

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Highway Commission
Held in Richmond, Va., December 15, 1947.

At 9:00 A. M., Monday, December 15, the State Highway Commission met in the Central Highway Office Building, Richmond, Va. Present - Messrs. E. P. Barrow, Geo. P. DeHardit, J. P. Harpins, W. E. Harrison, S. W. Rawls, Howard C. Rogers, J. B. Wampler, J. F. Wycor and J. A. Anderson. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Harpins, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the minutes of the meeting of October 30 be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wycor, that the Commission approve the permits issued from October 30 to December 15, inclusive, as recorded in the Auditing Division. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. Rogers, that the permits cancelled by the Commissioner, as authorized June 25, 1947, and recorded in the Auditing Division, be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received October 30, to the low bidder, Ralph H. Mills Co., Inc., Salem, Va., for the construction of Project 1030 M₁, B₁, B₂, Route 11, Overpass and Approaches Virginia and N. & W. R.R., 0.015 Mi. N. of S.C.L. Salem-0.476 Mi. N. of S.C.L. Salem, at the bid of \$508,123.88, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, \$110.00 for work by State Forces, \$13,254.89 for work by the R.R. and \$29,026.00 estimated cost of R/W, making a total of approximately \$601,300.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received October 30, to the low bidder, W. H. Scott, Franklin, Va., for the construction of Project S 785 A₁, 2, Route 88, 0.070 Mi. W. of Meherrin River-0.014 Mi. W. Meherrin River and 0.015 Mi. S. of Meherrin River, at the bid of \$23,249.75, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$18,710.60 for work by State Forces, making a total of approximately \$44,250.00 chargeable to this project; additional \$4,250.00 required. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received October 30, to the low bidder, F. J. Gansway and Co., Norfolk, Va., for the construction of Project S 830 D₁, B₅, Route 49, 2.101 Mi. S. Nottoway-Lansburg County Line to 2,593 Mi. S. Nottoway-Lansburg Co. Line, at the bid of \$57,021.12, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering

and additional work and \$1,806.21 for work by State Forces, making a total of approximately \$64,600.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm REJECTION of bid received October 30 for the construction of Project S 1179 MI., Route 85, Intersection Route 460 in Grundy-C.907 MI. E. Intersection Route 460, the bid received being 38.6% over estimate. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. DeHardit, seconded by Mr. Harpina, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received October 30, to the low bidder, E. D. Gentry Construction Company, Inc., Walnut Cove, N. C., for the construction of Project 1146 A, Route 46, C.246 MI. S. Intersection Route 55-3.244 MI. S. Intersection Route 58 near Lawrenceville, at the bid of \$104,594.68 and that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, making a total of approximately \$115,050.00 chargeable to this project; notifying the E. D. Gentry Construction Company of the award and advising them of their unsatisfactory work in the past, telling them that if the work is not prosecuted properly the Commission may bar them from further bidding. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Nysor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received October 30, to the low bidder, Harvey H. Steward, Charlotte, N. C., for the construction of Project 1098 H1S-1098 ARI, Route 125, C.252 MI. E. Fairfax Station-C.559 MI. E. Fairfax Station, at the bid of \$126,187.11, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$2,336.00 for work by the Railroad, making a total of approximately \$141,100.00 chargeable to this project; the State's proportion of \$91,100.00 to be carried as a deficit until an allocation is made to cover it. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received November 18, for the construction of Project 29-22, Route 58, C.147 MI. W. of E.C.L. Norfolk-1.112 MI. W. of E.C.L. Norfolk (Broad Creek Road), to the low bidder, Ames and Webb, Inc., Norfolk, Va., at the bid of \$184,809.80, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$1,152.49 for work by the Railroad Co., making a total of approximately \$204,400.00 chargeable to this project; concurrence of the City of Norfolk and the Public Roads Administration to be secured before contractor is notified of award. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. Rogers, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received November 18 for the construction of Project 29 W-4, 320 BIRE, Route 58, C.103 MI. W. of Intersection Route 15-C.064 MI. E. of E.C.L. Norfolk, to the low bidder, Ames and Webb, Inc., Norfolk, Va., at the bid of \$325,187.10, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$110.00 for work by State forces, making a total of approximately \$366,550.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received November 18 for the construction of Project 556 C, M1, B2, 0.643 Mi. N. of Blackford-0.205 Mi. N. of S.C.L. Hogaker, to the low bidder, Pamleton Construction Corp., Wytheville, Va., at the bid of \$255,268.68, that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$2,090.27 for work by State forces, making a total of approximately \$262,358.00 chargeable to this project. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wycor, that the Commission confirm REJECTION of bids of November 18 for construction of Project S 1511 B2, Route 636, Bridge over New River at Austinville (Substructure only), the low bid being 32.7% over estimate and this being the third time the work has been advertised. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that the closing of the following section of Route 501 in Campbell County having been advertised as required by law -

