

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ALLEN LATIMER, PRESIDENT 2008 PRESIDING

June 2, 2008

A. CALL TO ORDER

The June 2, 2008 meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Allen Latimer, Board President.

Deputy Carl Hurt 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

Deputy Carl Hurt presented the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

The official minutes of the Board of Supervisors were read for the month of May, 2008 pursuant to Section 19-3-27 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the month of May, 2008. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

E. CONSENT

The Board of Supervisors considered the items presented on the Consent Agenda.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Accounting

a. Ratification of Monthly Health Claims

The following is a recap of all insurance claims funded for the month of May and paid to Humana:

Funding Request	Date Paid	Amount	Claim Type
Date			
5/1/08	5/1/08	\$55,286.44	Administration Fees

5/5/08	5/6/08	\$63,046.29	Medical
5/5/08	5/6/08	\$5,314.30	Dental
5/5/08	5/6/08	\$15,492.12	Pharmacy
5/12/08	5/13/08	\$85,341.02	Medical
5/12/08	5/13/08	\$3,576.01	Dental
5/12/08	5/13/08	\$17,575.78	Pharmacy
5/19/08	5/22/08	\$33,376.48	Medical
5/19/08	5/22/08	\$1,989.80	Dental
5/19/08	5/22/08	\$19,349.58	Pharmacy
5/27/08	5/28/08	\$48,021.81	Medical
5/27/08	5/28/08	\$2,424.20	Dental
5/27/08	5/28/08	\$17,592.38	Pharmacy
	TOTAL	\$368,386.21	

May Book Balance	\$3,351,176.08	
April Book Balance	\$3,357,976.24	
March Book Balance	\$3,322,779.02	
February Book Balance	\$3,514,468.32	
January Book Balance	\$3,432,760.64	
December Book Balance	\$3,363,859.90	

b. Repayment of Interfund Loans

From:	1999 Refunding Bonds I & S	\$100,000/00	(214-000-149)
From:	9.3 Million Refunding Bonds I & S	\$550,000.00	(221-000-149)
From:	2004 22 Million Bonds I & S	\$110,000.00	(222-000-149)
To:	General County Fund	\$760,000.00	(001-000-054)

c. Approval for Interfund Loan

From:	General county fund	001-000-054	\$350,000.00
To:	2004 Bond Construction Fund	380-000-149	\$350,000.00

d. Interfund Transfer

From:	General County Fund	001-900-951	\$1,575.00
To:	Stormwater Advisory Board Fund	166-000-387	\$1,575.00

2. Justice Court Report

Criminal Cases Filed – 162	State Assessments - \$62,313.50
Civil Cases Filed – 446	County General Fund - \$106,082.82
Traffic Tickets Filed – 936	Total Collections - \$168,426.32
Total Cases Filed – 1,544	

3. Bailiff Pay

Joe Holmes - \$120.00 Jason Motz -\$160.00 Liz Medlin - \$120.00 Lee Hodge - \$160.00

4. Chancery Clerk Allowance (2) - \$1,750.00 - \$1,350.00

5. Circuit Clerk Allowance (2) - \$7602.00
\$9000.00 - School Board Election May 20, 2008

6. Approval of Publication of Board Proceedings

7. Sheriff's Department – Accept Restricted Donation for Equipment

Sportsman's Warehouse - \$2000 to the Department Street Crimes Unit for Equipment

