

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JOHN M. M. CALDWELL, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

July 7, 1997

A. CALL TO ORDER

The July 7, 1997, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by John M. M. Caldwell, Sr., Board President.

James Albert Riley, the DeSoto County Sheriff 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:

- Jessie Medlin-----District 1
- Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
- James D. Pearson-----District 3, Absent
- John Caldwell-----District 4
- Tommy Lewis-----District 5
- W. E. "Sluggo" Davis-----Chancery Clerk
- James Albert Riley-----Sheriff
- Clovis Reed-----County Administrator
- William H. Austin, Jr.-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by Supervisor Tommy Lewis.

C. APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES

The official minutes of the Board of Supervisors were read for the month of June, 1997. Supervisor John Caldwell requested the minutes of June 30, 1997, be corrected on page 7, in connection with the motion for the Visitors Bureau to read "to review proposals for the marketing study and for the committee to make recommendations for a firm to do the marketing study for the Civic Center." Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Supervisor's for June, 1997 with the change as stated this date pursuant to Section 19-3-27 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, annotated. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
- Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
- Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
- Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
- Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

D. MARVIN JOHNSON - WALLS COMMUNITY BUILDING

Marvin Johnson, Architect for the Walls Community Building came before the Board of Supervisors and explained that he has reviewed the bids submitted for the Wall Community Building at the June 30, 1997, meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Johnson said that he met with representatives from TDL on Friday concerning the bid and recommends accepting the low bid submitted by TDL in the amount of \$817,000.00. Mr. Johnson said the only problems he sees with the bid is that no provisions were made for a temporary road and temporary water at the jobsite. Mr. Johnson recommends accepting the low bid today to allow TDL to do preliminary work, such as getting bonds.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the County has to build the road. Marvin Johnson said no, the developer is building the road now. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked whether the developer will put the temporary road in. Marvin Johnson said he has not talked to Hal Creshaw, so he is not sure. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked what was paid for the building. County Administrator Clovis Reed and Marvin Johnson said the low bid was for \$817,000.00. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the bid shows the County is responsible for the temporary road. Marvin Johnson said no provision was made for the road as we thought the permanent road would be in by this time.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if there is any rush in terms of the grant. County Administrator Clovis Reed said we just need to do this in this fiscal year. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if there are any time considerations for TDL. Marvin Johnson said they have six months to complete the job, and if the job is delayed the subcontractors' bids will likely go up, so if the road delays the project the price will likely go up. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the County is already way behind on the road projects throughout the County. Supervisor John Caldwell said the developer should be able to take care of that.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to accept the low bid of TDL for the Walls Community Building for \$817,000.00. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

E. PARKER PICKLE - PRELIMINARY RECAP FIGURES ON LAND ROLL

The Tax Assessor, Parker Pickle, came before the Board of Supervisors to present the preliminary recap figures on the Land Roll for DeSoto County. Mr. Pickle said his office will be fine tuning the report throughout July. Mr. Pickle also notified the Board of Supervisors that copies have been delivered to the Chancery Clerk's office of the land roll for public inspection.

The Tax Assessor reported this report reflects an increase in assessed value of \$35,813,045, which reflects a 7% increase. Mr. Pickle asked the County Administrator, Clovis Reed for a copy of the report showing assessed values of other counties which will indicate how DeSoto County is lining up with other Counties.

Item E., Continued,

Mr. Pickle said most of this growth is residential, so you know commercial development is going to follow. Mr. Pickle said some counties total is less than our growth.

Mr. Pickle said considering homestead sign-ups, his office wonders if all vehicles are being titled in Mississippi, but said the Tax Assessors office is not a policing agency.

Mr. Pickle reminded the Board of Supervisors that these are just preliminary figures. The Chancery Clerk, Sluggo Davis, asked if the time to challenge property values is between now and August or after August. Parker Pickle said his office will take these calls from this day until the first Monday in August. Mr. Davis asked if his office gets many calls. Mr. Pickle said yes, but many are tax reps.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the preliminary figures for the Land Roll for DeSoto County as presented by the Tax Assessor. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit E.

