

Commissioners shall have full power to determine how the roads of the County and any special road or roads thereof may be worked, repaired and maintained, and to regulate the wages that shall be paid employees engaged in such work and the prices to be paid for material to be used on the same, and to provide for such clerical or other assistants as may be required by them or the Roads Engineer of the County for the efficient performance of their several duties. Such Commissioners shall have the power to let out the repair or maintenance of any road or portion of a road by contract, when in the judgment of said Roads Engineer such course is deemed advisable, in which case preference shall be given where practicable to the owners of land directly interested in the proper care of such road or roads, and such work shall be done under the supervision of road supervisors of the district. Whenever any taxpayer of the County shall offer to haul stone or other hard material upon any public road of his district at the price paid for the same on such road or in such locality, the County Commissioners or road supervisor of the district shall give such taxpayer the preference, provided such stone or other hard material is in condition for spreading on the road when hauled, if so required by the County Commissioners or road supervisor for the district, and that its quality is approved by the Roads Engineer for use on the road upon which it is proposed to be used. All contracts made by the County Commissioners for the repair or construction of roads or bridges or for materials to be used on the roads, shall be reduced to writing, and all payments thereunder shall be subject to the approval by the Roads Engineer of the work done or materials furnished under such contract. Whenever work on any road or bridge involves an outlay of five hundred dollars or more, plans and specifications therefor shall be prepared by the Roads Engineer and bids for work invited by reasonable publication in such papers as the Commissioners may designate; but it shall not be obligatory upon the said Commissioners to have such work done by contract if it be found after receiving bids therefor that the same can be done more cheaply by direct employment of required labor. All material and supplies to be used on the roads and bridges involving a cost of more than two hundred and fifty dollars shall be contracted for after requesting bids for the same, by reasonable publication in the County papers as the said Commissioners may designate; all such material