Old location of Route 501 from the new location at Station 277+30; looping southeasterly 0.30 mile to Station 290+70
Length 0.30 mile

and no objection having been filed in writing in this office the same is hereby declared abandoned altogether and eliminated from the Primary Highway System as of this date, all as provided by Chapter 212, Section 2, Act approved March 19, 1926. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wampler, seconded by Mr. Wycor, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner, the following sections of Route 287 in Loudoun County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway the same be abandoned upon opening of new sections in lieu thereof: Sections 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 shown on plat dated October 10, 1947, Project 1171 D, B5; sections 1 and 6 to revert to the Secondary System. That as provided by Chapter 416, Section 8, Act approved March 31, 1932, Section 4 be abandoned as a part of the Secondary System and Section 5 be added to the Secondary System as a connection, all as shown on plat referred to. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wampler, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926 and upon recommendation of the Commissioner the following section of old Route 301 in Caroline County being no longer necessary for uses as a primary highway the same be abandoned upon opening of new section in lieu thereof, and revert to the secondary system: Section 1 shown on plat dated September 16, 1947, Project 1090-41-DE-B5. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926 and upon recommendation of the Commissioner the following section of old Route 29 in Fauquier County being no longer necessary for uses as a primary highway the same be abandoned as such and revert to the Secondary System: Section 1 shown on plat

dated December 4, 1945, Project 1130-EB-6, 6. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner the following section of Route 3 in Culpeper County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway the same be abandoned upon opening of new sections in lieu thereof: Sections 3, 4, and 5 shown on plat dated August 29, 1947, Project 185-AR-2 and 755-A; Section 3 to revert to the Secondary System. That as provided by Section 8, Chapter 415, Acts of 1932, Section 2 be abandoned and Section 1 be added to the Secondary System as a connection, all as shown on plat referred to. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Harpine, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner the following sections of Route 259 in Rockingham County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway and the same be abandoned upon opening of new sections in lieu thereof: Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 as shown on plat dated September 23, 1947, Project 1014 F-2-4. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that as provided by Section 8 of Chapter 415, Acts of 1932, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner, the following sections of secondary road in Pulaski County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway the same be abandoned: Sections 1, 2 and 3 shown on plat dated September 17, 1947, Project 1313 G, and that sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 be added to the Secondary System, all as shown on plat referred to. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Nysor, seconded by Mr. Hampller, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926 and upon recommendation of the Commissioner, the following sections of Route 57 in Henry County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway the same be abandoned upon opening of new sections in lieu thereof: Sections 1, 2 and 3 shown on plat dated September 23, 1947, Project 1102-D-1, section 2 to revert to the Secondary System. That as provided by Section 8 of Chapter 415, Acts of 1932, sections 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 be abandoned and sections 9, 10 and 11 be added to the Secondary System, all as shown on the plat referred to. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Nysor, seconded by Mr. Rogers, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 1, Act approved March 19, 1926, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner, the following sections of Route 29 in Culpeper County being no longer necessary for uses as a highway the same be abandoned upon opening of new sections in lieu thereof: Sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8 shown on plat dated December 4, 1945, Project 1130-EB-5, 6, Sections 1 and 9 to revert to the Secondary System. That as provided by Section 8, Chapter 415, Acts of 1932, sections 3 and 7 be added to the Secondary System as connections. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Rogers, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7th, 1940, that since the Fincastle Residency Office Building and Lot connected with same, containing approximately 0.29 acres, at Fincastle, Botetourt County, will be no longer required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the

Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of this property to Stuart B. Carter, the highest bidder, for a consideration of \$8061.00, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute in the name of the Commonwealth Deed of Special Warranty making conveyance to Stuart B. Carter. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Wycor, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7th, 1940, that since residus parcel of land, containing approximately 1.70 acres, with buildings, acquired under right of way settlement with L. J. Coen and lying outside of right of way retained for Route 220, Project 118-AR3, Roanoke County, will not be required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, sale of this residus parcel of land, with buildings thereon, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute in the name of the Commonwealth Deed of Special Warranty making conveyance to R. D. Giles and Wootsie R. Giles, his wife, for a consideration of \$5000.00. Motion carried.

WHEREAS, in connection with the acquisition of the right of way for Route 17, Project 652-GW-2R, in Norfolk County, the Commonwealth of Virginia acquired all of Lots 32, 34, and 36 of Pinehurst Subdivision as shown on sheet 8 of the survey and plans on file in the office of the Department of Highways at Richmond; and the Chairman, J. A. Anderson, has certified in writing that a portion of Lot 32 and the portions of Lots 34 and 36 lying North of and adjacent to the 70-foot right of way are not needed for the uses of the State Highway System.

NOW, THEREFORE, conveyance of the said portions of lots to Claudius F. Smith, Jr. and Mary F. Smith, his wife, jointly, with the right of survivorship as at Common Law, by deed of special warranty for a consideration of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00) is hereby approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the said deed, as provided by Chapter 10, Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved February 7, 1940.

WHEREAS, in connection with the acquisition of the right of way for Route 17, Project 652-GW-2R, in Norfolk County, the Commonwealth of Virginia acquired all of Lots 37, 39, and 41 of Pinehurst Subdivision, as shown on sheet 5 of the survey and plans on file in the office of the Department of Highways at Richmond; and the Chairman, J. A. Anderson, has certified in writing that the portions of said lots, lying south of and adjacent to the normal 70-foot right of way, are not needed for the uses of the State Highway System.

NOW, THEREFORE, conveyance of the said portions of lots to Charlie C. Buck by deed of special warranty for a consideration of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) is hereby approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the said deed, as provided by Chapter 10, Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved February 7, 1940.

Moved by Mr. DeHardit, seconded by Mr. Harpina, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7th, 1940, that since small triangular parcel of land, containing approximately 0.11 acre, lying outside of the

right of way acquired for Route 80, Project 501-D, Arlington County, by deeds from W. W. Butler and Grandall Mackay, will not be required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of this residue parcel of land to William P. Groom, Jr., adjacent property owner, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute in the name of the Commonwealth Deed of Quitclaim making conveyance of said land to William P. Groom, Jr., for the consideration agreed upon, \$552.50. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. Wycor, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7th, 1940, that since abandoned sections of right of way acquired from S. J. Jones in 1943 and 1948, lying outside of right of way lines established in accordance with revised plans for Project 118-ARS, Route 220, Roanoke County, containing approximately 1.13 acres, will not be required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of these parcels of land to S. J. Jones, adjoining property owner, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute in the name of the Commonwealth Deed of Quitclaim making conveyance to S. J. Jones in exchange for a consideration of \$113.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Rogers, as provided by Chapter 10, Act approved February 7th, 1940, that since the residue parcels of land, containing approximately 4.67 acres, with buildings thereon, acquired from Tom Anders, lying outside of right of way retained for Route 94, Project 665-HI, Grayson County, will not be required for the uses of the State Highway System, as certified in writing by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, the conveyance of these parcels of land, with buildings thereon, to W. G. Pinion, is approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute in the name of the Commonwealth Deed of Special Warranty in exchange for a consideration of \$3000.00. Motion carried.

