

OFFICE OF ROAD COMMISSIONER,
TERRITORY OF ALASKA,
DISTRICT NO.3,

Valdez Alaska Dec 11, 1915.

FILE NO.
REC'D. 12/15/15
ANSW'D

W.G.Smith,
Territorial Treasurer.
Juneau Alaska.

Dear Sir.

I am mailing the vouchers of Mr Bartley Howard of Cordova to the office of the Governor again today I have fixed the papers as you requested as near as I could I don't know whether they are right yet or not but hope they are, I am sending a notice that was sent to all contractors in regard to furnishing material this was overlooked in making up the proposals but was made out and sent to all bidders before the bids were received so it was understood. There is no bills to come in for material on any of the contracts. I have let the contractors have to furnish everything and they all n knowed it before they bid on the work,

Your Truly,

Ed. Hood

Road Commissioner Third Road
District of Alaska.

December 18th, 1915.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of the 11th instant stating that you have again mailed the Bartley Howard voucher to office of the Governor, the papers in connection with which you have fixed up and hope they will be all right. Upon inquiry at the office of the Governor I am informed that the matters have not yet been received, but I presume they will be in due course.

Statement made in your letter that all bids and contracts are understood to cover material used as well as labor though only the latter is made mention of, is noted. I should think a much more satisfactory way would be to have these matters covered in seaparate contracts; especially if material to any great extent is used.

You will, of course, understand that in these road matters the first consideration is to get full value to the Territory for the money expended, and the second, that settlements for such expenditures be made in a manner to fully and completely prove such value received. Your voucher to Mr. Howard covering contract for laborers at \$6.00 per day, and foreman at \$8.00 per day would justly merit severe criticism from any one who might be delegated to examine the affairs of this office. However, with your letter attached showing that material used was included in the contract, though no mention of it is made, also your voucher showing that considerable bridge work was done, the matter presents a better appearance. The voucher with its accompanying papers

#2 E. W. 12/18/15.

not being here at this present writing I am unable to say if they will pass or not. A separate contract for material and labor would have made a much easier settlement possible.

A number of difficulties are to be expected, of course, in these new matters, but I trust you will bear these matters in mind when letting your future contracts.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

OFFICE OF ROAD COMMISSIONER
ROAD DISTRICT NO3.

FILE NO. _____
REC'D. 11/26/15
ANSW'D 11/26/15

Valdez Alaska, November 22, 1915.

W.G.Smith.

Territorial Treasurer.

Juneau Alaska.

Dear Sir.

I am enclosing letters addressed to me in regard to moneys due Road contractors at Cordova and Valdez Road District No 3. they wrote me to have the money sent as directed and I enclose letters so you may do as you wish in the matter,

Respectfully,

Ed. Hood,

Road Commissioner Road District No 3.

Cordova, Alaska, September 18, 1915

Ed. Wood, Esq.,
Territorial Road Overseer,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I would respectfully request that all checks or warrants issued to me in payment of contract which I hold for the construction of road in the Cordova Precinct be mailed by the disbursing officer to The First Bank of Cordova, for my care.

Very respectfully,

Barley Howard

Valdez, Alaska,

November 20, 1915.

Ed. Wood, Esq.,
Territorial Road Overseer,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I would respectfully request that all checks or warrants issued to me in payment of contract which I hold for the improvement of the Mineral Creek Road be mailed by the disbursing officer to the First Bank of Valdez, for my care.

Very respectfully,

A. L. Jaynes.

November 26, 1915.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Com.,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22d instant in which is enclosed letters from road contractors Howard of Cordova and Jaynes of Valdez, each furnishing special address to which warrants in settlement of their contracts may be sent.

We will endeavor to carry out their wishes in respect to these matters, but would suggest that special addresses be placed on the voucher after the name of the payee in the space provided for that purpose. It will then be much less likely to be overlooked.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

OFFICE OF ROAD COMMISSIONER,
TERRITORY OF ALASKA,
DISTRICT NO.3.

Valdez Alaska, Dec 18, 1915.

W.W.Smith.

Territorial Treasurer,

Juneau Alaska.

Dear Sir.

