

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT P. O. Box 2261 – Little Rock, Arkansas Telephone (501) 569-2227

Contact: Randy Ort/David Nilles

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN WHITE COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (4-13) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in White County, according to Commissioner Cliff Hoofman of North Little Rock and White County Judge Michael Lincoln.

The purpose of the first project is to resurface approximately 2.5 miles of Beebe Capps Expressway (Highway 36) in Searcy. Rogers Group Inc., of Nashville, Tennessee, was awarded the contract at \$773,241.65.

"This project will begin at the intersection with Highway 67B, and continue westward," stated Hoofman.

A second project will resurface approximately one mile of Romance Road (County Road 26), east of Romance. White County of Searcy, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$113,433.35.

"Keeping our county roads in the best condition possible is always a top priority," stated Judge Lincoln.

Hoofman noted that the County Road project is funded through the State Aid Road Program established by the legislature and administered by the State Aid Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This program provides approximately \$20 million annually from the state motor fuels tax to assist counties with projects of their choosing on the county road system.

Hoofman said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on both projects in late summer of 2010.

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