254.235 Authorization for action; project maintenance and operation, report to governor, failure to pay tolls, surveying.

Sec. 15. Any action taken by the authority under the provisions of this act may be authorized by resolution at any regular or special meeting, and each such resolution shall take effect immediately and need not be published or posted.

The project, when constructed and opened to traffic, shall be maintained and kept in good condition and repair by the authority. The project shall be operated by such force of toll-takers and other operating employees as the authority may in its discretion employ and shall be policed in such manner as the authority may determine.

All private property damaged or destroyed in carrying out the powers granted by this act shall be restored or repaired and placed in its original condition as nearly as practicable or adequate compensation made thereof out of funds provided under the authority of this act.

Within the first 90 days of each fiscal year of the authority, the authority shall make an annual report to the governor of its activities for the preceding fiscal year. Each such report shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement covering its operation during the year. The authority shall cause an audit of its books and accounts to be made at least once in each year by certified public accountants and the cost thereof may be treated as a part of the cost of construction or operation.

Any person who uses the project and fails or refuses to pay the toll provided therefor shall be punished by a fine of not more than $100.00 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both, and in addition thereto the authority shall have a lien upon the vehicle driven by such person for the amount of such toll and may take and retain possession thereof until the amount of such toll and all charges in connection therewith shall have been paid.

The authority and its authorized agents and employees may enter upon any lands, waters and premises in the state for the purpose of making surveys, soundings, drillings and examinations as they may deem necessary or convenient for the purpose of this act, and such entry shall not be deemed a trespass, nor shall an entry for such purposes be deemed an entry under any condemnation proceedings which may be then pending. The authority shall make reimbursement for any actual damage resulting to such lands, waters and premises as a result of such activities. The state hereby consents to the use of all lands owned by it, including lands lying under water, which are deemed by the authority to be necessary for the construction or operation of the project.

Each member of the authority shall be reimbursed for his actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his duties.