

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**ALLEN LATIMER, PRESIDENT 2008 PRESIDING**

**May 7, 2008**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The May 7, 2008, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Allen Latimer, Board President.

Sheriff Bill Rasco of the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Department was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1
- Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
- Supervisor Bill Russell-----District 3
- Supervisor Allen Latimer-----District 4
- Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5
- W. E. Sluggo Davis-----Chancery Clerk
- Michael Garriga-----County Administrator
- Tony Nowak -----Board Attorney
- Sheriff Bill Rasco-----Sheriff

**B. INVOCATION**

Supervisor Eugene Thach presented the invocation.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D. PLANNING COMMISSION**

**DeSoto County Board of Supervisors  
 Planning Agenda  
 May 7, 2008**

Mr. Jim McDougal, Director of the DeSoto County Planning Commission, introduced Ashley Hendricks as a new staff member to the Planning Commission office.

Mr. McDougal passed out a newspaper article titled “Metropolitan population nearing 1.3M”. He pointed out the article stated according to the 2000 census two-thirds of the growth in DeSoto County came from within fifty miles of the county, compared to the 2007 census which showed less than fifty percent of the growth came from within fifty miles of the county. According to the 2007 census, more people are moving into DeSoto County from outside of the local area.

Mr. McDougal introduced the information found in the packets, including Stormwater, Code Enforcement and building permit reports for April 2008. Supervisor Medlin asked for clarification of what is meant on the Stormwater permit report when it notes that a permit is closed. Mr. McDougal responded that Stormwater permit requirements for those subdivisions had been completed.

**Stonebridge Subdivision**

Mr. Jim McDougal introduced Mr. Kevin McCandless, a resident of the Stonebridge Subdivision and explained Mr. McCandless had requested an opportunity to speak to the Board regarding Stonebridge Subdivision.

Mr. Tony Nowak, Board Attorney, advised that this item could be heard in Executive Session and that the Board may wish to do so, as it may constitute potential litigation and has been discussed in Executive Session in the past for that reason.

Supervisor Russell made a Motion for Closed Determination to discuss this item in Executive Session. Supervisor Medlin seconded the Motion.

This item was heard in Executive Session.

**MINOR LOTS**

**District 4**

**Westmoreland Minor Lot (6726) – Application is for final subdivision approval of one (1) lot of three (3) acres out of 25.6 acres. Subject property is located on the north side of Pratt Road and west of Hwy 301 in Section 30, Township 3, Range 9 and is zoned Agricultural (District 4).**

**District 5**

**Rodgers Minor Lot (6722) - Application is for final subdivision approval of one (1) lot of three (3) acres out of 20.7 acres. Subject property is located on the north side of Ranch Road and west of Glade Road in Section 36, Township 3, Range 8 and is zoned Agricultural (A). (District 5) \*\*\*MUST BE PLATTED AND RECORDED\*\*\***

**Arthur Swindler Acres 1<sup>st</sup> Revision (Lot 1)(6724) - Application is for final subdivision approval of one (1) lot of 1.67 acres and one (1) lot of 1.78 acres out of 10.17 acres. Subject property is located on the south side of Pleasant Hill Road and east of Getwell Road in Section 27, Township 2, Range 7 and is zoned Agricultural-Residential (A-R). (District 5) \*\*\*MUST BE PLATTED AND RECORDED\*\*\***

**Smitty’s Hollow Subdivision 1<sup>st</sup> Revision (Merge Lots 1 & 2) (6725) - Application is for final subdivision approval of one (1) lot of 4.35 acres. Subject property is located on the north side of Dunn Lane and east of Craft Road in Section 17, Township 2, Range 6 and is zoned Agricultural-Residential (A-R). (District 5)**

Mr. McDougal presented the applications above and stated the applications appear to be in compliance with the County’s Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. He also explained the need for a merger of Lots 1 and 2 in Smitty’s Hollow Subdivision.

Supervisor Lewis made a Motion to approve the applications subject to staff recommendations. Supervisor Thach seconded the Motion.

THE FOLLOWING ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER:

- FIRST DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, JESSIE MEDLIN YES
- SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, EUGENE THACH YES
- THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, BILL RUSSELL YES
- FOURTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, ALLEN LATIMER YES
- FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, TOMMY LEWIS YES

**Other Items:**

**1. Poll regarding possible topics for A.W. Bouchillon Institute Fall Training Project**

Mr. McDougal mentioned two topics, flood plain issues and sustainability, were discussed by the Planning Commission on May 1, 2008, as desired topics for future training sessions sponsored by the Bouchillon Institute.

Supervisor Medlin and Supervisor Latimer expressed an interest in a seminar that addresses stormwater and erosion control. Mr. Garriga stated there have been such meetings in the past, but there is a need to broaden the range of people attending the meetings to discuss these topics for the sessions to be more effective on construction sites in the county.

**2. Donation to Building Officials Association of Mississippi (BOAM)**

Mr. McDougal presented a request from Chief Inspector Don Duncan, President of Building Officials Association of Mississippi (BOAM). He explained that Mr. Duncan, as statewide president of the association, is responsible for hosting the annual BOAM meeting. He is asking the Board for a donation to help support the cost of the meeting.

Supervisor Medlin made a Motion to approve a \$1,000 donation from the Advertising County Resources Fund as the annual BOAM meeting will be an opportunity for the County to promote, foster and advertise the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the County. Supervisor Thach seconded the Motion.

THE FOLLOWING ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER:

- FIRST DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, JESSIE MEDLIN YES
- SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, EUGENE THACH YES
- THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, BILL RUSSELL YES
- FOURTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, ALLEN LATIMER YES
- FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, TOMMY LEWIS YES

- 3. Refund request by Mr. John French**
- 4. Refund request by Tapp Electric Company**

Mr. Jim McDougal, Director of the DeSoto County Planning Commission, made a presentation to the Board regarding the above requests.

Mr. McDougal stated that he recommended refunding both requests 100%.

Supervisor Medlin made a Motion to approve a 100% refund of the two above requests.  
Supervisor Thach seconded the Motion.

THE FOLLOWING ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER:

FIRST DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, JESSIE MEDLIN YES  
SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, EUGENE THACH YES  
THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, BILL RUSSELL YES  
FOURTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, ALLEN LATIMER YES  
FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, TOMMY LEWIS YES

**5. Stormwater issues**

Supervisor Medlin expressed concern that stormwater issues are not being addressed in Mitchell's Corner subdivision and another subdivision. He asked if erosion occurs, does the Board of Supervisors have the authority to force the developers or contractors to clean it up. Mr. Nowak responded that the Board has the authority to bring the matter to court. The court will then decide whether to require the developer or contractor to clean up or allow the County to clean up and charge a fee to the developer to cover the cost of the clean up.

**6. Kyles Creek East Subdivision sidewalks**

Mr. McDougal introduced a request to waive the sidewalk requirement for 20,000 square foot lots in Kyles Creek Subdivision. He introduced David Goodwin to represent the request.

Mr. Goodwin stated the developer agreed to install sidewalks in the subdivision at the request of the Board, but has since learned the City of Olive Branch will be annexing this subdivision in September or October of 2008. Olive Branch will not require sidewalks and aesthetically sidewalks will not look good in the rural setting of this subdivision. Mr. Goodwin is also concerned with how putting sidewalks in will impact the developer as well as how close the side walks will be to the homes. Mr. Goodwin is requesting to set up an escrow account to fund the sidewalks should Olive Branch not follow through with the annexation of the area of the subdivision by a given date.

Supervisor Russell asked if Olive Branch had already filed for annexation of this area. Mr. Goodwin responded that yes they have already filed for annexation and originally the area was to be annexed this month. Supervisor Russell asked Board Attorney, Mr. Tony Nowak, if an area is annexed does the County order go with the subdivision. Mr. Nowak responded that zoning requirements do continue in effect after property is annexed, but that the law is unclear if subdivision requirements will hold up after annexation. Mr. Nowak's opinion is that the City obtains jurisdiction over subdivision matters once the annexation is complete. Further, the County's subdivision ordinance says jurisdiction will transfer to the cities after annexation. Supervisor Russell stated that it is his understanding that the City didn't reverse or rescind the county requirements, but he would be willing to accept a proposal to set up an escrow account to install sidewalks if the City requires it or if the City fails to annex the area by a given date.

Supervisor Medlin mentioned there are other subdivisions that are in the same situation and they are not exempt from sidewalk requirements. He also stated there is a need for sidewalks in the area for pedestrians to safely access the commercial area nearby and that people want sidewalks. Supervisor Medlin said he opposes waiving sidewalk requirements.

Mr. Goodwin is concerned with the issue of aesthetics, that on 20,000 square foot rural lots sidewalks are not attractive. Other subdivisions with comparable lot sizes in Olive Branch do not require sidewalks.

Supervisor Medlin is concerned with how to require installations of the sidewalks if Olive Branch does not annex the subdivision. Mr. Andy Swims, County Engineer, clarified that if the sidewalks are required they would be installed behind the ditch and would be very close to the front of the homes in order to respect County right of way. Mr. Nowak suggested the homeowners should be given the opportunity to voice their opinion on any request to waive the sidewalk requirements.

Supervisor Russell asked if sidewalks were typically required to be installed prior to final inspection. Mr. McDougal confirmed sidewalks are typically required for final inspection.

Supervisor Medlin asked Mr. Swims if there is room to install the sidewalks and still respect right of way and drainage. Mr. Swims stated that sidewalks could possibly be installed 5 feet from the road, but he would like the opportunity to visit the site and review the plans further.

Mr. Goodwin again requested the opportunity to establish an escrow account with the estimated cost to build the sidewalks. Supervisor Thach is concerned that if the Board allows the waiver for this subdivision it would set a precedent and others would request the same waiver from sidewalk requirements.

Supervisor Lewis is not sure if the Board can take any action if the sidewalk requirement has already been approved. He is not clear on whether the homeowners knew or expected sidewalks to be installed in this subdivision. Supervisor Russell stated the homeowners should be notified and all should agree before the order is final.

Mr. Nowak suggested the Board table the issue until they can hear from the homeowner and Mr. Swims can inspect the subdivision.

Supervisor Medlin made a Motion to carry this item over to the May 19, 2008 meeting to allow Mr. Swims time to inspect and see if the sidewalks can be installed to meet the County's requirements and to allow time to contact the present landowner.

Mr. Goodwin agreed to have his staff contact the homeowner of the one lot that has been sold and obtain a letter clarify whether a sidewalk was expected or desired by them.

Supervisor Latimer asked for clarification of the motion. Mr. Nowak and Mr. McDougal clarified their understanding of the motion.

Supervisor Medlin renewed his Motion, with clarifications, as follows: to deny the waiver of the requirements for installation of sidewalks and carry over to the May 19, 2008 to discuss a new location of the sidewalk after Mr. Swims' inspection and hearing input from the homeowner. Supervisor Thach seconded the Motion.

Supervisor Thach asked if the homes were built under County building permits, can Olive Branch waive the sidewalk requirement later. Mr. Nowak responded yes.

THE FOLLOWING ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| FIRST DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, JESSIE MEDLIN  | <u>YES</u> |
| SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, EUGENE THACH  | <u>YES</u> |
| THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, BILL RUSSELL   | <u>NO</u>  |
| FOURTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, ALLEN LATIMER | <u>YES</u> |
| FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, TOMMY LEWIS    | <u>YES</u> |

**7. Development Agreement**

Mr. McDougal stated that meetings for the Development Agreement have been productive and are beginning to wrap up, and so requested this item be carried over to the June 4, 2008 meeting.

Supervisor Medlin requested copies of the Development Agreement with the changes highlighted. Mr. McDougal confirmed that copies would be provided to the Board for review prior to the meeting on June 4, 2008.

Supervisor Thach made a Motion to carry this item over to the June 4, 2008 meeting. Supervisor Medlin seconded the Motion.