FILE NO. _____
REC'D. 12/18/15
ANSW'D _____

I have this day mailed the corrected reports on the Kotsina and Chisina Trails to the Governor for his approval. also the voucher for Gus Johnson's salary as assistant in this matter I did not make arrangements with him for daily salary I figured up about the time it would take to do the work and told him I would give him \$300,00 to do the work and he accepted, he was to pay all his own expenses which he has done so that the \$300,00 covers all the expense there is attached to those two contracts. He was on the work 71 days and that will make wages for him about like I pay my men here,

Yours Respectfully,

Ed. Hood

Road Commissioner Third

Road District of Alaska.

February 21, 1916.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I write at this time to advise you of the amount which will be available to you for expenditure in building, repairing and maintaining of trails, roads and bridges in your district during the year of 1916 under provisions of and appropriations contained in Chapter 27, Session Laws of Alaska, 1915.

The receipts of the Forest Reserve Fund since the distribution of April 30th, 1915, in accordance with the appropriations contained in the above mentioned Act and in Chapter 74, Session Laws of 1915, have been as follows:

Aug. 31, 15, Interest for quarter ended Jun. 30, 15.	----- \$ 301.62
Oct. 30, 15, Interest for quarter ended Sep. 30, 15.	----- 302.00
Nov. 6, 15, From U. S. Treasury for statutory percentage of receipts of National Forests in Alaska, fiscal year ended Jun.30,15.	-- 11,165.75
Jan. 31, 16, Interest for quarter ended Dec. 30, 15.	<u>290.22</u>
Total	----- \$12,059.59

The Fund will have no further receipts until transfer from the Deposit Interest Fund for the quarter ending Mar. 31st, next. It will probably be June 1st before all of our bank interest will be reported in, the proportionate amount to each district of such interest will be only forty or fifty dollars, and because of the delay and smallness of the amount involved, distribution of the Fund as it stands at present will be made under the appropriations.

In accordance with the appropriation contained in provisions of Chap. 27, Laws of 1915, one-fourth of 75% of the above amount, or \$2,261.18, will be credited to each road district of the Territory in our appropriation ledger. According to our books there remains an unexpended balance of \$222.63 from your last year's appropriation. This amount combined with the above distribution will make an amount of \$2,483.81 available to you for expenditure during the coming season.

Please advise me if the above unexpended balance agrees with your books, also please acknowledge receipt of advice of credit of the above appropriation so that I may know you are fully advised for your coming season's work.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

October 2, 1916.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:-

I write to advise you that there has this day been made an apportionment of the Forest Reserve Fund of the Territory, under provisions of Chapter 27, Session Laws of Alaska, 1915, and that the sum of \$2,816.87, in addition to sums of which you have been previously advised, has been entered in our Appropriation Ledger; same being available to you for expenditure in the building, repairing and maintaining of roads, trails and bridges in the Third Road District of the Territory.

This sum is that of which you were advised by telegram from the Governor on September 5th, and is your district's one-fourth of the seventy-five per-centum of receipts from the National Forests in Alaska for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916. In years past the Territory's percentage of receipts for the current year have not been received from the Federal Treasury in time to be available for road building in that year; hence apportionment of the Forest Reserve Fund under Chapters 27 and 74, Session Laws, 1915, has heretofore been made at the beginning of the road making season. This year, however, settlement was received at a sufficiently early date to be available for the current year; hence the Governor's telegraphic notification as of September 5th, and the apportionment now made at the beginning of the final quarter of the year.

You will bear in mind, of course, that this apportionment is being made now instead of next Spring, and, excepting some small amount of interest earned by the Forest Reserve Fund, there will be no further moneys from this source until the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917 are at hand.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter that we may know you have a complete understanding of the situation and the amount available to you for expenditure.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

COPPER RIVER DRAYING Co.

ED. WOOD, Proprietor

GENERAL TRANSFERRING

Valdez, Alaska, Oct, 7th, 1916.

