

Engineer shall not be interested in any firm or corporation from which anything shall be purchased for the use of said public roads, bridges or drains, nor receive any commission on said purchases.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County shall have the power by ordinance or resolution of condemning, laying out, opening, extending and making new roads and for altering, straightening, widening, grading, improving, or closing up in whole or in part any existing road, and for removing trees, posts and other obstructions, and for building or laying out public bridges or drains, when in their opinion the public necessity or convenience requires the same, without any previous application or petition. The County Commissioners may contract with the owner or owners of the land for the purpose of laying out, opening, extending and making new roads, bridges or drains, or for altering, straightening, widening, grading, improving or for closing up in whole or in part any existing public road, bridge or drain, or for the right of way over the land necessary therefor if he, she or they be competent to contract; and in case the County Commissioners shall so contract they shall cause a plat of the said road to be made by the County Road Engineer and filed and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, with the deed or deeds conveying the land so acquired, which plat shall be referred to in and shall be a part of said deed or deeds, and the lands so conveyed shall be and become thenceforth the property of St. Mary's County, and be subject to the purposes and uses for which granted. If, however, the County Commissioners aforesaid shall proceed by condemnation in the exercise of the powers herein granted, all benefits and damages done, suffered or incurred by laying out, opening, and making of new roads, bridges or drains, or by altering, straightening, widening, grading, improving or closing up, in part or in whole, any existing public roads, bridges or drains, shall be determined or assessed by three persons; residents of St. Mary's County and above the age of twenty-one years, of which the County Road Engineer shall be one, who shall be appointed by the County Commissioners aforesaid, and shall, within ten days after notice of their appointment, take an oath before a justice of the peace of St. Mary's County that they will faithfully and fairly and without partiality or