F. ARVERN MOORE - ICS HEADSTART FUNDING

Arvern Moore, of ICS Headstart, and a team of representatives from Headstart came before the Board of Supervisors to request funding for DeSoto County Headstart. Mr. Moore explained that Headstart is a private non-profit corporation, and the program is comprehensive in operation. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if their mission was to prepare children for DeSoto County schools. Mr. Moore said yes, and they currently have 360 children enrolled in their program, with a total budget for DeSoto County of \$1,196,410.00. Mr. Moore thanked the Board of Supervisors for allowing his group to meet with them. Mr. Moore explained that other counties have provided support for the program, including Tunica, Lafayette, and Marshall. Mr. Moore explained that DeSoto County Headstart facilities are far behind facilities in other counties and the facilities consist of mobile or modular units that are unsafe. Mr. Moore said this was the situation in other areas also, but five years ago Headstart developed a plan to upgrade their facilities to permanent structures. These plans have already become a reality in Marshall County and they are about to move into a building in Tunica County. Mr. Moore is here to ask the Board of Supervisors to purchase, construct or help Headstart to obtain a building in DeSoto County. Mr. Moore reminded the Board of Supervisors that he came before them previously in December 1996, and was told to come back to the Board nearer to budget planning time to request funding.

Mr. Moore told the Board of Supervisors there are three Headstarts in DeSoto County--in Olive Branch, Walls, and Nesbit. The Olive Branch building is a unit that was moved from Bolivar County and is unfit. Likewise, the Walls facility is not fit, and they have discussed the possibility of leasing or buying the school facility that will soon be vacant there. Mr. Moore said Headstart would appreciate any help to get that building.

Item F., Continued,

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis asked if Headstart currently leases the land where they are operating. Arvern Moore said yes, that, if necessary, they will consolidate the Nesbit

and Olive Branch facilities into one facility, and get the building for Walls. Otherwise, they may have to consolidate the whole thing.

Mr. Moore said that each year the Headstart Program is supported by the HHS Department of the federal government. They recently received information and are planning to submit a request for construction and purchase of buildings in DeSoto County. To be able to show that Headstart has the support of the County will enhance their chances of getting federal funding. Mr. Moore is asking the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors for \$100,000.00, which, if necessary, could be split over two years. Mr. Moore said their application for funding is due in Atlanta by July 20.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked how much Tunica and Marshall Counties have contributed to Headstart. Arvern Moore said the Tunica has given a gift of \$250,000.00 for a 10 classroom building, and Marshall County has contributed \$35,000.00 per year for many years. Lafayette County has recently provided substantial help also.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if Headstart gets money from the State. Mr. Moore said yes, the State contributes in excess of \$1,000,000.00 throughout their nine county area and theirs is the only program in the state with this type of contract. Mr. Moore said he is very proud of Headstart's relationship with the State.

Supervisor John Caldwell told Mr. Moore that he is coming at a good time to have their request considered for the coming budget year. Supervisor Eugene Thach verified they are asking for \$50,000.00. Mr. Moore clarified they are asking for \$50,000.00 per year for two years. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if Headstart will get more matching funds if the County participates. Mr. Moore said no, but they are required to match 20% of their federal dollars. Mr. Moore asked if the Board will be able to comment on this request by July 20. Supervisor Caldwell said no, but the Board may be able to give him some idea and suggested Mr. Moore keep in contact with the County Administrator's office. **See Exhibit F.**

G. BID OPENING FOR JUSTICE COURT BUILDING - RASCO ROAD

Board President, Supervisor John Caldwell did open the bids in connection with Bid File # 97-701-003, for the sale of the Justice Court Building on Rasco Road. The County Administrator explained the bid was opened upon receipt in error as indicated on the note attached to the Federal Express envelope, due to the fact the bid was not marked to indicate it was a bid. The bidder, Ben Smith was present at the meeting. The bids were as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Ben W. Smith	Justice Court building and land totaling 9.94 acres	\$165,000.00
Ben W. Smith	Justice Court building and two acres	\$155,000.00

Ben Smith verified the bid was read as submitted by him. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to take the bids under advisement. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Item G., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent

Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.

H. DALE THOMPSON - MONTHLY BILLS

Comptroller Dale Thompson presented the claims docket showing each departments' standing as of June 30, 1997. The docket was read by the Comptroller and the Board of Supervisors discussed many of the items on the docket, including:

1. The Board discussed an invoice from Justice Court where Allen Couch acted as a public defender in the absence of a paid public defender. Dale Thompson said the Honorable Jamie Howell called her office to discuss this before this action took place and was told the Board of Supervisors had not authorized such payments and the request would have to come before the Board;
2. The Board commented that prisoner medical costs have continued to decline;
3. The Board discussed the invoice from Firestone for Civil Defense. The Comptroller asked if this purchase is not under state contract.
Supervisor Tommy Lewis said this should be checked out before approving;
4. The Board discussed the \$60.00 charge for meals and lodging for Civil Defense on page 67 of the claims docket. The Comptroller asked if Tim Curtis is a volunteer. County Administrator Clovis Reed said that needs to be clarified;
5. The Comptroller notified the Board of Supervisors that she received notice this morning the payment to DeSoto Sunrise will be lowered by approximately \$600.00;
6. The Comptroller said that the Purchasing Department should tell the department heads if they submit a request that goes under a state contract, as with the invoice for screen printing on Page 80 for the Volunteer Fire Departments;
7. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked who makes sure the law library is kept up to date. County Administrator Clovis Reed said the Bar Association does. The Comptroller reminded the Board this is at no cost to the County except for housing. The Chancery Clerk, W. E. "Sluggo" Davis said this funding comes from fees collected in Circuit and Chancery Court;
8. Supervisor Eugene Thach suggested checking on the purchase of uniforms to ensure they do not fall under a state contract;
9. The Comptroller said she is checking to see how to handle the wrecked dump truck with Ford Motor Credit. This was discussed;
10. The Board discussed the reimbursement of CDL license. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the Board Attorney to verify the correct procedure is being used for this process.

Item H., Continued,

11. The invoice for the Tax Collector's stay at Sams Town in Tunica was discussed.
Supervisor Eugene Thach said he does not agree with paying for accommodations in a county adjacent to DeSoto.

12. An invoice for Data Processing for a micro recorder was discussed and the County Administrator said he would verify the description was accurate or the need for the equipment.

13. The Board discussed the \$10,000.00 charge for Roundup. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the charge is correct. Road Manager Kenny Gunn said yes. County Administrator Clovis Reed asked how often the Road Department sprays. Mr. Gunn said twice--once heavy and once light.

The Comptroller, Dale Thompson presented a request for several budget amendments as requested by department heads or as necessary to carry out the financial business of the County. The requests are as follows:

1. The County Administrator Clovis Reed said Chester Beasley in Youth Services has asked for these budget transfers to put a copier and typewriter in the office they were given in the Law Library. The transfer requests are as follows:

From	001-164-479	\$150.00
To	001-164-476	\$150.00
From	001-164-523	\$250.00
To	001-164-476	\$250.00
From	001-164-934	\$800.00
To	001-164-933	\$800.00
From	001-164-602	\$ 60.00
To	001-164-583	\$ 60.00
From	001-164-523	\$150.00
To	001-164-933	\$150.00
From	001-164-602	\$140.00
To	001-164-933	\$140.00
From	001-164-603	\$260.00
To	001-164-933	\$260.00
From	001-164-603	\$100.00
To	001-164-475	\$100.00

The Sheriff's Department requested a budget transfer as follows:

From	001-200-543	\$345.00
	001-200-533	\$265.00
	001-200-639	\$126.00
To	001-200-534	\$265.00
	001-200-542	\$345.00
	001-200-671	\$126.00
From	001-201-501	\$300.00
To	001-201-552	\$300.00

Item H., Continued,

From	001-202-534	\$1,000.00
	001-202-613	\$ 85.00
To	001-202-523	\$750.00

	001-202-546	\$250.00
	001-202-690	\$ 85.00
From	001-220-616	\$ 235.00
	001-220-654	\$15,000.00
	001-220-692	\$ 2,000.00
To	001-220-652	\$ 235.00
	001-220-691	\$10,000.00
	001-220-694	\$ 7,000.00
From	001-225-542	\$200.00
	001-225-587	\$500.00
	001-225-617	\$ 61.00
	001-225-671	\$200.00
To	001-225-475	\$351.00
	001-225-603	\$295.00
	001-225-682	\$315.00