8. Road Department

a. Road Report and Work Schedule

b. Road Bond Report

c. Additions to Slurry Seal Project

SLURRY SEAL PROJECTS - FY'08

<u>ROAD</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>	<u>WIDTH</u>	<u>SQ. YDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Abernathy Road	Red Banks Road - end	0.49	20'	5749	\$ 7,244
Angie Drive	from Tina Road both directions	0.26	22'	3356	\$ 4,229
Bass Landing Road	Old Hwy 61 - new pavement	0.74	22'	9551	\$ 12,034
Bass Mills Road	Taylor Mills Road - Holly Springs Rd	0.22	22'	2840	\$ 3,578
Brights Road	Malone Road - east of Laughter Rd	0.05	22'	645	\$ 813
Camp Creek Cove	Cherry Tree Drive - End	0.50	22'	6453	\$ 8,131
Cane Ridge Road	Pleasant Hill - End	0.15	22'	1936	\$ 2,439
Cedar Lake Drive	Cedar Lake Dr. S - Cedar Lake Dr. E	0.05	22'	645	\$ 813
Cedar Lake Drive E	Cedar Lake Drive - End	0.32	22'	4130	\$ 5,204
Cedar Lake Drive N	Grand View Lake Dr - Cedar Lake Dr	0.20	22'	2581	\$ 3,252
Cedar Lake Drive S	Cedar Lake Drive - End	0.10	22'	1290	\$ 1,625
Cherry Tree Drive	End - End	1.20	22'	15480	\$ 19,505
Glynn Road	Gray's Creek Road - end	1.20	22'	15480	\$ 19,505
Grandview Cove	State Line Road - End	0.15	22'	1936	\$ 2,439
Grandview Lake Dr	Hwy 301 - Cedar Lake Drive S	0.88	20'	10325	\$ 13,010
Green River Road	MS 301 - top of bluff	0.3	21'	3696	\$ 4,657
Hillsview Cove	Cedar Lake Drive - End	0.1	21'	1232	\$ 1,552
Homestead Lane	Rolling Hills Dr - Spring Creek Dr	0.1	22'	1291	\$ 1,627
Hwy 301 South	Cub Lake Road - Pratt Road	0.3	21'	3696	\$ 4,657
Laughter Road	Brights Road - Johnston Road	0.1	21'	1232	\$ 1,552
McCracken Road	Slocum Road - Love Road	0.2	22'	2581	\$ 3,252
Myrtlewood Dr/Steele Rd	Malone Road - end of Steele Road	0.1	21'	1232	\$ 1,552
Northwood Cove	Northwood Drive - End	0.1	21'	1232	\$ 1,552
Northwood Drive	Northwood Cove - End	0.35	22'	4517	\$ 5,691
Oak Chase Cove	Cedar Lake Drive N - End	0.20	21'	2464	\$ 3,105
Oak Grove Road	MS 301 - Baldwin Road	1.62	22'	20909	\$ 26,345
Openwood Lane	Pleasant Hill - End	0.24	18'	2534	\$ 3,193
Pine Ridge Road	Pleasant Hill - End	2.50	22'	32267	\$ 40,656
Pleasant Hill Road	Fogg Road - End	2.12	20'	24875	\$ 31,343
Redwood Lane	Rolling Hills Drive - Spring Creek Drive	0.63	22'	8131	\$ 10,245
Robin Wood Lane	Northwood Drive - Rolling Hills Drive	0.39	22'	5034	\$ 6,343
Rolling Hills Drive	Sandidge Rd W - Cherry Tree Drive	0.3	14'	2464	\$ 3,105
Southern Manor Drive	Austin Road - End	1.96	22'	25297	\$ 31,874
Spring Creek Drive	Rolling Hills Drive - Cherry Tree Dr.	0.9	22'	11616	\$ 14,636
Taylor Mills Road	Red Banks Road - end	1.00	20'	11733	\$ 14,784
Tina Road	Robertson Gin Road - Angie Drive	0.2	14'	1643	\$ 2,070
Walker Mills Road	Taylor Mills Road - end	0.1	14'	821	\$ 1,034
Wildwood Lane	Northwood Drive - Rolling Hills Drive	0.6	16'	5632	\$ 7,096
Williams Road East	Koko Reef Drive - Cub Road	1.49	24'	20979	\$ 26,434

Items Highlighted in Yellow already approved by BOS 1/22/08.

All other Items approved by BOS 5/5/08.

<u>Sq.</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Yards</u>	<u>\$</u>
279,505	\$352,176

d. Additions to FY 08 Asphalt Overlay

Glynn Road: Gray's Creek Road – End .24 mile (remove from Slurry Seal List)

