

May 14, 1982 Meeting

Member Carl, and the vote was unanimous to approve the continuation of the joint program for the period July 1, 1982, through June 30, 1983 with the condition that \$14,000 State funds will be matched on a dollar for dollar basis by the U. S. Geological Survey. Funds for this continuation will come from the budget of the Hydrographic Unit.

Approval - Revision of Selective Vegetation Removal Policy

Administrator Rose recalled at its meeting on April 9, 1982, the Board approved a policy permitting the selective removal of vegetation on state highway rights of way in vicinity of office, institutional, commercial, and industrial facilities and in the vicinity of legally erected outdoor advertising signs.

Mr. Rose noted that Part 11 of the adopted policy requires the Permittee to reimburse the Department for part of the cost of inspection of the vegetation removal when more than two hours of inspection is required at a site. He said there is no express statutory authorization which allows the Department to make this charge and the Legislative Rules Committee took exception to the charges for inspection work for that reason.

Upon recommendation of Mr. Rose, a motion was made by Board Member Harper, seconded by Board Member Burnette, and the vote was unanimous to direct the Department to make no charge for inspection services in connection with the selective vegetation removal until such time as the General Assembly has granted authority to the Department.

Approval - Naming of Eden Loop Road from NC 14 to NC 770 in Rockingham County the "THOMAS S. HARRINGTON HIGHWAY"

112 Administrator Rose advised the Department has received a

request from the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners to name SR 1533¹⁵³³ (Eden Loop Road) from NC 14 to NC 770 as the "Thomas S. Harrington Highway". He noted it has been our policy to give consideration to names for highway facilities where such requests are officially endorsed by the respective local governing body.

A motion was made by Board Member Dallas, seconded by Board Member Basnight, and the vote was unanimous to concur with the request of the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners and approve the name "THOMAS S. HARRINGTON HIGHWAY" for the portion of SR 1533 between NC 14 and NC 770 in Rockingham County and authorize the Department to erect appropriate signs.

Approval - Contract for Private Firms to Prepare Plans for I-277
Underpass of Southern Railway, Mecklenburg County (I-501B)

Administrator Rose advised the updated Highway Improvement Program, FY 82-1991, is being reviewed to determine which of the projects may require the use of private firms to prepare project plans in order to meet the schedules shown in the program. He said it has been determined the employment of private firms will be required to prepare the plans for several structures on projects scheduled for construction within the next two years and we do not have sufficient staff in our Structure Design Unit to prepare all of the structure plans required to meet the schedules.

Mr. Rose said in February, 1981, pursuant to the interim rules and regulations adopted by The Board, a Selection Committee (composed of our staff and representative of the Federal Highway Administration) was established to handle the selection/negotiation with a private firm for the preparation of structure plans for the proposed I-277 underpass of the Southern Railway in Charlotte (I-501B). He said after careful