

and

Shurden of the Senate

An Act relating to roads, bridges and ferries; amending 69 O.S. 1991, Section 662, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 240, O.S.L. 1999 (69 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 662), which relates to the administration of the county road and bridge program; removing certain approval for force account bridge projects; clarifying that certain force account bridge projects and road projects in excess of certain amounts not be reimbursed; requiring force account bridge projects to be reimbursed under certain circumstances; requiring certain inspection; deleting requirement for certain resolution and the procedure relating to the processing of such resolution; authorizing the board of county commissioners to submit a request for reimbursement under certain circumstances; permitting county to receive certain reimbursement for certain costs; modifying certain criteria required for reimbursement; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 69 O.S. 1991, Section 662, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 240, O.S.L. 1999 (69 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 662), is amended to read as follows:

Section 662. A. The program and funds shall be administered by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation under a minimum of policies, guidelines and engineering design standards. Approved projects will be awarded to contractors by the State Transportation Commission or by other federal or state agencies under their normal competitive bidding procedures, excluding prequalification of bidders. Force account road ~~or bridge~~ projects may be approved for a county by the Transportation Commission. No force account county bridge project shall be reimbursed in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) ~~or any.~~ No county road project in excess of

Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00), excluding the cost for engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and utility relocation, in cost ~~may~~ shall be done by the force account method.

B. Funds available for the County Bridge and Road Improvement Act shall not be subject to fiscal year limitations and shall be available for encumbrance and expenditure purposes for a period of thirty (30) months from the effective date such funds are appropriated.

C. In order to ~~build~~ receive reimbursement for constructing a force account bridge, ~~as set forth in subsection E of this section,~~ a county shall have sufficient funds in the County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund to pay the reimbursement request cost. ~~When a county determines to build a bridge in accordance with this section~~ Upon completion of a force account bridge, the board of county commissioners shall ~~submit a resolution to the Department of Transportation which shall include the following information:~~

~~1. Location of the bridge and the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) number, if there is a bridge at that location which has an NBI number;~~

~~2. The amount of funds the county will request as reimbursement;~~

~~3. The date on which the county would expect to begin construction; and~~

~~4. The date on which the county would expect the project to be complete~~ request an inspection of the bridge in accordance with the criteria set forth by the National Bridge Inventory Program.

D. ~~When a county has completed the force account bridge project, the board of county commissioners may submit a resolution to the Department of Transportation requesting payment in the amount of the reimbursement request. The resolution requesting reimbursement shall certify compliance with the criteria set forth in subsection E of this section, and all documentation necessary to~~

~~confirm compliance to the criteria shall be submitted with the resolution requesting reimbursement. Upon a determination by the Department of Transportation that the county has complied with the criteria set forth in subsection E of this section, the Department of Transportation shall process the county claim for payment.~~

E. When the force account bridge has been inspected and achieves a load rating of H. twenty (20) tons or greater, the board of county commissioners may submit a request for reimbursement to the Department of Transportation. The county shall receive reimbursement for all costs claimed relating to the construction of the bridge provided the inspection report indicates that the county has met or exceeded the criteria set forth in this section. County force account bridges eligible for reimbursement from the County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund shall meet or exceed the following criteria:

1. A The bridge has been built according to the current edition of the County Bridge Standards manual or from field notes drawn by a registered professional engineer shall provide plans in the form of field notes, which have been stamped and signed, which that provide the basic structural requirements to achieve a load rating of H. twenty (20) tons or greater. Field notes may be handwritten specifications or sketches which have been stamped or signed;

2. The finished bridge shall achieve a twenty-ton or greater rating. The rating criteria shall be determined by the National Bridge Inventory and approved by the Department of Transportation for bridges twenty (20) feet or more in length;

3. The subsurface foundation of the bridge shall meet the minimum guidelines established by using approved engineering methods, details of which shall be kept as shop notes;

4. The finished bridge shall have a minimum roadway width of twenty-four (24) feet; and

5. Materials used in the construction of the bridge shall meet or exceed the specifications for materials as specified in the current edition of the County Bridge Standards or certified in writing by the engineer or supplier.

~~F.~~ E. Monies from the County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund may be used to establish minimum standards for guardrail applications on low-traffic-volume county roads. The board of directors of the association representing the county commissioners of Oklahoma may request the development of guardrail standards for bridges on low-traffic-volume county roads, as defined in the county road standard manual, the cost of which shall be paid from monies from the County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund.

~~G.~~ F. Prior to construction of the bridge, a county may request that construction supervision be provided by the Circuit Engineering District of which the county is a member to ensure quality control and quality assurance.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 8th day of March, 2000.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2000.

President of the Senate