

Minutes of the Meeting of the
State Highway Commission of Virginia
Held in Richmond, July 8, 1943.

The State Highway Commission met in the Central Office Building, Richmond, July 8th at 9:00 A.M. There were present Messrs. E. P. Barrow, Geo. P. DeHardit, Emmett H. Poindexter, S. N. Rawls, A. D. Starling, J. H. Wampler, J. F. Wyzor and J. A. Anderson.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wyzor, that the minutes of the May 12th meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Poindexter, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the permits issued since May 12th, and recorded in the Auditing Division, be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission, after careful consideration of Claim No. 11-125: Re-Willie Acors, Department of Highways vs U. S. Marine Corps - A-2076, drop the matter rather than file a relief claim through Congress, this as recommended by our Safety Engineer and Purchasing Agent. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm award of contract to the low bidder, the Harleyville Mutual Casualty Company, for insurance on automobiles and trucks of the Department for the year beginning July 1, 1943. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wyzor, that the Town of Wakofield having passed proper ordinance requesting the Highway Commission to take over certain routes in the Town for maintenance the same be accepted. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyzor, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the request of W. E. Graham and Sons, Cleveland, N.C., for an extension of time on Project 754 D, E1, E2, B2 and 3, Route 100, 1.9 MI. N. Patterson-1.1 MI. S. of Wythe-Carroll County Line, be granted for 177 days and the return of \$1,770.00 liquidated damages, as recommended by the engineers of the Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyzor, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission allocate to the Town of Wytheville for the year 1942-1943 the \$500 per mile construction fund to be expended for curb and gutter on West Main Street in the Town and that the funds be held until such time as construction is again permitted. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the request of the Town of Front Royal for the \$500 per mile construction fund for the year 1942-1943 to be expended to extend a storm sewer be not granted, as it is not the policy of the Commission to allow funds to be expended for this purpose. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the Commission allot to the City of Danville for the year 1942-1943 the \$500 per mile construction fund to be expended to widen section of Route U.S. 58 in the City. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission allot to the City of Hopewell for the year 1942-1943 the \$500 per mile construction fund to be expended in connection with the construction of the new grade crossing over the N. and W. and S.A.L. railroads on Randolph Street in the city. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that permit No. 3423, Elizabeth City County, issued June 12, 1942 to the Newport News Waterworks Commission, be cancelled as requested. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that permit No. 10252, Route 58, Carroll County, issued May 1, 1942 to Mrs. Rose Lineberry, Galax, Va., be cancelled as requested and recommended by our District Engineer. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. DeHardit, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that permit No. 6830, Arlington County, Route 50, be issued to the Commanding Officer, Fort Myer Military Reservation, Fort Myer, Virginia, for the erection of a temporary weather shed - for the duration of the present emergency - the State having an easement for highway purposes through Fort Myer. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that application of the U. S. Signal Corps, 4000 Lee Boulevard, Arlington, Va., for the erection of a temporary waiting shed on Route 50 between Route 120 and Arlington County Line, Arlington County, be not approved, there being ample space off the highway right of way on Government property. Motion carried.