In or about 1940 it was proposed to relocate and construct a section of Route 168 on and along a road in Elizabeth City County known as Shell Road, now Route 143, and preliminary plans were prepared, designated as Project 1235; and certain scattered parcels of additional rights of way were acquired by the Commonwealth, including certain parcels from Hannie G. Willis, widow, by deed dated October 6, 1939 and recorded in the Clerk's office of said County in Deed Book 103, Page 368. However, Route 168 was not relocated as proposed, and these parcels of rights of way were not used for the purpose for which they were acquired; and J. M. Willis, of Hampton, son of Hannie G. Willis, has requested that two of the parcels (shown on sheet 16 of said plans), conveyed to the Commonwealth by his mother, be released--one to Rosa Elliott Joynes, now the owner of the adjacent property, and the second one to him as present owner of the adjacent property. Therefore, the Chairman, J. A. Anderson, has recommended that these parcels be released and has certified in writing that they are not needed for highway purposes. Accordingly, as provided by Chapter 10 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1942, the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute quitclaim deeds releasing the two parcels as aforesaid, but providing in the deed to Rosa Elliott Joynes a reservation, restriction, and provision that no structure, trees, shrubbery, or other obstacle or improvement be placed

or allowed upon the land released in such manner as to create any additional traffic hazard on account of the intersection of Newport News Avenue and Route 143.

WHEREAS, in connection with the acquisition of the right of way for Route 17, Project 652-QW-ER, in Norfolk County, the Commonwealth of Virginia acquired all of Lot 38 of Pinhurst Subdivision, as shown on sheet 5 of the survey and plans on file in the office of the Department of Highways at Richmond; and the Chairman, J. A. Anderson, has certified in writing that the portion of said lot lying north of and partially adjacent to the seventy-foot right of way is not needed for the uses of the State Highway System.

NOW, THEREFORE, conveyance of the said portion of Lot 38 to Harold J. Hilliard, Sr. and Harold J. Hilliard, Jr., jointly, by deed of special warranty for a consideration of Thirteen Thousand Dollars (\$13,000.00) is hereby approved; and the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the said deed as provided by Chapter 10, Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved February 7, 1940.

Moved by Mr. Nysor, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission confirm the addition of 0.21 mile of roads to the Primary System, in Copeley Hills, a housing development for veteran students at the University of Virginia, as provided by Chapter 172, Acts of 1938. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Rogers, that as provided by Chapter 212, Section 2, Act approved March 18, 1936, and upon recommendation of the Commissioner, the following section of old Route 220 in Henry County being no longer necessary for the use of the highway system or for uses by the public, the same be abandoned altogether as a public road and public notice be given thereof:

Old location of Route 220, from the R/W line of the new location at Station 578,400 looping northwesterly 0.22 Mi. to the R/W line of the new location at Station 580,400. Length 0.22 mile.

Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Harpino, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Commission delegate to the Traffic and Planning Engineer and the District Engineers authority to establish restricted speed zones on the highways where circumstances warrant; objection to such action being subject to appeal to the Commission. Motion carried.

The Chairman gave the Commission a full report on the revenues of the Department. He stated that it was very important to watch income and expenditures and see that in the long run they balance.

The question of personnel was discussed by the Commissioner at some length. He told the Commission that all those in grades up to and including VI had had some relief but that he had been unsuccessful in getting any upgrading for those in VII and above.

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. J. Frank Wycor, that since the Highway Department has lost a number of its best men and is now in great danger of losing more of these men in key positions; that due to the Department's inability to employ technically trained personnel with ability to assume the responsibility the positions carry; that with the salary ranges provided under the State Personnel Plan, the Department is unable to meet competition with other business; and knowing that the future efficiency of the Department and the responsibility of administering its affairs is dependent upon the ability to secure technically trained personnel and hold those now in employment; that the work of the Department must be considered as a most important public utility; and that the Department must be given an opportunity to compete with industry in securing personnel with ability, be it resolved that this resolution be placed before the Governor with the request that it be considered as one of the most important administrative problems before the State Government. Motion carried.

At 9:30 A. M. the Commission gave a hearing to a delegation that requested the Commission to consider a State-owned ferry across the James River from Claremont, in Surry County, to Sandy Point in Charles City County. A private ferry was formerly operated across the river but traffic was so light that it was discontinued September 16, 1942. The delegation was composed of Mr. I. F. Willard, Mr. S. T. Fisher, Mr. Howard Magee, Dr. Fred E. Steere and Dr. S. B. Nickels. It was decided that a study and traffic survey would be made during a period that would include next summer's traffic. This decision was agreeable to the delegation.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. DeHardit, that the Commission direct the Commissioner to have a study made of the probable traffic on the requested State-owned ferry across the James River from Claremont. Motion carried.

At 10:00 A. M. the Commission gave a public hearing on the proposed relocation of Route 3 in Lancaster County. Mr. Walter Johnson, Attorney and a delegation of ten other men appeared in the interest of retaining the present location of Route 3. It was requested that Route 3 be straightened and improved on its present location and the short route be not adopted. Senator R. O. Norris, Delegate W. Collin Chilton, Hon. W. Tayloe Murphy and several other gentlemen appeared in the interest of the relocation and requested the best road that could be built, using good engineering principles, whether it be the proposed short route or straightening of the old road.

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Wycor, that the Commission accept the recommendation of the Department's engineers in the relocation of Route 3 in Lancaster County, from Quinn's Mill-East. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the recommendation of the Right of Way Engineer, relative to renting the building on the corner of Main Street at 12th and the adjoining building at 1204 E. Main Street, formerly occupied by the Division of Motor Vehicles, be approved. Motion carried.

The Chairman advised the Commission of the status of the proposed York River Bridge at Yorktown and of the unfavorable action taken by Colonel Derby on the request of the Department submitted to him in letter of November 10, which was read to the Commission. It is the opinion of Mr. DeHardit that there is no concerted move against a bridge but that the people are very anxious for it. The Chairman stated that his understanding of the matter is that a mandate of the Commission and the Legislature is for plans to be prepared and a bridge constructed.

General Anderson advised the Commission of a conference with Mr. Sydney Small, Chairman, Virginia Railway Association, and other railroad officials, relative to the maintenance of grade crossing elimination structures. A copy of Mr. Small's letter of December 11 and attached memorandum was given to each member of the Commission. The Chairman is of the opinion that it might be well for the Commission to tie in with the railroads on construction also. The Commission directed that Mr. Small be advised that the matter had been taken up with the Commission and it is hoped that he can be advised in a few weeks concerning the matter.

At 2:00 P. M. the Commission gave a hearing on the Fredericksburg By-pass and the designation of the same as a limited access road. Delegates Wm. J. Gibson, Senator Ben. F. Pitts and Messrs. Roger Clarke, Charlie Beck, Carlton Carpenter, W. K. Dillard and T. Stokely Coleman appeared before the Commission and protested the designation of the By-pass as a "limited access" road, stating they felt the action of the Commission would cause a loss of trade to Fredericksburg. The delegation was advised that the purpose of the designation was to prevent commercial development of the frontage on the by-pass, but that the matter would be carefully reconsidered. The Chairman reviewed the development of the major arteries carrying the highway traffic and the fundamentals concerning the subject.

On motion of Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Wycor, the Commission decided to hold to their action of October 30-September 1 which declared the Fredericksburg By-pass a limited access road, and authorized the expenditure of approximately \$60,000.00 of the Fredericksburg District Reserve Fund for the building of the service roads. Motion carried.

Moved by General Anderson, seconded by Mr. Rawls, that the Annual Report of the Commission, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, be signed and forwarded to the Governor. Motion carried.

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at
3:00 o'clock,

Approved-


Commissioner.

Attested-


Secretary