W.G.Smith,
Territorial Treasurer,
Juneau Alaska,
Dear Sir,

FILE NO. _____
REC'D. <i>OCT 11 1916</i>
ANSW'D <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter of
Oct 2nd/16 advising me of amount available for road fund for the 3 rd,
Division of Alaska amounting to \$2,816,87,

Yours Truly,



Road Commissioner for 3 rd, Division of Alaska.

11 000
27 1/2
1100 2/1
107.24

OFFICE OF ROAD COMMISSIONER
ROAD DISTRICT NO 3.

Valdez Alaska, Nov 10, 1916

W.C. Smith.
Territorial Treasurer,
Juneau Alaska.

FILE NO. _____
REC'D. NOV 16 1916
ANSW'D NOV 18 1916

Dear Sir,

I am mailing vouchers for road work done in this division to the Governor for his approval, the parties wish the check sent to them in care of The First Bank of Valdez,

Respectfully Yours,

Ed. Hood.

Road Commissioner Road District No 3

November 18, 1916.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

Previous to his approval for payment, Governor Strong has referred to this office, voucher for \$500.00 to J.O. Bazard & Oscar Brink for road work done in the vicinity of Shoups Bay, and forwarded in your letter of Nov. 10th. This voucher together with its various matters found attached is herewith returned for reasons found following.

1. Your signature certifying to correctness of the amount is missing from both original and duplicate voucher.

2. On the next to last page of the contract attached to the voucher the following wording is found:

*****; all payments to be made in duplicate vouchers properly signed by the persons performing the labor, forwarded by the party of the first part to the Governor of Alaska, *****

As the Territory has nothing to do with the payment to the laborers hired by the contractors, but pays these latter only and to whom the vouchers run, this wording in the contract is not in keeping with our methods of settlement at all, and the voucher cannot be paid so long as the wording appears in the contract. It must be either stricken out, or the words underscored in the above be made to read "the parties of the second part".

3. Approval and Acceptance of the Assistant Road Commissioners should appear on the contract instead of which we find their names on the vouchers.

When corrections in voucher and contract are made in accordance with the above, the vouchers will be passed for payment. If Assistant Road Commissioners, McDonald & Currie, can be conveniently reached, please have them date and sign a certificate of inspection, approval and acceptance of the work performed under the contract, such certificate to be placed at the end of the contract. If they cannot be easily reached, however, an exception will be made in this instance and the voucher paid without such certificate, inasmuch as their signatures have been placed upon the voucher.

It is presumed that the above voucher is the one referred to in your letter to this office of Nov. 10th, in which you state that vouchers for road work are being mailed to the Governor and that the parties wish the check sent to them in care of the First Bank of Valdez. No names are mentioned in your letter and if these are the parties meant please so advise when corrected matters are returned.

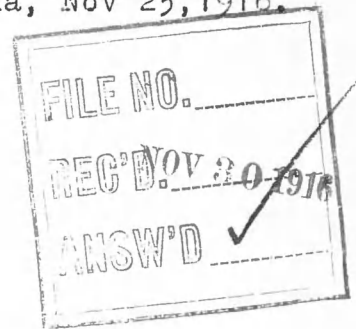
Very truly yours,

Copy to Office of Governor.

Territorial Treasurer.

OFFICE OF ROAD DISTRICT NO 3.
TERRITORY OF ALASKA.

Valdez Alaska, Nov 25, 1916.



W.G. Smith,
Territorial Treasurer,
Juneau Alaska.

Dear Sir,

I am sending the corrected vouchers to the Governor today, the check of J.C. Buzard and Oscar Brink should be sent in care of The First Bank of Valdez, one of the assistant commissioner's would be impossible to reach for some time the other will certify and sign Hope this is satisfactory,

Very Truly Yours,

Road Commissioner 3rd District,
Territory of Alaska,

December 15, 1916.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

The vouchers mentioned in your letter of Dec. 9th have been submitted to me for examination prior to approval for payment by the Governor, and on which the following action has been taken:

Voucher to Louis McCallum is herewith returned to you because of insufficient data. Please supply in accordance with directions on slip attached to the voucher.

The law makes no provision for payment of expenses of Road Commissioners, but it is presumed that it is not intended that this shall be covered by payment out of his percentage for compensation. The proper way for you to handle this matter, however, is to provide yourself with a receipt book and take receipts for all expenses paid; the receipts to show for what the expenditure was made. At certain intervals an expense voucher can be made up, to which the receipts can be attached as sub-vouchers. It would be impossible for us to put those expense vouchers in as you have them, all made out to different parties, and yet have the warrant in settlement payable to you. I have consequently made up a separate expense voucher, using those made up by you as sub-vouchers. Please sign this voucher which I have made up, in duplicate, also subscribe and swear to it before a notary using the form provided on the back. Moreover, be sure and sign the certificate as to cash payment on each one of the sub-vouchers.

Voucher covering your compensation will be retained here until all these matters are disposed of, when it will be checked and passed for payment.

I understand that you have been elected to succeed yourself as Road Commissioner, and in this case it will not be necessary to give you any detailed instructions. You will, of course, have to qualify under the elective office, and it will be necessary for you to furnish a new bond. When this is done, I think it will be well to have an original and duplicate prepared so that a certified copy can be sent down here. The one approved by the Judge is necessarily kept there as a Court record. This bond matter, however, might well be left until it is ascertained what action has been taken by the next legislature. As matters stand at this time, there will be no new funds available to the Road Commissioners for expenditure until U. S. Treasury makes remittance for close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917. This may be received anywhere between Sep. 1st and Nov. 1st. The legislature may make appropriation of Territorial Funds, and in this event, upon the

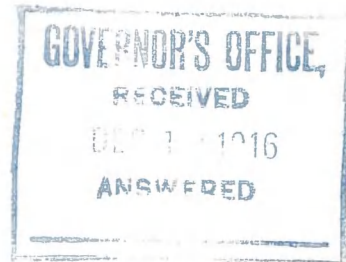
#2. E. Wood, Road Commissioner, 12/15/16.

amount appropriated will depend the amount of bond required. The law specifies no amount in this connection. If only the pro-rata distribution from the Forest Reserve Fund is to be available, the amount will be small and cannot be expected before September 1st at the very earliest. Receipts for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1916, were received from the Federal Treasury earlier than usual, and a distribution made at once with telegraphic notification to the different Commissioners. For this reason, there will be no more funds available from this source until settlement is made for the year ending June 30, 1917.

Yours very truly,

Territorial Treasurer.

Valdez Alaska, Dec 9th, 1916.



124

Hon. J.F.A.Strong,
Governor of Alaska,
Juneau Alaska.
Sir.

I have the honor to submit for your approval the enclosed Vouchers covering salary for Louis McCallum as assistant Commissioner for McCarthy present, also for my expense account for the year and my salary,

Respectfully Submitted,

Road Commissioner Road District, No. 3.
Territory of Alaska.

I have no doubt your own "eagle~~e~~ye" will catch all the irregularities, but
thought I would call attention to those I have noted in a hasty glance
through the vouchers.

Yours,

SHORTHILL.

Mr. Smith:

Herewith a bunch of road vouchers from the 3d division. I note a number of them seem to cover travel expenses of somebody, but they do not seem to indicate who, except as it may be inferred from the fact that Woods executed the affidavits on the backs of the vouchers. However, they are in rather unusual form: The vouchers are in favor of roadhouses, the Copper River railway, and others, who are the payees, while the affidavits are made by Woods. I should think such items of expense should be made up in regular expense-account form, in favor of Woods or whoever actually incurred them, and sworn to, and payment made by such person in cash to the persons furnishing the service; the payee of the voucher then being reimbursed from the treasury; the same, for instance, as is done with Mine Inspector Maloney's accounts. Of course, this is purely a case of "butt-in" on my part, so you do not need to seriously take it unless you wish to.

Valdez Alaska, Dec 19, 1916.

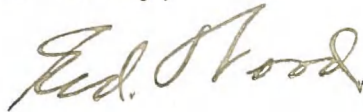
FILE NO. _____
DEC 23 1916
ANSW'D ✓

W. G. Smith,
Territorial Treasurer,
Juneau Alaska,

Dear Sir,

I am mailing The Governor for his approval the corrected vouchers which you returned to me also voucher for salary of my assistant on the Shoup Bay work amounting to \$100.00 this voucher clears up the work in this Road District for this year, I hope these vouchers are made out correctly as it must be quite annoying to you to have so many wrong,

Your Truly,



Commissioner Road District No. 3.
Territory of Alaska.

COPPER RIVER DRAYING Co.

ED. WOOD, Proprietor

GENERAL TRANSFERRING

Valdez, Alaska, Dec 9th, 1916.

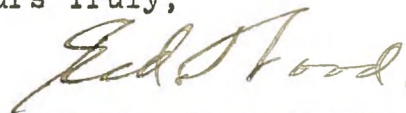
W.G. Smith,
Territorial Treasurer,
Juneau Alaska.

Dear Sir.

FILE NO.	34 RUCD
REC'D.	DEC 14 1916
ANSW'D	12/15/16

I am mailing The Govenor for his approval vouchers for Louis McCallum as assistant Commissioner, and for my salary and for my expense account I do not know whether I have got the ~~one~~ ones for my expense right or not as I did not turn in any expense for last year but paid it myself, these vouchers for expense have all been paid by me so I should have the warrant for them sent to me, These vouchers will clear me up on this seasons work except one for \$100,00 which I will send in as soon as I can get the party to sign it,

Yours Truly,



Road Commissioner Road District No.3.
Territory of Alaska.

December 28, 1916.

Mr. Ed. Wood,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

The corrected vouchers received in your recent enclosure have been passed for payment, approved by the Governor, and warrant in settlement will be issued and forwarded to the claimants.

Voucher for your compensation has been checked and found to be in error by \$100.00, that is you have computed 5% on \$2238.65 whereas the correct amount is \$2338.65, making your compensation voucher \$116.93 instead of \$111.93 as you had it. The voucher has been changed and warrant for the correct amount will be issued.

After all these expenses have been put in, I make your total expenditures for the season \$2,455.58 out of a total available amount of \$5,300.68. According to our books there is an unexpended balance available for next season in amount of \$2,845.10. Please advise if these amounts agree with your figures.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

March 10, 1917.

Mr. James E. Wilson,
Territorial Road Commissioner,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:-

Noting your election as Territorial Road Commissioner of the Third Road District, for the term beginning Mar. 1, 1917, I write you in that regard and enclose herewith pamphlet copies of the law creating and controlling such office, being Chapter 27, Session Laws of Alaska, 1915.

In your reading of the law you will note that appropriations contained in it are from the "Forest Reserve Fund" of the Territory. For your information I will advise you that this fund is received by this office from the Treasury of the United States and represents the Territory's statutory percentage (25%) of receipts from the National Forests in Alaska. Settlements are made in accordance with the Federal fiscal year closing on June 30th, and are usually received by this office about October 1st. following, too late to be available for road work before the following season. The amounts received have varied from twelve to fifteen thousand dollars, thus, under appropriations contained in the Act, making an annual amount of from twenty-two hundred to twenty-eight hundred dollars available to each Road Commissioner. Heretofore, distribution of the Forest Reserve Fund has been made immediately after the close of the first fiscal quarter in each year and each Road Commissioner advised of amount available for expenditure. However, settlement for the Federal fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, was received by this office on the 5th. day of the following September, early enough for use in last year's road building season; so a distribution of such settlement was immediately made and the several Road Commissioners advised by wire of this additional amount available for expenditure. For this reason, with the exception of some small amounts of interest earned, the Forest Reserve Fund will have no receipts until the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, shall have been settled for. This matter will be reported to the Legislature and it is quite possible that appropriations may be made from other Funds of the Territory for use of the Road Commissioners.

