Capitol Bldg-file

Algernon Blair

CONTRACTOR

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

Dec.18, 1933

Hon. B. M. Miller, Governor
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Governor Miller:

The proposed work at the State Capitol with C.W.A. funds is tremendously worthwhile and some of it is particularly needed. The schedule of work to be done is not alone a matter of beautifying the building and grounds; it is to a large extent restoration and repairs.

Those of us who have become acquainted with the details are enthusiastic over the possibility of doing this worthwhile work for the purpose of giving employment to men and also for benefitting the State property.

Under the authority given the C.W.A. it will be necessary for the State to furnish the necessary plans and specifications, including some detail drawings and some schedules of quantities and competent construction superintendence.

Under ordinary circumstances the cost of what I have outlined above would be about 6% of the total expenditure or, in this case, anywhere from $4,000 to $6,000. This cost can be considerably reduced if it is your desire to assign to this work as architect Mr. Dittmar of the Department of Education. If Mr. Dittmar is directed to assume this responsibility then he needs certain supplies as well as competent assistants. I have not consulted Mr. Dittmar about this but I suspect I am nearly correct in guessing that it would take an appropriation of, say, $250.00 to give him the necessary supplies for his office.

He will need a man as a first assistant, competent and experienced, who could be gotten just now, we will say, for $60.00 a week; then he should have a draftsman and a stenographer and a clerk as computer.

It would be all right to put the stenographer and clerk on the construction payroll but the salary of Mr. Dittmar's assistant and the draftsman and the cost of the office supplies properly are items that the State should assume.

The building superintendent, to whom I have referred above, probably would command a salary of $75.00 a week; he should be a full time man at this price and his time should be calculated for, say, nine weeks; this item should be paid by the State.

I feel that all I have said above means a total expenditure by the State of a minimum of $1500.00 and a maximum of $2,000. This expenditure, of course, being exclusive of Mr. Dittmar's salary.

Respectfully,

Algernon Blair

AB:EG

Dec. 19, 1933

Mr. Algernon Blair,
Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Mr. Blair:

Your letter of December 18th with reference to proposed work on Capitol grounds received.

I am authorizing Mr. Hard, State Comptroller, to pay from the Governor's Contingent Fund, from Fifteen Hundred to Two Thousand Dollars, as recommended by you for supervisory and architectural work.

Mr. Turner and I both appreciate your interest, welcome your suggestions and shall lean on you heavily.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

B. M. MILLER,
Governor.

BMM:M