M3817	West Fork Cache River Bridge	101054	Craighead	230

WHEREAS, the Independence County Judge has requested that the Department transfer ownership of these bridges to Independence County, Arkansas, for

transportation use as pedestrian bridges for a new trail system, if funding allows, or as vehicular bridges; and

WHEREAS, Independence County shall agree to accept a transfer of title holding the Department, its officers and employees harmless from any action of any kind; and

WHEREAS, Independence County shall assume responsibility for reassembly, adherence to the weight restrictions, and maintenance and inspection of the bridges in consideration for transfer of the bridges.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bridges listed above shall be released to Independence County upon disassembly and delivery of the bridges with ownership to become effective upon physical possession of the bridges by Independence County.

2022-015

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (“Commission”) acquired property for highway rights of way for Job No. 7440, more commonly known as the “Old Union County Area Maintenance Headquarters” in Union County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Mike Loftin, the County Judge of Union County, Arkansas (“County”) has requested that the property be transferred to Union County pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 27-65-109, for public purposes in the county road department operations, adjacent to the existing highway; and

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

The Legal Description in Exhibit “A” and areas shown in red and depicted on Exhibits “B”, and “C” 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.

2022-016

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract No. 19R, Job No. 090004, from Timothy P. Stretton and Kelley L. Stretton, husband and wife, by Warranty Deed dated September 25, 2001, and filed of record on October 26, 2001, as Instrument No. 01008032, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Boone County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Tract No. 19R was purchased as a capital asset for the sum of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED and NO/100 DOLLARS (\$2,200.00) and is not subject to re-acquisition by a prior owner pursuant to Ark. Code Ann § 27-67-322; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission (Commission) acquired property known as Tract No. 15R1, Job No. 090004, from Alice Foys-Coyle, of lawful age and unmarried, by Warranty Deed dated January 8, 2002, and filed of record on February 5, 2002, as Instrument No. 02001107, in the Circuit Clerk's office for Boone County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Tract No. 15R1 was purchased as a capital asset for the sum of ELEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY and NO/100 DOLLARS (\$11,850.00) and is not subject to re-acquisition by a prior owner pursuant to Ark. Code Ann § 27-67-322; and

WHEREAS, the District Engineer for District Nine has determined that Tract No. 19R and part of Tract No. 15R1 are not now, nor in the foreseeable future will be, needed for highway purposes. The properties are more particularly described as follows:

Tract No. 19R

Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 15, Township 19 North, Range 21 West, Boone County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Southwest Corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 15; thence North 07° 22' 13" East along the West line thereof a distance of 951.41 feet to a point on the Westerly controlled access right of way line of U.S. Highway 65 as established by AHTD Job 090004; thence South 25° 21' 10" East along said right of way line a distance of 258.59 feet to a point; thence South 00° 03' 47" East along said right of way line a distance of 320.34 feet to a point; thence South 10° 39' 59" West along said right of way line a distance of 408.26 feet to a point on the South line of the Southwest Quarter of

the Northeast Quarter of Section 15; thence North 85° 45' 43" West along said South line a distance of 158.00 feet to the point of beginning and containing 3.12 acres or 135,955 square feet more or less.

Part of Tract No. 15R1

A part of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter (NW1/4 SE1/4), Section 15, Township 19 North, Range 21 West, Boone County, Arkansas, described as follows:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter (NW 1/4, SE 1/4), Section 15; THENCE along the North line thereof South 85° 45' 44" East for a distance of 158.00 feet to the Westerly controlled access Right of Way of HWY 65 as established by AHTD Job 090004; THENCE along the said Right of Way the following calls: THENCE South 10° 39' 59" West for a distance of 44.32 feet; THENCE South 07° 12' 13" East for a distance of 505.86 feet; THENCE South 60° 27' 44" West for a distance of 247.84 feet to the center line of County Road 8; Thence along center line the following calls: THENCE North 80° 15' 51" West for a distance of 42.59 feet the West line of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter (NW 1/4, SE 1/4), Section 15; THENCE along said West line North 03° 48' 52" East for a distance of 673.57 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 2.90 acres, more or less.

WHEREAS, Mike Bishop of Harrison, Arkansas has offered to purchase the above-described real properties for the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND and NO/100 DOLLARS (\$15,000.00), which is less than the current fair market value in the amount of TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND and NO/100 DOLLARS (\$22,000.00) based upon the opinion of a qualified appraiser; and

WHEREAS, the above-described properties were declared surplus by Minute Order 2021-078; and

WHEREAS, a revision to M.O. 2021-078 is warranted, and therefore, it is superseded by the adoption of this Minute Order.

NOW THEREFORE, upon receipt and consideration of the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND and NO/100 DOLLARS (\$15,000.00) from Mr. Bishop, 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 property to Jerry Bishop and Dale Bishop; 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 Boone 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.

2022-017

WHEREAS, IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, the City of Prairie Grove has requested that the Department provide funding to overlay Highway 62B and improve drainage between Pittman Street and Baggett Street; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 2021-24, the City has offered to partner with the Department by accepting ownership and responsibility for Highway 62B west of Battlefield Park Road and the portion of Highway 170 within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, the Department has agreed to overlay Highway 170 and make \$3.2 million in Federal-aid funding available to the City for the improvements to Highway 62B; and

WHEREAS, the City will provide \$800,000 in non-federal funds to match the Federal-aid funding for improvements to Highway 62B.

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

FURTHERMORE, upon execution of a partnering agreement, the City will accept ownership and responsibility for Highway 62, Section 1B west of Battlefield Park Road and upon completion of the Highway 170 overlay, the City will accept ownership and responsibility for Highway 170, Section 2 within the city limits as shown on the attached sketch.

2022-018

WHEREAS, IN PULASKI COUNTY, locals have expressed a desire for improvements to Highway 365 in the vicinity of Morgan; and

WHEREAS, Pulaski County has expressed interest in partnering with the Department to add a center turn lane on Highway 365 between the Interstate 40 interchange and Marche Road; and

WHEREAS, this improvement would address congestion and turning movements, and would improve mobility for emergency services along this portion of Highway 365.

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

2022-019

WHEREAS, IN BENTON COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF CENTERTON, Job 090238 is programmed to widen Highway 102, Section 2 between Highway 279 South and Highway 102B; and

WHEREAS, the City has requested a modification to the current project design to include a shared-use path to accommodate current and future bicycle and pedestrian traffic; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 2021-23, the City has agreed to provide funds to incorporate this shared-use path into the project.

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

2022-020

WHEREAS, IN CARROLL COUNTY, IN THE CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS, Job 090650 is programmed to improve the intersection of Highway 23, Highway 62, and Jordan Drive; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 812, the City of Eureka Springs has offered to partner with the Department to construct a roundabout at this intersection by providing \$250,000 towards construction of the project.

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

2022-021

WHEREAS, IN GARLAND COUNTY, the final segment of the Hot Springs Bypass that extends northward from Highway 70 to the junction of Highway 5 and Highway 7 is nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, the Department and Garland County entered into a partnership to expedite construction of the project; and

WHEREAS, Garland County has provided \$30 million for construction of the project and has agreed to accept ownership and responsibility for Highway 7, Section 9S between Highway 70B and Highway 7 upon its completion.

NOW THEREFORE, upon completion of Job R60140 and official notification by the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, the following changes are hereby made to the State Highway System as shown on the attached sketch.

- The newly constructed segment of highway beginning at Highway 70 east of the City of Hot Springs and continuing approximately 5.6 miles north to the junction with Highway 5 and Highway 7 is hereby added to the State Highway System as Highway 5, Section 5.
- Highway 7, Section 9 Spur beginning at the junction with Highway 70 Business and continuing approximately 1.4 miles north to Highway 7 is hereby removed from the State Highway System.

2022-022

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 designated the route that generally follows U.S. Highway 412 from Interstate 35 in Oklahoma to Interstate 49 in Arkansas as a High Priority Corridor and Future Interstate facility; and

WHEREAS, a preliminary engineering study is needed to evaluate the existing facility, identify necessary improvements, and prioritize those improvements to prepare this portion of U.S. Highway 412 for Interstate designation; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation has expressed interest in partnering with the Department to conduct this study.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to participate in a preliminary

engineering study of U.S. Highway 412 from Interstate 35 in Oklahoma to Interstate 49 in Arkansas in preparation for Interstate designation.

2022-023

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court of Mississippi County, by Resolution No. R-2021-13, has requested that the portion of Highway 120 between U.S. Highway 61 and the Mississippi River, be designated as the “Jimmy Hart Memorial Highway”; 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 portion of highway, as requested by the County, in accordance with Commission Policy.

2022-024

WHEREAS, the City Council of Blytheville, by Resolution No. 2021-60 has requested that the portion of Highway 18 (East Main) between Division and Holland Street, be designated as the “Martin Luther King, Jr. Bypass”; 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 portion of highway, as requested by the City, in accordance with Commission Policy.

2022-025

WHEREAS, the Highway Commission has procedures in place that allow for the naming of highways, bridges, or other facilities under certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, the recently opened section of Interstate 49 in Benton County from the U. S. Highway 71 interchange south of Bella Vista to the Missouri state line, commonly referred to as the Bella Vista Bypass, was a major accomplishment for the State and region that may be worthy of naming after an individual or group at some point in time.

NOW THEREFORE, the Highway Commission reserves the naming rights for the Bella Vista Bypass to be determined at a future time.

2022-026

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway Commission will accept bids on the following projects in the February 16, 2022 letting; and

JOB NO.	DISTRICT	COUNTY	JOB NAME	ROUTE	APHN
A10008	01	LEE	Marianna – ST. Francis Co. Line (Sel. Secs.) (S)	79	Y
A10010	01	ST. FRANCIS	Hwy. 1B Resurfacing (Forrest City) (S)	1B	Y
A20005	02	LINCOLN	Grady – Desha Co. Line (S)	65	Y
A20011	02	GRANT	Hwy. 35 – Jefferson Co. Line (S)	190	N
A20012	02	JEFFERSON	Harding Ave. – I-530 (Pine Bluff) (S)	463	N
A30005	03	HEMPSTEAD & NEVADA	Blevins – Prescott (S)	371	N
A30010	03	PIKE	Delight – Clark Co. Line (S)	26	Y
A30011	03	HOWARD & SEVIER	Hwy. 71 – Hwy. 278 (S)	70	Y
A30015	03	MILLER	Co. Rd. 245 – Hwy. 67 (Texarkana) (Sel. Secs.) (S)	71	Y
A40012	04	WASHINGTON	I-49 – Benton Co. Line (Sel. Secs.) (S)	71B	Y
050417	05	WHITE	Barbers Lake Str. & Apprs. (S)	36	N
A50004	05	CLEBURNE	Hwy. 25 – East (S)	110	Y
A50010	05	CLEBURNE	Hwy. 16 – Greers Ferry Lake (S)	25	Y
A50011	05	WHITE	Hwy. 5 – Hwy. 67B (Sel. Secs.) (S)	36	Y
061622	06	PULASKI & SALINE	Sevier St. – Geyer Springs Rd. (Conc. Pvmnt. Pres.) (S)	I-30	Y
A60009	06	PULASKI	Hwy. 107 – Hwy. 67 (Sherwood) (S)	176	Y
A60012	06	PULASKI	I-30 – Hwy. 367 (Little Rock) (S)	338	Y
A60013	06	GARLAND & SALINE	Hwy. 70 – Hwy. 5 (S)	128	N
A70011	07	BRADLEY	Hwy. 278B – Drew Co. Line (S)	278	Y
A80003	08	JOHNSON	Mount Vernon – Ozone (Sel. Sec.) (S)	21	N
A80012	08	MONTGOMERY	Mount Ida – Garland Co. Line (Sel. Secs.) (S)	270	Y
A80014	08	JOHNSON	Hwy. 103 – Hwy. 21 (Clarksville) (S)	64	Y
101062	10	CRAIGHEAD	Hwy. 18/Quality Way Signal (Jonesboro) (S)	18	Y
101111	10	MISSISSIPPI	Hwy. 148 – So. Of Hwy. 61 (S)	I-55	Y
A00011	10	GREENE	Eightmile Creek – Missouri State Line (S)	135 & 412	Y
A00016	10	MISSISSIPPI	Hwy. 312 – Hwy. 150 (S)	137	Y
A00017	10	LAWRENCE	Hwy. 63 – Craighead Co. Line (S)	91	N
A00021	10	GREENE	Hwy. 358 – Hwy. 69 (Paragould) (S)	49	Y
A00024	10	POINSETT	Hwy. 214 – Hwy. 69 (S)	163	N
C12007	05	CLEBURNE	Heber Springs Overlay (S)	---	-
C23009	08	FAULKNER	Greenbrier & Guy Overlay (S)	---	-
C26007	06	GARLAND	Fountain Lake Overlay (S)	---	-
C26008	06	GARLAND	Hot Springs Lakeshore Dr. Overlay (S)	---	-
C28007	10	GREENE	Oak Grove Heights Overlay No. 2 (S)	---	-
C30005	06	HOT SPRING	MIDWAY Overlay (S)	---	-
C34009	05	JACKSON	Jacksonport & Tupelo Overlay & Surfacing (S)	---	-
C42004	04	LOGAN	Blue Mountain & Paris Overlay & Surfacing (S)	---	-
C53007	08	PERRY	BIGELOW Overlay (S)	---	-
C53008	08	PERRY	Casa Overlay (S)	---	-
C56008	10	POINSETT	Marked Tree & Tyronza Overlay (S)	---	-
C61006	10	RANDOLPH	Biggers & O’Kean Overlay (S)	---	-

C66004	03	SEVIER	Horatio & Lockesburg Overlay (S)	---	-
C70009	07	UNION	STRONG OVERLAY (S)	---	-
C72010	04	WASHINGTON	Elkins & Farmington Overlay No. 2 (S)	---	-
C76064	03	HEMPSTEAD & PIKE	McCaskill & Murfreesboro Overlay & Surfacing (S)	---	-
C76065	03 & 04	POLK & SEVIER	Gillham, Grannis, & Hatfield Overlay (S)	---	-
C76066	07	CALHOUN & DALLAS	Fordyce & Thornton Overlay & Surfacing (S)	---	-
C76068	09	BAXTER & MARION	Cotter, Gassville, & Yellville Overlay (S)	---	-
SA1065	07	CLARK	Hwy. 51 – North (Overlay) (S)	---	-
SA4048	02	LINCOLN	Co. Rds. 8 & 18 Overlay & Surfacing (S)	---	-

WHEREAS, a thorough bid review and analysis is undertaken by the Department to ensure that only those projects are awarded which are judged to be in the best interests of the State; and

WHEREAS, the right is retained to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities, or to advertise for new proposals, also as judged to be in the best public interests of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to expedite work on these important projects; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Amendment 42 of the Arkansas Constitution, Section 6, as well as other laws of this State, the Commission has the authority to delegate certain powers to the Director of Highways and Transportation.

NOW THEREFORE, upon the contractors furnishing the necessary performance and payment bonds and submitting all additional information required for the above mentioned projects, the Director is hereby authorized to enter into contracts and supplemental agreements for any projects deemed to be in the best interests of the State.

FURTHERMORE, the Director is authorized to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities, and/or to advertise for new proposals whenever deemed to be in the best interests of the State.

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

MOTIONS

MOTION Vice Chairman Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Philip Taldo seconded and the motion passed to authorize the use of electronic signatures for the February 2, 2022 Minute Orders.

MOTION Commissioner Philip Taldo moved, Vice Chairman Alec Farmer seconded and the motion passed to approve the Minutes from the December 7, 2021 Commission Meeting.

MOTION Commissioner Philip Taldo moved, Vice Chairman Alec Farmer seconded and the motion passed to submit the revised Efficiency Recommendation Rules to the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee.

MOTION The Commission approved Minute Order 2015-017 on March 11, 2015, authorizing the Department to request proposals, select a consulting firm and enter into any necessary contracts and agreements with firms to provide On-Call Noise Services for 2022-2026. Vice Chairman Alec Farmer moved, Commissioner Philip Taldo seconded and the motion passed to accept the Staff's recommendation to enter into negotiations to provide consultant services for On-Call Noise Services with the following firms:

Bowlby & Associates, Inc. – Nashville, Tennessee
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. – Springdale, Arkansas

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Patrick Patton, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the December 2021 update on State Highway Revenue. Mr. Patton noted that State Highway Revenues to the Department from traditional sources are up a total of 5.7% (\$11.7 million) in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2022 compared to SFY 2021. Revenue from the Natural Gas Severance Tax is higher this year

compared to last year. Total revenues available are 12.4% (\$26.0 million) above last year. Actual State Revenue received is 10.4% (\$22.1 million) above projected (budgeted) revenue for this year. Mr. Patton stated that December revenue from the 0.5% General Sales Tax for the Connecting Arkansas Program was 4.64% higher, (\$962,195) than projected by the Department of Finance and Administration (DF&A) for the month. Year to date actual revenue is above projections by 2.96% (\$3,557,406). Since inception, this revenue source is 1.77%, or \$28.0 million, above DF&A's projections.

Kevin Thornton, Assistant Chief of Administration, updated the Commission on the status of Federal Highway and Transit funding issues. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), was enacted on November 15, 2021. As part of the developing guidance, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requesting and receiving comments from states and other stakeholders regarding how the guidance should be written. ARDOT has submitted comments to the FHWA regarding the Development of Guidance for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Deployment and is currently developing comments regarding the overall implementation of the IIJA. Another IIJA program that ARDOT has received guidance and apportionment for is the Bridge Formula Program. Arkansas will receive a total of approximately \$278 million over the 5-year life of the IIJA. ARDOT has received authority to obligate \$55.8 million from this program in Federal Fiscal Year 2022. The remaining portion of the \$278 million will be distributed over the last 4 years of the life of the IIJA. Currently, states are still operating under a continuing resolution (CR) for a majority of the IIJA. This CR will expire on February 18. Congress will need to pass a full year's appropriation or spending bill for the IIJA before ARDOT can take full advantage of all it has to offer for Arkansas. While Congress could pass a full year's appropriation or spending bill before February 18, there is not much time left for them to reach an agreement. Another CR to extend funding until late March or early April is expected. This will allow Congress the time they need to reach an agreement.

Director Tudor informed the Commission that the Governor has formed the Governor's Infrastructure Planning Advisory Committee, or IPAC, to make sure Arkansas is able to take full advantage of all the provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Director Tudor, along with State officials from 17 other agencies, serves on this Committee.

Crystal Woods, Division Head of Human Resources updated the Commission on the COVID-19 cases at ARDOT. Ms. Woods stated that since March 2020, more than 1600 ARDOT employees have tested positive for the virus. Cases rose sharply with the Omicron variant, but have been falling just as quickly since mid-January. ARDOT has begun preparing a transition plan for a more sustainable approach to living with COVID for the long-term.

Director Tudor gave a look back at the previous year - progress, accomplishments, significant events, etc. and an overview of what lies ahead for 2022.

Dave Parker, Public Information Officer and Ellen Coulter, Media Relations Coordinator announced to the Commission the rollout of a new Work Zone Safety campaign – Phone Down, Slow Down. This campaign will target distracted driving, speeding and other dangerous driving while in a work zone. Arkansas Highway Police and Arkansas State Police will provide increased presence in work zones.

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

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IT IS ORDERED that a meeting of the Arkansas State Commission be closed at 11:15 a.m., February 2, 2022.

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 February 2, 2022.



Christie Heidelberg
Commission Secretary