Maple Cove: Maple Drive – End .10 mile

Approximate Cost - \$906

These changes need to be included in the 2008-2011 Four Year Road Plan

9. Add Assistant Receiving Clerk – Michelle Edge, Justice Court

10. Authority to Sign Purchase Requisitions:

a. Purchasing – Add Jeannie Colvin and Carolyn Weis and Remove Vanessa Lynchard and Jeannine Ruby Where Authorized to Sign Requisitions

b. Justice Court – Remove Teresa Johnson and Barbara Porter

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E**

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Old Road Store

Jon Williams, owner of the Old Road Store on Highway 51, appeared before the Board of Supervisors regarding the law that prohibits selling beer before 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. Mr. Williams said he appeared before the Board of Supervisors recently regarding the ordinance from 1966 that says beer cannot be sold until 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. In late 1980, the City of Hernando changed their ordinance to allow beer to be sold after 7:00 a.m. on Sunday. He said the Sheriff is doing his job enforcing the county ordinance and he agrees there should not be selective enforcement of any ordinance. Mr. Williams said there are 17 stores in the unincorporated county and they all lose money because of this ordinance. He said he knows that beer sales on Sunday have a negative connotation but the majority of lost profits due to the ordinance are items other than beer. He said, this time of year, stores are missing out on revenues from the fishing business. He said stores are losing sales of additional items and not just beer sales. Mr. Williams said he tries to be competitive. He said most of the county businesses are individually owned.

Supervisor Bill Russell said he is also a small business owner and he knows that small businesses struggle. Supervisor Russell said he thinks the laws are antiquated in this case, but he does not want to change it without first hearing from the public. He said he does not have a problem changing the time of beer sales on Sunday, but his mind is not made up in that regard. He said he would like to hear from the people in the county before taking a vote.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize a referendum on the November ballot to allow the public to voice their opinion regarding beer sales on Sunday morning in the unincorporated area.

Before a vote was taken, Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he is not sure if we should use a referendum or a public hearing.

County Administrator Michael Garriga asked if only the unincorporated population would be able to vote on the referendum. Board Attorney Tony Nowak said yes. Mr. Garriga said the Board could not vote on the issue today because it would require an ordinance change. He said they could vote to hold a public hearing today. He said the Board could vote to use a referendum or a public hearing to allow the public to voice their opinion. He said any referendum would be non-binding.

Supervisor Russell withdrew the motion and Supervisor Lewis withdrew his second to the motion for a referendum.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to hold a public hearing regarding the issue of allowing beer sales at 7:00 a.m. on Sundays in the unincorporated county. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to hold the Public Hearing on July 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Claims Docket

Comptroller Tom Arnold and Stephanie Hanks of the Accounting Department presented the claims docket to be paid for various departments.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked about a medical bill in the amount of \$62,932.00 listed on page 75. Mr. Arnold said the prisoner associated with that bill had liver failure and is an MDOC prisoner so there will be a partial reimbursement from the state.

In accordance with Section 19-13-31 and Section 19-11-23 of the Mississippi Code annotated, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to authorize the Chancery Clerk to pay the bills as presented by the Comptroller. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.1**

2. Purchase of Vehicle for Metro Narcotics

Comptroller Tom Arnold said that Metro Narcotics has seized a 1996 Ford Explorer valued at \$14,500. Because more is owed on the vehicle than it is worth, lending institutions agreed to sell the vehicle to the county for \$200 and he requested authorization to write the check. Board Attorney Nowak asked if the vehicle has been through the forfeiture process. Mr. Nowak said he thought so but would verify that.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the Clerk to write the check for \$200 for a 1996 Ford Explorer seized by Metro Narcotics and to approve the purchase conditioned on the court's approval and contingent upon a release from the lien holder. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Payment of Late Bill

At the recommendation of the Comptroller Tom Arnold, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize the Clerk to write the check to Stenograph, LLC, for software in payment of a late bill in the amount of \$1,345 plus \$41.13 for FedEx charges. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.3**

4. Board Attorney

a. CVB Board Appointees

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said two of the CVB Board Member appointments have expired. He said Chuck Roberts and Max May need to be replaced or reappointed as CVB Board Members. Further, he assumed Mr. Roberts and Mr. May would be reappointed so he advised the Board he had a resolution approving the re-appointments if the Board saw fit to approve the same.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to reappoint Max May for the District 4 Appointee and Chuck Roberts for the District 5 Appointee to the Convention and Visitors Bureau Board for a term set to expire May 15, 2009. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

b. Olive Branch Library

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said that the City of Olive Branch elected not to claim ownership of the library and an agreement has been drawn up to that effect. He said, under that agreement, the county continues to fund the library building. He said the agreement allows the county and city to improve the library, drive/driveway.