The Act provides that the "Road Commissioners shall furnish a good and sufficient bond for the safeguarding of all moneys entrusted to their keeping, and for the faithful performance of their duties"; said bond to be approved by the Judge of the District Court of the division in which such Road Commissioner is situated. As section 8 of the Act provides that all bills shall

#2, Mr. James E. Wilson, 3/10/17.

be settled thro' this office, and as the Act provides for no specified amount of bond, the original Road Commissioners designated by the Legislature were required to furnish bond in nominal amount for "faithful performance of duty". This is a matter for the Court to pass upon, however, and, as the original bonds after the Court's approval are a part of his records, duplicates of the bonds for certification to this office should be prepared. Personal, not surety, bonds were furnished by the original Commissioners in amounts varying from two to five thousand dollars. However, this bond matter is one which might well wait until it is ascertained what action has been taken by the present 1917 Legislative Assembly, what amounts are to be available for expenditure, and whether or not the Act is amended in any particulars.

In the conduct of the office to which you have been elected provisions of the law must be carefully observed. Section 5 of the Act provides that all "road work" shall be by contract let to the lowest and best bidder after the same has been duly advertised. Provisions of this section must be very carefully complied with as vouchers for work irregularly performed cannot be honored by this office. Vouchers must be rendered in original and duplicate, (see forms enclosed which are furnished by this office when needed) the former to be held against issuance of warrant on this office and the latter for filing in office of the Governor against his approval for payment. Vouchers in settlement of work performed by contract should be worded with reference to the contract, one copy of which should be attached to the original voucher together with certificate as to its having been let in accordance with law, to lowest and best bidder after due advertising; together also with certificate of inspection and acceptance by the Assistant Commissioners. For work other than road work, vouchers should specify as for labor or material and on what project the expenditure was incurred. If for labor, the number of days, amount per day, and dates, separate or inclusive must be given. If for material, character of such should be given, with quantities and separate prices. Vouchers cannot be honored by this office unless regular in every detail and explanatory to anyone examining reason for payment by this office, or reason for approval by the Governor.

Mr. Ed. Wood, your predecessor in the office has finished road work for past season of 1916 and to best of my knowledge all vouchers for work in the connection have been presented. According to records of this office there is available to you for expenditure the sum of \$2,845.10 this being the unexpended balance carried over from funds which were available for expenditure last year. But, as previously explained in this communication, aside from a small interest credit which will be made immediately after the 31st. inst, there will be no further distributions to be made from the Forest Reserve Fund until the Federal Treasury Department makes settlement for the year ending June 30, 1917; therefore, the amounts available to you for expenditure in your office, until that time, will be very limited unless the present Legislative Assembly makes special appropriations for this work from some other fund.

#3, Mr. James E. Wilson, 3/10/17.

I trust my explanation in regard to the Road Act as worked in connection with this office will be sufficiently clear to you. I will advise you in due course of any action taken by the Legislature that would pertain to the bond matter or that would provide for road work during the coming season or, in fact, that would alter or amend the Act in any way.

Very truly yours,

Encls; Copies of Act.
Voucher forms.

Territorial Treasurer.

August 1, 1917.

Mr. James E. Wilson, Chairman,
Divisional Road Commission,
Third Road District,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

I write to advise you of transfer this day of unexpended balance of Appropriation from Forest Reserve Fund for building, repairing and maintaining of trails, roads and bridges in the First Road District, Territory of Alaska, under provisions of Chapter 27, Session Laws of Alaska, 1915, to Appropriation from Road Fund for constructing, repairing and maintaining trails, roads and bridges throughout the Third Road District, Territory of Alaska, under provisions of Chapter 35, Session Laws of Alaska, 1917, such transfer being in total amount of \$2,989.96 as follows:

Mar. 31, 1917, Balance of Available funds
unexpended by Ed. Woods, Selected Road Com-
missioner, Third Territorial Road District, \$ 2,845.10

June 30, 1917, Apportionment of Deposit
Interest earned, quarter ended Mar, 31, 1917,
one-fourth of 75% of \$772.60, 144.86

Total amount transferred, \$ 2,989.96

The above noted amount of \$2,989.96 is available to the Divisional Road Commission, Third Road District, for requisition and expenditure under provisions of Chapter 36, Session Laws of Alaska, 1917, in addition to amounts appropriated by provisions of Chapter 35, Session Laws of Alaska, 1917.

Very truly yours,

Territorial Treasurer.

CC-Mr. J. W. Gilson, Treasurer,
Divisional Road Commission,
Third Road District,
Valdez, Alaska.