Very careful consideration was given the request of the Scott County Board of Supervisors, by resolution dated April 6th, 1943, to name the bridge across the North Fork of Holston River on Route 23 the John M. Johnson Memorial Bridge. The Chairman was instructed to write the Board of Supervisors and ascertain if they are willing to pay the expense incident thereto and if so to send in a resolution to that effect. Chapter 382, Acts of 1942 requires this.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-NR 1277 M9-E, Route 673, Intersection Granby Street-Intersection Route 351 (Sewall's Point Road) to the low bidder, McDowell and Wood, Roanoke, Va., at their bid of \$44,901.92; that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, \$5,348.00 for railroad work, \$950.00 for surveys and plans and \$4,500.00 for right of way, making a total of approximately \$60,190.11 chargeable to this project, financed 100% with Federal funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-WR 1421 MI, from Intersection 20th Street- Chesapeake Ferry Slip (City of Newport News), to the low bidder, E. W. Mitchell, Hilton Village, Va., at his bid of \$98,827.50; that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$750.00 for surveys and plans, making a total of approximately \$109,460.25 chargeable to this project, financed by the City of Newport News putting up \$17,000.00 of the cost and balance by Federal funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. DeHardit, seconded by Mr. Wycor, that the Commission confirm award of contract for the construction of Project DA-WR 1364 G, from 0.936 MI. S. Intersection Route 33-Intersection Route 33 (Entrance to West Point Airport) to the low bidder, E. W. Grannis, Fayetteville, N. C., at his bid of \$22,660.40; that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, \$1,500.00 for right of way and \$165.00 for surveys and plans, making a total of approximately \$27,000.00 chargeable to this project, financed 100% with defense access funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission award contract for the construction of Project DA-NR 1277 M-10, Route 337, 0.428 MI. W. Intersection Hampton Boulevard (Near Pine Beach Ferry)- Intersection Hampton Boulevard (99th St. in City of Norfolk), to the low bidder, Eastern Supply Co., Richmond, Va., at their bid of \$58,992.62; that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$950.00 for surveys and plans, making a total of approximately \$65,800.00 chargeable to this project, being 100% Access Funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the Commission award contract for the construction of Project DA-WR 1283 G, Routes 613, 617, 637, Military Access Roads at Fort Belvoir, to the low bidder, Luck Construction Company, Box 7036, Richmond, Va., at their bid of \$119,682.25, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$950.00 for surveys and plans, making a total of approximately \$132,600.00 chargeable to this project; financed 100% by Access Funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. Poindexter, that the Commission award contract for the construction of Project S 1148 A1, SW1, Route 244, Sidewalk: 1.08 Mi. W. Intersection Route 1- 0, 18 Mi. W. Intersection Route 120, to the low bidder, Guy H. Lewis and Son, Lynchburg, Va., at their bid of \$7,998.00, and that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, making a total of approximately \$8,750.00 chargeable to this project; 50% State Funds and 50% Arlington County participation. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyzar, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that since two (2) certain parcels of land containing 53.7 and 1.2 acres which were acquired by the Commonwealth from Nathaniel E. Sledd and Patrie E. Sledd, joint owners, along with, but by separate deed, a certain other tract of land acquired from Nathaniel E. Sledd on account of Project 1071-G of the Blue Ridge Parkway, in Amherst County, are not necessary for the uses of the Parkway as certified in writing by J. A. Anderson, State Highway Commissioner, the conveyance of the 53.7 acre tract and of the 1.2 acre tract with general warranty of title and quitclaim of title, respectively, to the United States of America is hereby approved, and the said J. A. Anderson, Commissioner, is authorized accordingly to execute in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia deed making conveyance of the said lands to the United States of America, in consideration of payment to the Commonwealth of \$435.36, in accordance with Chapter 77, Acts of the General Assembly, approved February 26, 1942. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyzar, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that J. A. Anderson, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, having certified in writing that two (2) certain parcels of land, acquired or being acquired by the Commonwealth in connection with the acquisition of a 60-foot right of way on a section of Route 170, Project 279-ARI, and a section of the old road and right of way will not be needed for the uses of the State Highway System upon completion of the new highway, the said J. A. Anderson, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, is hereby authorized to convey by appropriate deeds these two (2) parcels of land and section of the old road and right of way: One (1) parcel to the United States of America with special warranty of title, and the other parcel and section of old road and right of way to J. A. Gaskins by deed of quitclaim and release, in accordance with Chapter 10, Acts of the General Assembly, approved February 7, 1940. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyszor, seconded by Mr. Wampler, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7, 1940, that since in the relocation and improvement of Route 11, Project 585-EL, South of Staunton, in Augusta County, a portion of the original right of way lying on the East (left) side of and outside of the normal 160-ft. width, between Stations 481+08 and 486+00, containing approximately 0.19 acre, will not be required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the sale of this parcel of land to Walter M. Wright, for a consideration of \$100.00 per acre, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby directed to execute, in the name of the Commonwealth, special warranty deed making conveyance to said Walter M. Wright. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wyszor, seconded by Mr. Wampler, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7, 1940, that since the unused portion of the lot acquired from Samuel Coffey, containing approximately 0.89 acre, lying outside of the right of way of Route 522, Project 1015-A, at 14th St. and Shenandoah Ave., Front Royal, Warren County, is not necessary for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the sale of this parcel of land to the adjacent landowner, Aubrey G. Weaver, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby directed to execute, in the name of the Commonwealth, a special warranty deed making conveyance of said land to Aubrey G. Weaver in exchange for a consideration of \$150.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that J. A. Anderson, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, having certified in writing that a certain residus parcel of land lying outside of and adjacent to the north 110 ft. right of way line, through property which was acquired, together with other lands for right of way purposes, by the Commonwealth from E. L. Nichols by deed dated October 25, 1930, of record in the Clerk's office of Augusta County in Deed Book 247, page 357, is not needed for the uses of the State Highway System; the said Chairman is hereby authorized to convey the said residus parcel of land to Herman W. Windsor and Mary Elizabeth Windsor, his wife, with special warranty of title in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10, Act of the General Assembly approved February 7, 1940. It being understood that the said north 110 ft. right of way line is parallel to and 85 ft. distant from the centerline of Route 42. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the policy of the Commission covered in resolution of June 4th, 1941, relative to the transfer of Resident Engineers every six years, be suspended for the duration, as covered by letter ballots in reply to letter of May 29th from the Chairman. Motion carried.

The Commission carefully considered the recommendation to adopt the policy of allowing the use of secondary funds for the purchase of right of way on Secondary roads where it is found necessary to make revisions in existing roads or to acquire additional right of way, limiting the approval of such expenditure to 5% of the estimated construction cost of the project involved in such right of way acquisition; the standard width to be 50 feet with slope easements. It was decided to take the matter under consideration and consider the same at the next meeting of the Commission.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Starling, that the penalty of employees involved in motor accidents be reduced to \$7.50 in place of the present penalty of \$15.00. Motion carried.

A hearing was given to all persons interested in the Grey's Point-White Stone Ferry service. A letter from Mr. W. M. Minter, Commonwealth's Attorney, Mathews, Virginia, was read to the Commission by the Chairman. Senator R. O. Morris introduced Mr. Carter M. Keane, of Kilmarnock, who in turn called on those present. His Excellency, Governor Darden was present, and Mr. W. E. Rogers, Assistant Attorney General was also present.

Senator Morris stated that the delegation was not asking that the ferry be made toll free at this time but was asking for improved facilities. He presented a brief giving facts and figures concerning conditions on the Northern Neck and the section south of the Rappahannock River. The request for improved facilities covered a larger boat that can accommodate greyhound busses and trailer-trucks, the present boat to be used for emergency. It was further requested that the ferry be operated on an hourly schedule from 6:00 A.M. to 12:00 Midnight. The brief covered statistics for the several counties and the reasons for improved service.

Mr. Keane complimented the Commission on the present improved service in schedule, etc, but felt the ferry itself is not dependable.

Mr. Ammon Dunton covered traffic conditions, the figures having been furnished him by the Highway Department. He explained at length the distance necessary to travel when the ferry was not operating, etc.

Senator Wm. A. Wright, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, explained the origin of the Act of 1940, under which this ferry was taken over. He felt it was the intent of the General Assembly that the Act be liberally construed.

Others speaking in behalf of improved ferry service were Major Geo. B. Collings of Newport News; Mr. Lewis Jones, Commonwealth's Attorney of Middlesex County, Mr. C. W. Lovett, Traffic Manager of the Southern States, distributors of feed in the Northern Neck; Mr. Vernon Kemp of the State Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Herbert Wade of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Thomas McGinnis, Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce; Mr. W. R. Rowe, a Director of the Tidewater Automobile Association. There were other interested persons in the delegation.

The Chairman suggested that the presentation of the delegation be studied and that he hoped to be in a position to make a recommendation at the next meeting of the Commission, and if anything urgent should arise to take it up by mail. The suggestion was accepted.

Mr. Mallan gave the Commission a verbal picture of the Access Road Program, that they might be fully informed.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M., subject to the call of the Chairman.

Approved-


Commissioner.

Attested-


Secretary.