

BRIDGES.

47. All applications for building and repairing bridges shall be made by petition to the county commissioners.

48. When any person intends to apply for building or repairing any bridge, he shall give notice in the same manner, and for the same length of time prescribed for applications for opening roads, and the county commissioners when they have heard the reasons and evidences for and against the application, shall determine the case as in their judgment will best promote the public convenience.

49. Whenever the county commissioners shall have determined to build or repair a bridge, they shall, at their usual time for levying taxes, levy on the assessable property of the county, a sum sufficient to pay for the bridge and its embankments and abutments.

50. All bridges shall be built or repaired by contract, and the county commissioners shall advertise in one or more newspapers, and if there be no newspaper published in the county, or counties, then by such public notice as they shall deem most advisable, setting forth the place where said bridge is to be built or repaired, with full specifications of the plan and materials, and that sealed proposals for building or repairing said bridge will be received until a day named in the advertisement.

51. On the day named in such advertisement the proposals shall be opened, and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder, who in the opinion of the county commissioners shall be qualified to build or repair the bridge; and the contractor shall be required to enter into bonds with approved security, in double the amount of the contract, conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract.

52. When a contractor shall notify the county commissioners that the bridge is finished, the county commissioners shall inspect the work, and if in their judgment it has been constructed according to the contract and specification, they shall take the same from the hands of the contractor, and open it for public travel, and then and not before, the contractor shall be entitled to receive the last instalment due thereon.