The Comptroller requested approval of the following budget amendments and clarified that these requests are for actual amendments. The requests are:

For Justice Court

Justice Court Construction	Increase	001-701-911	\$56,780.00
Working Cash Balance	Lower	001-901-999	\$56,780.00

For Prisoner Medical Cost

Medical Fees	Increase	001-222-552	\$17,000.00
Medicine &	Increase	001-222-696	\$ 4,000.00
Working Cash Balance	Lower	001-901-999	\$21,000.00

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to pay the bills as presented by the Comptroller, with the exception of the six items listed in 1, 3, 4, 6, 11, and 12, which will be held over until Wednesday, and to approve the budget transfers and amendments as recommended by the Comptroller. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to pay the invoice for the item listed in Item #11 in connection with the Tax Collectors accommodations at Sams Town in Tunica, Mississippi. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Item H., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----No

Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to adopt the practice that DeSoto County will not pay for overnite stay for accommodations in any adjacent county to DeSoto County, including Tate, Tunica, Shelby, and Marshall counties. The **motion did not pass** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----No
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----No

See Exhibit H.

I. DARRYL HOPPER - CONFERENCE, JULY 10TH

Darryl Hopper came before the Board of Supervisors to request the Board's attendance at an upcoming event. Mr. Hopper said he appreciates the opportunity to address the Board of Supervisors as a follow up to a letter he sent 1 ½ weeks ago. Mr. Hopper said that shortly after taking office, he became concerned about the future of DeSoto County. Mr. Hopper was particularly concerned about the number of children that are expelled from DeSoto County schools. Darryl Hopper wants to start a program to change and touch the lives of these young people. Mr. Hopper said when a child is expelled, he becomes automatically in violation of the County truancy laws and the curfew law.

Mr. Hopper said he had an opportunity to go to the State Capitol to join in looking at a Character Building Program. Since March Mr. Hopper has worked to get a similar seminar in DeSoto County. He has achieved that goal and the seminar is scheduled for Thursday, July 10, from 9:00 to 12:00 at the new Olive Branch High School. According to Mr. Hopper, many elected officials will be there.

Mr. Hopper said building basic character traits will help in having a healthy county. Mr. Hopper explained the agenda for the day.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if the program will become part of the school system if it is adopted. Mr. Hopper said yes. Supervisor Thach asked how the other School Board members feel. Mr. Hopper said they have been invited, but pointed out that this effort is from Darryl Hopper and not on behalf of the School Board, but he hopes it is adopted.

The Board of Supervisors told Mr. Hopper they appreciated him taking to time to talk with them about this matter.

J. KENNY GUNN - MONTHLY ROAD REPORTS

Road Manager Kenny Gunn met with the Board of Supervisors to present the Road Department Monthly Road Report for the Month of June 1997, and Work Schedule for the month of July 1997, pursuant to Section 65-17-7 of the Mississippi Code of

1972, annotated.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to accept the Road Report for June 1997, and Work Schedule for July 1997. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows: **SEE EXHIBIT J.**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked the Road Manager if he had estimates for Getwell Road as was requested earlier. The Road Manager said he talked to Daniel Murphy and they estimate the cost to pave Getwell Road from College to Goodman Road to be \$150,000.00.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to top Getwell Road from College to Goodman from the existing paving contract with Lehman Roberts and with funds coming from bond money. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

K. FRANK TREADWAY - UPDATE ON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Frank Treadway, DeSoto County Coordinator, FireChiefs Association, came before the Board of Supervisors to update the Board on the Volunteer Fire Departments as requested in the meeting of June 30, 1997. It was determined that this item should be handled in Executive Session. See Item O.

L. OLD BUSINESS

1. Civic Center Marketing Proposals

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed said he received a letter from the DeSoto County Convention and Visitors Bureau stating they recommend the firm of Hunters Interests, Inc. to perform the marketing study for the Civic Center.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and hire Hunters Interest, Inc., to do a feasibility study for the Civic Center. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Item L.1., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent

Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Absent

See Exhibit L.1.

2. Appointments

This item was held over. **See Exhibit L.2.**

3. Bids Under Advisement - Pews for Justice Court

This item was held over. **See Exhibit L.3.**

4. Report From Committee on Petition For Public Road

This item was held over. **See Exhibit L.4.**

M. NEW BUSINESS

1. Load Limits For DeSoto County Roads

Supervisor John Caldwell said the Road Manager has done a study of load limits for DeSoto County Roads. Kenny Gunn, the Road Manager recommends 15 tons on all unposted County roads. The Road Manager took the recommendation to

Daniel Murphy, the County Engineer, and Mr. Murphy agrees. Merritt Powell of the DeSoto County Planning Commission agrees also. This item was discussed.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the Board of Superivsors can legally post a County road? Kenny Gunn said yes. Supervisor John Caldwell said he is bringing this item before the Board of Superivsors as a possibility. No motions were made for this portion of the meeting. **See Exhibit M.1.**

Item M.2., Continued,

2. Inventory Control Disposition

The Board of Supervisors were given a list of equipment owned by the County that is either unrepairable or not cost effective to repair and one item that was stolen from the Operations and Maintenance crew working in Cockrum

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion to accept receipts from the Inventory Clerk pursuant to Section 31-7-107 of the Mississippi Code and did approve the disposition on the report as noted on Exhibit M.2 and recommended by the

County Administrator. Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes

Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes

Supervis James Pearson-----Absent

Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Absent

SEE EXHIBIT M.2.

3. Copy Machine Contracts To Be Made a Part of Minutes

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, notified the Board of Supervisors that he is continuing to bring contracts that have been executed in County offices to them for approval as is the proper process. Mr. Reed said he is bringing before the Board several contracts for copy machines for approval.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the contracts for copy machines as indicated on Exhibit M.3. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit M.3.

4. Contract For Alarm Monitoring For Metro Narcotics - Redd Pest Control Service Contract

County Administrator Clovis Reed presented to the Board of Supervisors a service contract from Redd Pest Control for alarm monitoring for Metro Narcotics and a contract from Pure Aire Filter for filter replacement for County buildings for Buildings and Grounds for the Board of Supervisors approval. **See Exhibit M.4.**

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve and make part of the minutes the contracts as requested for Metro Narcotics and Buildings and Grounds. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit M.4.

Item M., Continued,

5. Metro Narcotics Grant Application

County Administrator Clovis Reed explained that the Board's approval is needed

for the Metro Narcotics Grant Application. Mr. Reed explained that each year Metro Narcotics asks for funds and each year the amount they ask for is cut.

Sheriff James Albert Riley said this year Metro Narcotics is planning to add officers to their unit, therefore, the requested amount of funding increased. Consequently, the County 25% match will increase accordingly.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to match the Metro Narcotics Grant funds based on the grant award and up to 25% of the total amount approved and in line with the 75% grant approval. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit M.5.

6. Lost/Stolen Property Affidavit for Building Maintenance

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed informed the Board of Supervisors that on June 19, 1997, employees in Buildings and Grounds were working at the Cockrum Fire Department, when a pick up truck pulled up behind the fire department slowly and stole a White gas edger from their truck. This item was deleted from inventory in Item M.2. of these minutes. **See Exhibit M.6.**

7. Parks

Supervisor John Caldwell told the Board of Supervisors the time is right to visit the issue of parks for the coming budget year. Supervisor Caldwell said he has done some research and found there are two kinds of parks--recreational and preservation of natural resources. Supervisor Caldwell presented possible layouts for such parks.

Supervisor Caldwell said one possible site for a recreational park is the land fill site, and in the future the County could probably do the same thing with the rubbish pit site. Supervisor Caldwell presented a layout of a recreational park to include baseball type fields and soccer fields.

Next, Supervisor Caldwell presented a possible layout of a preservation park, and informed the Board of Supervisors that a doner has agreed to give 30 acres on the bluff as a possible recreation site. However, the doner wants to attach strings to assure the land is preserved.

Supervisor Caldwell requested the Board consider setting aside \$100,000.00 in the FY97-98 budget to cover the cost to study these possibilities.

Supervisor Caldwell clarified that he is not asking to put money down to build the park, but to study the subject, as this may be money well spent.

Supervisor Caldwell said the Board's approval will enable the County

Item M.7., Continued,

Administrator to take the wishes of the Board to find matching funding.

Supervisor Caldwell said he has received information from other areas that have done this. He thinks we should do the homework now to save time and money in

the future.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he does not feel the County is taking their share in this area, and feel that parks help children. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he wants to make sure it is safe to do this, and agrees the County has not maintained their fair share of this area.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he has mixed emotions about this. This project is going to cost money, and someone has to maintain the parks. Supervisor Thach said the cities will have to pay for these parks. It will take tax money to do this.

Supervisor Caldwell reminded the Board that we are building the Civic Center without raising the millage. Supervisor Thach asked of the County wants to get into the business of maintaining parks, and said we would have to come up with money that is not in the budget. Supervisor Caldwell said that is why we want to look into the subject.

Supervisor Caldwell told the Board people will be coming in for tournaments, and because DeSoto County is situated close to Memphis and Tunica, we are in a good spot to draw attendance.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to ask the County Administrator, within a reasonable amount of time to seek alternative sources for funding and for the Board to set aside \$100,000.00 in the budget for FY97-98 for the study of the project. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

8. Justice Court Report

The DeSoto County Justice Court Clerk, Linda Aldridge, did meet with the Board of Supervisors and presented the Justice Court Report for the month of June 1997, pursuant to Section 9-11-19 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated.

Supervisor Tommy Lewlis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the Justice Court Report for the month of June, 1997. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

SEE EXHIBIT M.8.

Item M., Continued,

9. School Bus Turnaround

The DeSoto County Board of Supervisors received a letter dated June 24, 1997,

from the DeSoto County Superintendent of Education requesting the county to maintain the properties listed in his letter which are used as school bus turnarounds. A copy of this request is attached and made a part of these minutes by attachment of Exhibit M.9. **SEE EXHIBIT M.9.**

In accordance with Section 19-3-42, Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended, stating that the school bus turnarounds will be built, maintained and improved, Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion to build, maintain, and improve the properties listed in the Superintendent's letter dated June 24, 1997, known as 5547 Cherokee, Walls, MS and to direct the County Road Manager to carry out this order of this Board forthwith. Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

10. Sponsorship of Hernando Girls Softball Teams

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize a donation to the Hernando Girls Softball Teams 10 and under and the Hernando Cardinals 16 and under going to the State tournament from Advertise County Resources for \$150.00 each in accordance with County policy. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit M.10.**

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

P. OTHER ISSUES

1. Supervisor Jessie Medlin a. College Road Concrete Dump Site

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the Road Manager, Kenny Gunn about the area on College Road where the concrete was dumped. Mr. Gunn said the Soil and Water Conservation Department will likely be able to help with that area.

b. Voting Precint for Forest Hill

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the Board to consider a voting precint for the Forest Hill area as someone has agreed to donate two acres for this cause.

Supervisor Medlin said that last election 350 people voted there and there is no parking at the site and it building is small. Supervisor Medlin said based on subdivisions that have been approved in the area, there could be as many

Item P., Continued,

as 1,500 people to vote in this area in the near future. Supervisor Medlin suggested redrawing the voting precint lines to better distribute the voting

traffic. The Board Attorney said such an endeavor takes time to obtain approval.

2. Board Attorney William Austin

The Board Attorney, William Austin presented a copy of a letter he received from the Honorable Robert Gilder, requesting a guard rail be erected on the property owned by William W. Bond, Jr. where cars have repeatedly taken down his fence when they do not make the curve in the road. The Board of Supervisors instructed the Road Manager to look into the problem. **See Exhibit P.2.**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to recess until Wednesday, July 9, 1997, at 9:00. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

THIS the 7th day of July, 1997, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

JOHN M. M. CALDWELL, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors