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Speakers at the opening ceremony of the Camp Welfare Road project in Fairfield County included, from left: District 4 Engineering Administrator Stan Bland; Representative Creighton B. Coleman; Senator Linda H. Short; Fairfield County Council Chairman David Ferguson; Fairfield County Transportation Committee Chairman James McGraw; SCDOT Commissioner Sarah B. Nuckles; and Tim Antley of Dennis Corporation (Photo by Andi Phipps) At right: The new 210-foot bridge on Camp Welfare Road was replaced by SCDOT employees at a savings estimated at \$600,000. (Photo by Rob Thompson/SCDOT)



Bridge, road repair on Camp Welfare Rd. complete

ANDI PHIPPS
Staff Writer

State and County officials gathered to declare the Camp Welfare Road project complete.

Repairs to the road and the Big Wateree Creek bridge were celebrated in a news conference Friday, December 5 at the Welcome Center of Carolina Adventure World.

Construction on the bridge began June 2 and was completed Nov. 4. The old bridge, built in 1961, was structurally deficient and several of

its wooden piles were decayed according to the SCDOT.

F. S. Bland, Jr., Engineering Administrator for SCDOT said in remarks at the ceremony "Due the impact to businesses in the area, we felt it was important for our own forces to replace the bridge as quickly as possible."

According to Bland, the cost of \$600,000 was half of the estimated cost of hiring a private contractor to complete the project.

"This project illustrates the new way of thinking at the SCDOT – how

can we do things faster, better and more economically?" said Commissioner Sarah B. Nuckles of the 5th Congressional District. "I think this project is a great example of that innovation."

Other speakers included SCDOT South Carolina State Senator Linda H. Short; South Carolina State Representative Creighton B. Coleman; David Ferguson, Chairman of Fairfield County Council; James McGraw, Chairman of County Transportation Committee; and Tim Antley of the Dennis Corporation.