

for the printing and publishing of the same, and also for such printed notices, blank forms and advertisements, as said County Commissioners, or their clerk, may be required to use or give during the year succeeding the date of the contract to be awarded thereunder; said advertisements shall specify as far as it is practicable the character of material and work for which proposals are so invited, and in such advertisements proposals for the newspaper advertising shall be invited separately and distinct from the other printed notices, blank forms, ballots and other such printed matter. The proposals shall be opened and read aloud in public by the County Commissioners at their meeting on the first Tuesday in February of each year, and shall remain on file in their office, open to the inspection of the public. The contract for supplying during the ensuing year the printed notices (other than newspaper advertisements), the blank forms, the ballots and other such printed matter, shall thereupon be awarded by them to the lowest responsible bidder for the same, who shall be required to do the work connected therewith and to deliver the same when and as required by the County Commissioners or the officers aforesaid. The contract for the newspaper advertising for which proposals were so invited during the ensuing year shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder for the same, unless for reasons, not of a political character, the County Commissioners shall in open session by resolution determine that the interests of the county demand otherwise, and the resolution so to be adopted shall contain the reasons and shall be recorded among their proceedings and be open to the inspection of the public. All bids for such newspaper advertising shall contain an affidavit of the editor or publisher of the newspaper making the same, setting forth a true statement of the actual number of existing paying subscribers to such newspaper at the time of such affidavit, and before awarding the contract the books of such editor or publisher may be required by the County Commissioners to be produced before them in verification thereof. If they deem it advisable so to do, the County Commissioners may require the person or persons to whom any of the contracts shall be awarded as mentioned in this or in the preceding section to execute a reasonable bond to the State of Maryland, with sureties satisfactory to the County Commissioners, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract so entered into.

1900, ch. 423. 1914 Code, sec. 176.

232. Authority is vested in the County Commissioners whenever, in their discretion, the public interests require them so to do, to issue summons for witnesses to testify before them as to any matters relating to the opening, closing, altering or repairing public roads, building or repairing hedges and as to any claims or demands presented against the county or appropriation asked for; such summons to be issued by the Clerk to the County Commissioners on their order and directed to the Sheriff of the county, who is authorized and required to serve such process in like manner as if the same issued from a court of law, and he shall be allowed the usual fees for such service as are allowed by law; witnesses