Road Manager Russell Dorris said \$75,000, which was the amount estimated for the City of Olive Branch to improve the parking lot, is a legitimate estimate for the improvements to be made since the amount will be split between the county and the city. Mr. Nowak presented agreements for the driveway work and for ownership of the library.

At the recommendation of the Board Attorney, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the agreements for the Olive Branch Library as follows:

- 1.) Order of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of City of Olive Branch, Mississippi Declaring as Void Agreements Establishing a Reversionary Interest of the City of Olive Branch as to the B.J. Chain Public Library
- 2.) Resolution of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors Approving the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi for the Joint Operation of the B.J. Chain Public Library
- 3.) Interlocal Agreement Between DeSoto County, Mississippi and the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi for the Joint Operation of a Public Library
- 4.) Agreement of DeSoto County, Mississippi and the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi for Construction of Library/ Tax Collector Drive and Parking Areas

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.4.b**

c. Southaven Library

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said the City Southaven wants to receive title and possession of the old Southaven library property.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approve the agreement to transfer ownership of the Southaven Library to the City of Southaven. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

d. Forest Hill Properties – Approval of MOU

Board Attorney Tony Nowak presented an agreement for the Forest Hill Subdivision near Center Hill Road that was previously approved by the Board of Supervisors. He said the developer has signed the agreement and he is presenting it today for the Board's signature.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize the Board President to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for Subdivision Improvements in Forest Hill PUD. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.4.d**

e. Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance

This order was heard and recorded under F.1.

5. Department of Road Management

a. Starlanding RR Underpass – Relocation of Signal

Road Manager Russell Dorris said the plans for the railroad improvements left the grade of the railroad at a six foot difference in elevation. He said there is money to move the signal after the new grade is achieved. He said there is \$48,000 in the contract to allow for the relocation of this signal and he recommends approving this expenditure.

Supervisor Allen Latimer made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to move an amount up to \$48,000 to cover the cost of relocating the signals at the Starlanding Road Underpass to allow for the grade discrepancy. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

b. BCAP

Road Manager Russell Dorris said the county can only pay \$4,000 to the BCAP program. He said each city wants to participate in the BCAP program, but he has not yet talked to the Horn Lake Creek Drainage District. Board Attorney Tony Nowak suggested that Horn Lake Creek may want to participate.

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis said that Olive Branch and Horn Lake are not in the Drainage District.

Supervisor Bill Russell suggested contacting the cities and the Drainage District to see if they want to participate in the BCAP program.

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said you can get the cities to approve the contribution in case the Drainage District does not want to participate. He said the Drainage District will not meet until June 10th. The Board will ask for a decision from the Drainage District at the June 10th Board Meeting.

c. Employee Appreciation Day July 25, 2008

Road Manager Russell Dorris said July 25th should be reserved for Employee Appreciation Day. He said the event will be held at the Department of Road Management. Cecil Sowell of A2H Engineering said they look forward to participating and his company and others are sponsoring the event. He said donations can be made toward the event to A2H.

At the recommendation of the Board Attorney, Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve a restricted donation from A2H to DeSoto County as the sponsors for “Employee Appreciation Day” on July 25th, 2008 from 11:00 until 2:00 at the Department of Road Management. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.5.c**

6. Budget/Capital Improvements Work Session

County Administrator Michael Garriga suggested a budget work session prior to the start of the 2009 budget preparation work. He asked for the Board’s priorities for the county in the next budget. He said we are almost able to finalize the jail planning. He suggested meeting after the regular session on June 13th. The Board of Supervisors agreed.

7. County Government Month

Vanessa Lynchard said that Supervisor Tommy Lewis had a great idea for County Government Month to make the public aware of where the county tax dollars are spent and what the county government does. Vanessa presented the schedule of events as follows:

COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH June 2008

Schedule of Events

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	TIME	PLACE
June 3	Be Safe on Line	Mississippi State University will lead a seminar at the DeSoto County Extension Service to educate people on how to keep children safe on the internet.	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Extension Service, Hwy 51 South Hernando, MS
June 4	Be Safe on Line	Mississippi State University will lead a seminar at the DeSoto County Extension Service to educate people on how to keep children safe on the internet.	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Extension Service, Hwy 51 South Hernando, MS
June 9 - 13	Open House	The public is welcome to come by any county office to learn more about how their tax dollars are spent.	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	All county offices
June 9 - 13	Plant Camp	DeSoto County Extension Service and the 4-H Program and Master Gardner Volunteers will present the 6 th Annual Plant Camp “Survivor Skills Past and Present.” There will be fun activities for youth. They will learn how to build a shelter and put together a first aid kit. Parents are invited on Friday at 6:00 p.m. to allow the youth to showcase what they have done all week at camp. What an Opportunity!	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Extension Service Educational Garden 3260 Hwy. 51 South Hernando, MS
June 10	Chancery Court	Judge Percy Lynchard will lead a meeting to give a better understanding of Chancery Court and the process for court filings.	7:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Courthouse 2535 Hwy. 51 North Hernando, MS 38632 Chancery Court Room, 1 st Floor, South End
June 11	Mock Board Meeting	Do you want to be a DeSoto County Supervisor, Sheriff, County Administrator, or other county official for a mock meeting designed to teach what your Board of Supervisor handle at their meetings? This mock board meeting will teach what business the Board of Supervisor’s is responsible for handling, show how meetings are organized, and inform participants about what sort of issues come before the Board of Supervisors. Participants can call to sign up to participate in the meeting. Different situations common to Board meetings will be presented (by script) and acted on by participants. Call the Board of Supervisor’s office at 429-5590 to sign up to be a county official. Any age accepted, but designed more for ages 6 through 17.	2:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Administration Building 365 Loshier Street, 3 rd Floor Hernando, MS
June 13	Board of Supervisors Frequently Asked Questions	The Board of Supervisors will meet at 9:00 a.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting. After the meeting the Board will discuss “Frequently Asked Questions” the Board receives from county residents. Please come by to experience a BOS meeting or call 429-5590 to receive a list of the most frequently asked questions and answers.	9:00 a.m.	DeSoto County Administration Building 365 Loshier Street, 3 rd Floor Hernando, MS
June 17	How Are You Served by Fire and EMS	DeSoto County Fire and EMS will lead a meeting to inform the public on how Fire and EMS serves DeSoto County. Learn about ambulance response times, cost and insurance filings for EMS, fire prevention, and more.	7:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Administration Building 365 Loshier Street, 3 rd Floor Hernando, MS

June 19	GIS – If We Have the Information, We Can Put It On a Map	DeSoto County GIS will demonstrate the county geographical information system. Seeing is believing. Everyone has a need for GIS. Let us show you how.	7:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Administration Building 365 Loshier Street, 3 rd Floor Hernando, MS
June 23	So, You Want to Improve Your Property?	The DeSoto County Planning Commission will inform the public on the process for building or renovating a house, building a pool, adding a fence, sub-dividing your lot, building requirements, zoning and more.	7:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Administration Building 365 Loshier Street, 3 rd Floor Hernando, MS
June 24	What does Justice Court Do For You?	Justice Court Clerk Shirley Beashers will explain Justice Court and how it serves you. You can find out how to pay a ticket, how to take your neighbor to court, options for paying a fine, and more.	6:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Justice Court Hwy 51 North Southaven, MS
June 25	Youth Court and Youth Services	Judge Allen Couch will explain the Youth Court/Youth Services processes. Programs are available as alternatives to redirect our youth and promote their chances of becoming healthy, happy adults.	6:30 p.m.	DeSoto County Courthouse 2535 Hwy. 51 South Hernando, MS 38632
June 27	Animal Shelter	Pet Pals – The Animal Shelter will teach about responsible pet ownership. Call the shelter for a full agenda. 429-5013	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Animal Shelter 1251 Humane Way Nesbit, MS 38651
June 28	Animal Shelter	Woof Stock	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	DeSoto County Animal Shelter 1251 Humane Way Nesbit, MS 38651

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Allen Latimer seconded the motion to approve the \$10 Animal Adoption day at the Animal Shelter on June 28th and to approve proclaiming June, 2008 as “County Government Month”. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.7**

8. E911 – WCC Request Approval

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Allen Latimer seconded the motion to approve an application to the Wireless Communications Commission for E-911 to purchase digital equipment for the DeSoto County Dispatch offices in an estimated amount of \$379,000. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.8**

9. OB Food Pantry Portable Buildings

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said it was determined that we could not make improvements at the Olive Branch Food Panty and he would like to authorize the Board to look into adding onto the existing building or getting a portable building for the expansion of the Food Pantry. Supervisor Medlin said the Food Pantry desperately needs more space.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize Kenny Evans, Director of Building and Grounds to look into the expansion of the building or the cost of purchasing a portable building for the Olive Branch Food Pantry, in order to determine the cost and the best option for the expansion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

10. Purchase Clerk

a. Accept Bids Between \$5,000 and \$25,000

Vanessa Lynchard said that when she attended certification training for purchase clerks she learned that purchase clerks are not allowed to sign purchase requisitions. She said a purchase clerk can be authorized by the Board of Supervisors to accept bids/quotes between \$5,000 and \$25,000. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the Purchase Clerk or Assistant Purchase Clerks to accept quotes/ bids for items falling in the purchase range of \$5,000 to \$25,000 in accordance

with Mississippi Code and authorize the Board Attorney to draw up an agreement to that effect. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

b. Authorize Purchase Clerk or Assistants to Open Bids

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Purchase Clerk, Assistant Purchase Clerks or the Purchase Clerk's designee, to open bids on behalf of the Board of Supervisors as needed. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

11. Regional Library Trustee

Regional Library Trustee John Echols addressed the Board of Supervisors regarding the First Regional Library. Mr. Echols said he serves on the Library Board and he is here to represent DeSoto County in that appointment. He said that out of the five counties, DeSoto County is the largest county of the First Regional Library District. Mr. Echols said that DeSoto County has more libraries than any other county in the First Regional system. He would like the Board of Supervisors to visit a library and if they find a problem or hear of a problem to please let him know. He said the Library Trustees meet at 4:00 the second Thursday of each month in the Hernando Library and they invite the Board of Supervisors to attend any meeting.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said it is nice to meet Mr. Echols and thanked him for serving the county in this capacity.

Mr. Echols said that he understands the Board of Supervisors will be in Biloxi next week and he invited them to look at Beauvoir which has been reopened. He said, tomorrow, there will be a grand reopening of Beauvoir.

Supervisor Bill Russell said he appreciates Mr. Echols serving on the Library Board and he understands that Library Trustees do not make money for their service so their service is especially remarkable. Mr. Echols said he thinks DeSoto County is made up of the best people in the State of Mississippi.

12. Tax Exemptions

a. StyleCraft Lamps

President and CEO of DeSoto County Economic Development Council Jim Flanagan introduced representatives from StyleCraft Lamps, Inc. He said that StyleCraft recently moved from Hernando to Southaven and the Tax Advisory Committee recommended a personal exemption for StyleCraft as a tenant in Hillwood Properties. He said he is requesting a real property exemption today. Mr. Flanagan introduced Mr. Joey Judd. Mr. Judd said that StyleCraft has been in DeSoto County since the 1970's. He said they import furniture, lamps, framed art and wall décor. Mr. Judd said they moved to Southaven to incorporate the business under one roof instead of it being spread out like it was in Hernando. Most of the business is imports. He said they had a change in ownership at StyleCraft Lamps. He said Jim Wester sold the business to another company.

Supervisor Allen Latimer noted that the paperwork says that StyleCraft advertises in DeSoto County newspapers for employment and he appreciates that.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if StyleCraft has added employees since moving to Southaven. Mr. Judd said they actually have less employees than before they moved. He said that is one reason they moved to a new location to consolidate the work, which resulted in less employees and less cost.

The Tax Advisory Committee made an effort to assure that only new equipment be included in the exemption.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if the thirty new employees will be full time or temporary employees. Mr. Judd said most of them will be temporary.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if StyleCraft is leasing the entire building from Hillwood. Mr. Richie Burnett and Mr. Dan Wilkerson representing Hillwood Properties said no. This is a portion of the building.

Supervisor Allen Latimer made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a ten year personal property tax exemption for StyleCraft, Inc. in the amount of \$1,392,719. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.12.a**

b. Hillwood Property

Supervisor Allen Latimer made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a ten year real property exemption in the amount of \$10,666,371, for Hillwood Properties for property located at DeSoto Trade Center, Building 3, Southaven, MS. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.12.b**

c. Sherwin Williams

Darlene Regan appeared before the Board of Supervisors regarding a tax exemption request for Sherwin Williams. Mr. Flanagan said they asked for a real and personal property exemption, but the real property tax exemption was not approved by the Tax Advisory Committee because it was such a small amount.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve a five year personal property tax exemption for Sherwin Williams in the amount of \$837,959. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.3.c**

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

I. OTHER

1. Heavy Haul Permit

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to schedule a Public Hearing on July 7, 2008 regarding the heavy haul ordinance. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2. Olive Branch Football

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said that Board Attorney Tony Nowak found out the county can use Advertising County Resources money to help the Olive Branch Lettermen's Club improve the football field at Olive Branch High School. He said there is money in the District 1 Park Fund that he would like to use for the improvement. Supervisor Bill Russell said he would also like to contribute from the District 3 Park Fund.

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said South Panola High School has a similar project underway and is funding the same with the sale of on field advertisements, had such advertisements and would qualify under Advertising County Resources for Olive Branch.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said he hopes every school does not expect participation from the county to improve their football fields.

Supervisor Bill Russell said he thinks the Olive Branch High School is different because they do not have room to build or grow and other schools do, and he feels this makes Olive Branch High School a unique situation.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said DeSoto County has eleven high schools throughout the county.

Supervisor Medlin said this is a great county effort and the Lettermen's Club has raised money for this improvement. Supervisor Medlin said he would like to give \$49,000 toward the football field improvement from the District 1 Park Fund and Supervisor Russell would like to contribute \$6,000 from the District 3 Park Fund. Supervisor Latimer said he wanted the minutes to reflect that this expenditure is not coming from the county General Fund but from the District 1 and District 3 Park Funds.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he is not opposed to the contributions to the football field from the park funds, but he wants to look at other schools if they come forward.

Supervisor Russell said he would still like to organize the Park Commission to handle this money in the District Park Funds.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to advertise county resources by donating \$55,000 to the Olive Branch Lettermen's Club as a restricted donation for improvements to the Olive Branch High School football field and to approve a budget amendment for \$6,000 from the District 3 Park Fund and a budget amendment for \$49,000 from the District 1 Park Fund for Advertising County Resources to cover the expenditure contingent on the county's logo being added to the field for the expenditure as recommended by the Board Attorney. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Walking Trail at Cockrum

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said the county did not get the walking trail grant for Cockrum. He said he has received many requests for the walking trail.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said the Board was good enough to put a walking trail and lights at the Eudora Park and it is being enjoyed on a regular basis by residents.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to allow the Department of Road Management to build a walking trail at Cockrum with funding for the walking trail to come from the District 5 Park Fund in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

4. Parks – 301 Sports Association

Supervisor Bill Russell said the 301 Sports Association is reorganizing and a new document will need to be drawn up by the county to continue our relationship with the park.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Smith Phillips Mitchell Scott and Nowak Law Firm to draw up a document for 301 Sports Association to manage 301 Park, in connection with reorganization of the 301 Sports Association and the county's future involvement in the park. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. Cemeteries

Vanessa Lynchard said the Board Attorney had prepared information regarding the cemetery in question and they were going to send it to the owner after a phone conversation that she had with the owner. Shortly before the phone call, we postponed sending the information out of respect to the family. Vanessa said we had the paperwork ready but the owner died before they could meet. She said that she thinks enough time has passed now. Vanessa said that the

family inherited the property from the owner's side of the family. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said that Vanessa called the family because she knew the people.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked if the county is obligated. Supervisor Latimer said we want to maintain the cemetery and not turn it into a public place. Supervisor Latimer said he wants to know the process for putting cemeteries on the Historical Register. County Administrator Michael Garriga said there are several designations for the abandoned cemeteries. He said it talks about how they are determined on the Historical Register's web site. He said there are criteria to determine whether or not they are historical cemeteries.

Supervisor Latimer said he thinks it would be up to the local citizens to obtain the Historical Register designation. Supervisor Medlin said, since this came up, a lady sent him a plat showing an Indian cemetery in the neighborhood where he lives. The Board discussed that there are many abandoned cemeteries in DeSoto County.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to recess the meeting until June 4, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 2nd day of June 2008, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Allen Latimer, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors