

53. If, upon petition in writing of any citizen or citizens of any county, to the county commissioners, praying for a bridge to be built or repaired, over any stream or place dividing two adjoining counties, and the said county commissioners shall deem the prayer in the petition reasonable, they shall by message in writing, ask the concurrence of the county commissioners of the adjoining county, and upon the concurrence of the last named county commissioners, the county commissioners of each county shall appoint three disinterested and discreet examiners, and each shall notify the other of such appointment.

54. The said examiners shall, with all convenient dispatch, meet and examine, and determine as to the expediency of building or repairing the bridge, the place where, the plan, material and the relative portion of the cost, each of the adjoining counties should pay, and estimate the whole cost and report their opinion and all other proceedings to their respective county commissioners.

55. If the said report be approved, and a bridge be reported as proper and expedient to be built or repaired, the said several county commissioners shall direct the examiners to advertise for sealed proposals to build or repair such bridge as in their report may be mentioned, stating the place, plan, material and workmanship, with sufficient certainty for the purpose of obtaining proper proposals for the same, and the time and place when such proposals will be opened.

56. And at the time and place named in such notice, the examiners shall meet and open said proposals, and shall award the work to the lowest bidder, all things being considered, who shall thereupon enter into a contract with said examiners, and give bond with security by them approved, in a penalty double the amount of the price of the work for the faithful performance of said work.

57. The examiners, during the progress of the work and up to its completion, shall at any time have full authority to examine and direct the same, and when completed, shall receive the same and open it for public use, and notify the commissioners of their respective counties thereof, and the said commissioners shall thereupon pay or levy for their respective proportions of the cost of the said work according to the contract.