THE FOLLOWING ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| FIRST DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, JESSIE MEDLIN  | <u>YES</u> |
| SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, EUGENE THACH  | <u>YES</u> |
| THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, BILL RUSSELL   | <u>YES</u> |
| FOURTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, ALLEN LATIMER | <u>YES</u> |
| FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, TOMMY LEWIS    | <u>YES</u> |

**E. CONSENT**

**F. OLD BUSINESS**

**G. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Belmor Lakes – Sewage Lagoon**

County Engineer Andy Swims and Road Manager Russell Dorris presented the Board of Supervisors with facts relating to a sewage lagoon at Belmor Lakes Subdivision.

Mr. Swims said the sewage lagoon is adjacent to the creek that runs through Belmor Lakes Subdivision. The creek has eroded and is getting close to the fence of the lagoon. On Monday, the eroded creek was within ten feet of the lagoon. Mr. Swims explained that the creek is on the homeowners association's property.

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said it either has to be on public property, adversely affecting a county road or affecting the public health and safety for the county to become involved.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin explained how the ditch got stopped up. He said the fallen trees and debris need to be removed to increase water flow. Mr. Medlin said the bank of the lagoon needs to be fixed.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said because it is on private property the county cannot remove the trees.

Supervisor Medlin said it is a hazardous situation to the health, safety and welfare of the public. He said the county may be able to help fix the erosion after the fallen trees and other debris are removed.

Melinda White and Mitch Mitchell addressed the Board of Supervisors regarding this situation. Mr. Mitchell said some could say this is part of the new stormwater guidelines.

Mr. Nowak said, even with the Stormwater Ordinance, the Board has to make the same findings of adverse affect on public property, roads or heath and safety and, if that is the case, the county can address the issue.

Supervisor Russell said this is clearly a health and safety issue. He said he thinks the county has an obligation to fix the problem.

Supervisor Latimer said he can see the problem, but the fact is the property owners are liable for the damage if the banks fail. Mr. Mitchell said Ms. White's easement does not go to the ditch. Supervisor Medlin said he does not know that he has seen anything worse than this situation. He said the situation at Bridgetown is not as bad as this one.

Mr. Mitchell said most of the problem has happened during the last two storm events. Road Manager Russell Dorris agreed.

Supervisor Russell suggested the county clean the ditch and lagoon and the lagoon owner fix the lagoon.

Supervisor Latimer said he thinks the lagoon owner should fix their levee and the homeowners association should fix the ditch.

Supervisor Russell said, if we determine the developer should maintain the levee and they do not have authority to fix the property, the homeowners are at risk. Mr. Mitchell explained that the homeowners association owns the property, but the utility district has an easement to the fence.

Supervisor Medlin said there are a couple of blockages in there. He said the water did not always do this. Supervisor Medlin said he thinks the county should fix the ditch. He said there is a good bit of rip rap in there, but it does not serve any purpose because it is not on the bank of the ditch.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the bank breached, what would be done. Supervisor Russell said the county would respond.

Supervisor Latimer said the people who are responsible to make sure the creek is maintained, did not do their job and that has adversely affected Ms. White.

Mr. Nowak said you can go back and look at the number of similar requests shere the county found it appropriate to help. The county was not obligated to help, but was authorized to help in similar situations.

Mr. Dorris said this is an issue that did not happen overnight. He said this situation has been evolving from six to eight weeks and someone could have done something during that time to prevent the situation the way it is today. Mr. Nowak agreed and said that Mr. Scruggs called months ago and said there was a levee problem.

Mr. Dorris said most of the problems he has dealt with are with underground piping and pipes that have burst except for Hallum Estates. Supervisor Medlin said most homeowners associations cannot afford to take care of this type of problem.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the county to address this issue due to the health, safety and welfare of the public being at stake; to authorize the Road Manager Russell Dorris to remove the necessary debris from the ditch to allow the water to flow, and to expect the lagoon owner to repair the bank. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES  
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----YES  
Supervisor Bill Russell-----YES  
Supervisor Allen Latimer-----NO  
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if this will come together to be repaired. Mr. Mitchell said we have already had a contractor look at the area. The contractor cannot do the work before the next predicted rain but will get to it by the weekend or first of next week.

Mr. Dorris asked if the county can go out to start their part of the work immediately. Mr. Nowak said no; we will first have to notify the landowners in the area.

Jack Etheridge in the Engineering Department said after we clean the ditch, there are still trees that are leaning toward the fence and about to fall. He asked if Ms. White expects the county to remove those trees as well. Mr. Mitchell said we are talking about restrictions within the ditch and he will ask the homeowners association to remove the trees.

## **2. Update on Finance Charges**

County Administrator Michael Garriga said that Comptroller Tom Arnold contacted the bank and they have waived the finance charges on the county credit card. He said that Board Attorney Tony Nowak is sending a letter to the bank explaining a statute and in the county's ability to pay a late charge. Mr. Arnold said the bank has moved the cut off date back on the County Administrator's card once again to try to coordinate the payments with the county docket.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve paying the county credit card payment of \$4,478.07. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES  
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----ABSENT  
Supervisor Bill Russell-----YES  
Supervisor Allen Latimer-----YES  
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

## **3. Board Attorney – I-69 road Crossings**

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said the Board asked him to work with MDOT about planning road crossings for I-69. Mr. Nowak said he sent three letters to MDOT and has received no response from any of the letters.

## **4. Late Bills for Training for Inventory, Purchasing and Receiving Clerks**

Vanessa Lynchard said that training for Inventory, Purchasing and Receiving clerks is being held in Oxford on May 19<sup>th</sup> and the registration needs to be sent with the participants or shortly after which makes the claim too late for the May 19<sup>th</sup> supplemental claims docket. She said the fee is \$40 per person and would like to sign up the following:

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Ann Richmond     | Receiving  |
| Amy Henley       | Inventory  |
| Vanessa Lynchard | Purchasing |
| Jeannine Ruby    | Purchasing |

Karen McNeil Purchasing  
Plus assistant clerks as are available for the training.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize Ann Richmond, Amy Henley, Vanessa Lynchard, Jeannine Ruby, Karen McNeil and assistant clerks to attend purchasing, inventory or receiving 2008 certification seminars and to approve the clerk to write the check paying the \$40 registration fee for each attendee. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.4**

## **5. Grant- Approval of Application for AOP**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to apply for a grant for the DeSoto County Adolescent Offender Program and to give approval for the Board President to sign the grant application. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.4**

## **H. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The executive session portion of these minutes is recorded under the portion of the minutes called "Executive Session".

## **I. OTHER**

### **1. Welcome Center Event**

Supervisor Allen Latimer reminded the Board of Supervisors of an Open House at the Welcome Center on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He encouraged the Board members to attend the event.

### **2. Surveillance Equipment**

Vanessa Lynchard said there is a grant through Homeland Security that allows certain surveillance equipment to be purchased. She said the SWAT Team needs night vision equipment to use when in certain situations.

At the recommendation of the Board Attorney and Purchase Clerk, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approve the resolution and guidelines for making purchases of surveillance and other high tech equipment for use of under cover operations as follows:

#### **GUIDELINES FOR MAKING PURCHASES OF SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT AND/OR OTHER HIGH-TECH EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of these guidelines is to allow DeSoto County Departments to purchase surveillance and/or high-tech equipment used in undercover operations (the Equipment) as permitted by Mississippi Code Annotated Section 31-7-13 (m) (xix), and Section 10.104 of the Mississippi Procurement Manual, without public competitive bids. The intent of these guidelines is to allow the purchase, without competitive bids, of any equipment considered by industry standards, and law enforcement practices, to be specialized, sophisticated and secretive in nature so that publicizing its acquisition could jeopardize the success of surveillance activities, or the safety of those persons involved in surveillance activities.

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this process is to allow the purchase of the Equipment in the most cost effective manner, but without the necessity of public bids, even in those circumstances when the cost of the purchase of the Equipment would otherwise require bidding according to Mississippi Code Annotated Section 31-7-13. However, these guidelines should not be interpreted to mean competitive bidding is to be ignored. Therefore, it is the intentions

of these guidelines that competitive quotes be obtained for the purchase of the Equipment unless the Equipment is approved by the Board of Supervisors as sole source items.

**WHEREAS**, the Equipment, as purchased under these guidelines, is such that it will be used to monitor, track, or observe persons or things related to any type of investigation, or evidence gathering processes, where the need for the highest degree of security is mandatory so as not to compromise the operation or the safety of personnel involved in the operations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the guidelines for the purchase of the Equipment are as follows:

1. The Department wishing to purchase Equipment under these guidelines will submit non exclusive specifications to the purchasing department. The request should include the following information:

- a. Description of the Equipment being purchased;
- b. Specifications of use;
- c. List of potential vendors offering qualifying Equipment;
- d. Justifications for sole source purchases if the same is applicable;
- e. Any and all other documentation related to the nature and scope of the purchase.

2. If proof can be offered that the Equipment is only available from one source and the Equipment meets the guidelines for the approval as a sole source, such proof shall be provided. In the case of a sole source purchase, the guidelines in Section 31-7-13 (l) (viii), should be followed without revealing the specific equipment or vendor.

3. A bid file will be kept in the office of purchasing outlining the specific details, specifications and need of the purchase of the Equipment.

4. The Director of Purchasing must approve the request of purchases of Equipment qualifying under these guidelines. If the department does not agree with any decision of the Director of Purchasing in this regard, the department can appeal the decision to the County Board of Supervisors.

5. The request for purchase of the Equipment must be kept in a bid file as other published bids are kept and the filing information must be included:

- a. Description of the Equipment being purchased;
- b. Specifications of the Equipment;
- c. List of vendors receiving solicitations for proposals;
- d. Copies of all bid quotes received;
- e. Facts and circumstances justifying single source purchases if applicable.
- f. Justification for accepting any bid other than the low bid, if appropriate;
- g. Any other documentation relative to the purchase.

The motion also approves purchasing of the surveillance equipment through the EMA Department in accordance with these guidelines. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**See Exhibit I.2**

### **3. Olive Branch High School**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said about two months ago the principal of Olive Branch High School contacted him about putting a synthetic turf on the football field. They wanted to know if the county can help move dirt and haul in limestone. He said that Olive Branch

High School is an older school and they have other sports that use the football field which keep the surface in bad condition. He said over usage wears out the field. Supervisor Medlin said the school is a Nike team now. He said Olive Branch typically spends about \$40,000 per year on the field but they have opted to save that money by putting down artificial turf. This will cost a lot of money and the School Board said it can be paid for by private donations and school clubs and the Board of Supervisors Education will accept and maintain the turf after construction is complete.

Road Manager Russell Dorris said a club raised the money for most of the work. He said they will have to cut and move about 7,000 tons of dirt out and 4,000 tons back in. According to Board Attorney Tony Nowak, the county can do the work. Mr. Dorris said vendors have agreed to bill the materials at the county cost. He said they will do the work to a finish grade.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked how much money it will cost the county. Mr. Dorris said it will take about 5.8 days to remove the dirt and 12.2 days to haul the dirt back in to the site. If everything works well, it will take a total of 20 days or so to complete the work. He said it will take six trucks and other equipment to accomplish the work and the cost will be in excess of \$50,000.

Supervisor Medlin said the total cost of the work is about \$650,000. He asked if Mr. Dorris discussed them hauling the limestone. Mr. Dorris said yes. He said they had a quote for \$24 per ton to haul the limestone.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked if the county's estimate includes labor and everything else. He said his biggest concern is the cost and the length of time it will take county employees away from county work. He said this is a major project and if you do it you can expect similar requests from other schools.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said it concerns him that the Board of Education does not want to put money into the project.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion to authorize the Road Manager to help remove the dirt from the field and have the school haul the limestone conditioned upon the written request from the Board of Education. The motion died for lack of a second.

#### **4. Visit from United States Vice President**

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis said if any of the Board Members want to see Vice President Dick Cheney to let him know and he will send the necessary information to gain clearance.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to recess the meeting until May 19, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 2008, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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Allen Latimer, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors