## **INFORMATION RELEASE**



## Office of the Director -

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## ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN CONWAY COUNTY

**LITTLE ROCK (3-28)** -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Conway County, according to highway officials and Conway County Judge Jimmy Hart.

The first project will resurface 11.3 miles of Highway 9, near Center Ridge. Blackstone Construction, LLC of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$1,998,503.51.

Work will begin at Center Ridge and continue southward to Solgohachia.

The project is being funded with proceeds from the increase in the natural gas severance tax passed by the state legislature in 2008.

The purpose of the second project is to resurface 1.2 miles of Arrowhead Drive (County Road 71), west of Brewer Lake. Redstone Construction Group, Inc. of Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$158,502.40.

"These improvements will begin at County Road 406 and continue eastward," stated Judge Hart.

A third project will resurface approximately three miles of County Road 55, near the town of Springfield. Salt Creek Paving & Construction Company, Inc. of Benton, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$234,038.80.

"This project extends from Highway 92 eastward to the Faulkner County line," Judge Hart added.

The County Road projects are 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.

Work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on all projects in early summer of this year.

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