

Legislation Enacted Benefits AHTD Employees and Retirees

Legislation supported by the Arkansas State Highway Commission and Department in the 81st General Assembly will benefit employees and retirees, according to Director Dan Flowers. A brief summary of the legislation affecting AHTD which has been enacted and signed into law follows:

SALARY BENEFITS

Acts 42 and 532 of 1997 authorize the Commission to consider salary increases for AHTD employees as follows:

Fiscal Year 1998	2.8% maximum increase
Fiscal Year 1999	3.2% maximum increase

An additional 2.0% may be considered by the Commission, for the biennium, if the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines there are sufficient general revenues for all state employees to receive the increase.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS INCREASE

Acts 349 and 386 of 1997 will provide a 4.2% increase in retirees' gross annuity effective July 1, 1997. For those retirees who have been retired a full year at June 30, 1997, the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) will provide an additional 2.9% increase. Therefore, the annual combined increase totals 7.1%. If retired less than one full year the annual increase will be 4.2%.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS

Effective July 1, 1997, Act 795 directs state agencies to follow the Federal Travel Directory which establishes various rates for different locations. Those amounts, excluding tax, for the State of Arkansas are summarized below:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Lodging</u>	<u>Meals</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Hot Springs	\$59.00	\$30.00	\$89.00
Little Rock	\$65.00	\$30.00	\$95.00
All other locations	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$80.00
Prior to Act 795 (All locations)			\$55.00

Out of state travel allowances have also been increased in accordance with the Federal Travel Directory which will be distributed to the appropriate personnel prior to the effective date of the Act.

Four-Day Work Week

Effective Thursday, April 10 through Wednesday, October 22, the following personnel will work a four-day, ten-hour schedule Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with a half hour lunch:

Field maintenance personnel, District shop crews, storeroom personnel, Area Maintenance Supervisors, Job Superintendents, Shop Supervisors, District Equipment and Maintenance Supervisors, striping and signing crews, Surveys Division survey parties, Heavy Bridge Maintenance crews, Facilities Management personnel, Radio Maintenance Specialists, Safety Inspection Officers, Sign Shop personnel and Equipment and Procurement shop personnel.

On those weeks containing a holiday, the work schedule will revert to a five-day, eight-hour work week. Vacation or sick leave for a ten-hour day will be charged as ten hours. Half days will be charged as five hours.

The Districts will rotate the service station personnel so that one person will be on a five-day, eight-hour work week in order to keep the station open all week.

The Equipment Preventive Maintenance Program is to be carried out fully during the four-day work week period.

AHTD Comes To The Aid Of Storm Victims

The Department and its employees responded generously to friends and co-workers who were affected by the March 1 storms. Many employees donated cash, household items, clothing, blankets, and cleaning supplies. Others volunteered their time to collect and distribute supplies to those in need.

Several offices, sections, divisions, and districts pooled their resources to assist co-workers who suffered damage. District Ten donated over \$600 to aid in the recovery effort. The Human Resources Division coordinated the collection and distribution activities.

Checks, from the cash donations, were distributed to employees who indicated a need. The amount received was equally divided and given to employees to use at their discretion.

The State Highway Commission authorized the use of up to forty hours of emergency catastrophic leave for those employees who needed time off to repair and rebuild. Eighteen employees requested and utilized time from the Catastrophic Leave Bank during the initial recovery.

Though the recovery period is far from over, AHTD employees who were affected by the storms have not been forgotten by their friends and co-workers. Should other needs occur, please contact Carol Ward in the Human Resources Division at 501-569-2296.

The AHTD CENTERLINE

Published monthly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and materials should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, 10324 Interstate 30, Room 1002, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261, (501) 569-2227.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

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DAN FLOWERS
DIRECTOR OF
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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1997 Equipment Operators' Roadeo Semi-Final Competition Results

Results of the semi-final rounds of competition for the 1997 AHTD Equipment Operators' Roadeo are listed below. First place winners in each event will participate in the statewide competition tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 5 at the Central Shops in Little Rock.

		District 1	District 2	District 3	District 5
Tractor/Lowboy	1st	Harold Mullins	Melvin Ford	Kenneth Adams	James Dix
	2nd	Terry Lewis	Steve Hamilton	James Bruce	J.L. Bridgeman
	3rd	Joey McClanahan	Kelley Fields	Reginald Easter	Ruth Ferguson
Tandem Axle Dump Truck	1st	Ray Duff	Lamar Reynolds	Mike Crussel	Jeremy Fore
	2nd	Stanley Bennett	Susan Main	Stanley Rogers	Todd Bolin
	3rd	Ernest Rose	Saul King	Jody Allmon	Donie Bray
Single Axle Dump Truck	1st	Jack Bettes	Donald Nugent	Wesley Fritts	Terry Stewart
	2nd	Tony Palmer	Carrie Hudson	Tresa Goodwin	Ronnie Caraway
	3rd	Larry Fleming	Janice White	Robyn Freeman	Kerry Little
Tractor/Mower	1st	Troy Tims	Clarence Edwards	Ramon Rodriguez	Willie McCord
	2nd	Coleman Nesbitt	Jimmy Kendall	Willie Martin	Bryan Anderson
	3rd	Willie Anderson	Perry Bledsoe	Jackie Horton	Chris Crite
Backhoe	1st	Ronald Dunigan	Junior Fox	David Morton	Keith Skelton
	2nd	Jerry Mitchell	Ellis Landers	Rick Williams	James Dix
	3rd	Mike Gahr	Stacy Stepp	J. Bo Jones	Donie Bray
Motor Patrol	1st	C.M. "Butch" Fryer	A.D. Ford, Sr.	Roy Neiman	Joe Gilbert
	2nd	Mike Gahr	Aronda Newman	Richard Kidd	Jared Moxley
	3rd	Joey McClanahan	Norman Rochelle	James Edney	David Bailey

The remaining semi-finals will be held on the following dates:

District 4	May 15
District 6/Central Office	April 17
District 7	April 24
District 8	April 10
District 9	May 1
District 10	May 8

Wednesday, April 30

Deadline for submission of articles and pictures for the Summer 1997 issue of "Arkansas Highways." This issue will include high school and college graduates of department employees.

Friday, May 2

Deadline for summer employment applications to be submitted to the Personnel Section of the Human Resources Division.

AHTD PEOPLE



NEW EMPLOYEES

Computer Services

Judith Manes, Lead Section Analyst

Surveys

Lee Gates, **Ricky Stevens**, Surveys Helpers

District 1

Kimberly Wright, District Receptionist

District 2

Debany Qualls, General Laborer; **Jeanna Arnold**, **Johnnifer Roston**, Construction Helpers I

District 3

Tracy Jackson, General Laborer

District 4

Bruce Bull, **Cheri Sampley**, General Laborers; **Greg Umholtz**, Rest Area Attendant

District 6

Michael Arellanes, **Lincoln Brison, Jr.**, General Laborers

District 10

Terry Harvey, General Laborer

PROMOTIONS

Human Resources

Bradley Marlone, Single Axle Truck Driver

Maintenance

Sammy Reynolds, II, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Billy Shands**, Stripper Helper

Materials

Alexander Garland, Geotechnical Aide

Right of Way

Randy Lewis, Reviewing Appraiser

Surveys

Tony Delph, Office Administrative Assistant V; **Walter Gunn**, Senior Surveys Aide; **Carl Lindstrom**, Civil Engineer VI; **Mike Lyon**, Surveys Aide; **Larry Miller**, **John Pendergrass**, Survey Aides I

District 1

Frederick Ellis, **Laura Gaston**, **Debra Johnson**, Single Axle Truck Drivers

District 2

David Felts, **Tim Hall**, Single Axle Truck Drivers; **Jerry Simmons**, District Caretaker

District 3

Gary Collier, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **Joe Daniels, Jr.**, Area Headquarters Attendant; **Kenneth Fore**, Crew Leader; **Chad Hodges**, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **James Owenby**, Senior Inspector

District 4

Kenneth Adams, Asst. Storeroom Supv.; **Craig Duck**, **Travis Evans**, Single Axle Truck Drivers; **Rick Law**, Distributor Operator

District 5

Rhonda Jackson, **Jared Moxley**, Single Axle Truck Drivers

District 6

Robert Cater, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Aaron Grainger**, Multi-Axle Truck Driver

District 7

Tina Compton, Single Axle Truck Driver

District 8

Calvin Adney, Crew Leader; **Jack Cossey**, Area Headquarters Attendant; **Don Gunther**, **Mary Scott**, Single Axle Truck Drivers

District 9

Robert Clark, **John Johnson**, Multi-Axle Truck Drivers; **Terry Eidson**, Motor Patrol Operator; **Nickey Kimes**, Vegetation Controller

District 10

Patsy Shaw, Single Axle Truck Driver; **Christopher Allbritton**, Construction Aide II; **Don Arrington**, Distributor/Roller Operator

SERVICE

30 Years

Billy Gilbert, D-7 Vegetation Controller; **Jackie Pharis**, D-9 Crew Leader; **Nelson McCutcheon**, D-9 Const. Aide III; **Jerry Cook**, D-10 Area Maint. Supv.

25 Years

Ralph Hall, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; **Mike Eden**, Fiscal Services Section Head; **Wayne Casteel**, Materials Concrete & Steel Fabrication Engineer; **Bill Callicott**, D-3 Area Maint. Supv.; **Randall Clark**, D-9 Area Maint. Supv.; **Fred Austin**, D-9 Deck Hand

20 Years

Glen Holley, AHP Sergeant; **Herman Smith**, Maintenance Pavement Profiler Job Supt.; **Mark Frazier**, P&R Analyst; **Darrell Hatchett**, ROW Relocation Coordinator; **Mitchell Love**, D-1 Crane Operator/Finish; **Brenda Taylor**, D-5 Fuel Clerk; **Jerry Miller**, D-5 Crew Leader; **Jimmy Condrey**, D-5 Inspector; **Dennis Johnson**, D-6 Crew Leader; **Donald Pipkin**, D-6 Senior Inspector; **James Barkhimer**, D-7 Dozer Operator/Finish; **Roy Norman**, D-9 Senior Const. Materials Inspector

15 Years

Annette Swift, E&P Office Administrative Assistant I; **James Lee**, Roadway Adv. Design Engineer; **Chester Allwhite**, D-1 Permit Officer; **Kelly Slater**, D-2 Sealing Job Supt.

10 Years

Barry Cruz, Computer Network Control Tech.; **Luther Cox**, Human Resources Elec., Plumb. & Mech. Repairer; **Margaret Middleton**, Roadway Sr. Design Tech.; **Joseph McClanahan**, D-1 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; **Larry Davis**, D-1 Motor Patrol Operator; **Ronnie Miller**, D-5 Single Axle Truck Driver; **Steven Lane**, D-6 Lead Person; **Jackie Thornton**, D-7 Area Headquarters Attendant; **Danny Casteel**, D-8 Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; **Jimmy Snipes**, D-9 Distributor Operator

5 Years

Thomas Nation, AHP Permit Technician; **Darrol Sitz**, AHP Permit Technician; **Phillip Moore**, Environmental Admin. Assistant I; **Kenneth Cody**, Surveys Aide; **John Knight**, D-4 Const. Aide I; **Leatrice Knight**, D-4 Const. Aide I; **Nathan Edwards**, D-5 Bridge Inspector Helper; **Richard Hilton**, D-7 Single Axle Truck Driver; **John Duvall**, D-8 Vegetation Controller; **Jeff Myatt**, D-9 Single Axle Truck Driver; **Gary Younger**, D-9 Vegetation Controller; **Michael Thomas**, D-9 Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Janell Ware**, D-9 Field Clerk I

RETIREMENTS

Stephen Harlow, Highway Police Sergeant, retired March 10, 15+ years service.

Burl Robertson, District 2 Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, retired March 25, 27 years service.

Hershal Clover, District 3 Lead Person, retired March 25, 15 years service.

Mack Sides, District 6 Dozer Operator/Finish, retired March 10, 21+ years service.

Billy Gilbert, District 7 Vegetation Controller, retired March 7, 30 years service.

Edward Carter, District 7 Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, retired March 17, 33+ years service.

Marvin Whorton, District 8 Rest Area Attendant, retired March 31, 23+ years service.

Jerry Cook, District 10 Area Maintenance Supervisor, retired March 17, 30 years service.