

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

January 7, 1998

A. CALL TO ORDER

The January 7, 1998, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Tommy Lewis, Board President.

Deputy Roger Jones of the DeSoto County Sheriff 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:

Jessie Medlin-----District 1
Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
James D. Pearson-----District 3
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 John Caldwell.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION

This portion of the minutes are being submitted in the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission. **See Exhibit C.**

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Investment of Surplus Funds

The County Administrator submitted a recommendation by the Comptroller to invest surplus funds in the amount of \$27,328,000.00 to the highest bidder, which was Trustmark National Bank for a period of 34 days. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked why the funds were invested for 34 days. The County Administrator said he and the Comptroller are scheduled to meet with Demery Grubbs and Don Clark to define the procedures for payment of bills with these funds. After that time it is likely the funds In accordance with Section 19-2-29 of the Mississippi Code, which states that whenever any county shall have on hand any bond and interest funds, any funds derived from the sale of bonds, special funds, or any other funds in excess of the sums which will be required to meet the current needs and demands of no more than seven

Item D.1., Continued,

(7) business days, the Board of Supervisors of such county shall invest such excess funds. Therefore, the investment was approved as follows:

<u>Date of Investment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Rate</u>
12/12/97	\$27,328,000	1/15/98	34	5.595

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. See **Exhibit D.1.**

2. Central Maintenance - Insurance Coverage for Dozer

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, said he has not received an answer from the insurance company to know if the dozer that was recently overturned was covered. The Road Manager pointed out that if the dozer was repaired it would have to bring more at the equipment sale to cover the extensive cost of repair.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked the Road Manager to notify him of each accident. Supervisor James Pearson agreed the supervisors need to be informed.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the County Administrator to get the appropriate department head to look into this coverage. Clovis Reed said he has and it depends on the value of the dozer.

3. Traffic Signal - Getwell/Church Road

The County Engineer, Daniel Murphy, said that State Aid's top priority is public safety. Mr. Murphy said he will meet with Mr. Ramsey to see exactly where the light will go.

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, said the City of Southaven will pay for maintenance and upkeep and installation if the county will pay for the equipment. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the county can do that without an interlocal agreement? The Board Attorney, Bill Austin, said yes. Supervisor Lewis asked if the Board wants to spend this money.

Supervisor John Caldwell said the city that annexed the area should take care of the roads. Supervisor Caldwell speculated that this may open the county up to other such requests to cities.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board Attorney is checking with the Attorney General about the county's responsibility on city property. County Engineer, Daniel Murphy, said he has asked that and the ultimate responsibility will fall on the county. Mr. Murphy said DeSoto County is one of the few counties with this problem because of growth.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he agrees with Supervisor John Caldwell. The city should do the work, but it needs to be done quickly. The Board discussed the use of site inhibitors in the area.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said if this will fix this traffic hazard, we should do it. The county just built the road.

The Board Attorney said this will not stop a law suit from being filed on the county. The county should be able to avoid penalty in such a suit, but that is not guaranteed.

Item D.3., Continued,

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to pay for the equipment at a cost up to \$1,500.00 and have Kenny Gunn and Daniel Murphy work out a policy for handling these requests. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

4. Approval of Civil Defense Copy Contract with Terms Unchanged as Stated on Document

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, presented a copy of a contract for the copy machine in Civil Defense, which was approved at a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The terms were altered when presented for approval to fit into the schedule of payments better. Memphis Communications Corporation would not accept the contract with these terms as presented. Therefore, the contract is being returned for approval by the Board of Supervisors with the terms as noted on the contract.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to approve the contract between DeSoto County and Memphis Communications Corporation as presented by the County Administrator. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit D.4.**

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. CDBG Signatory Authority - Approval of Supervisor Tommy Lewis

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the Board President to execute the document giving authority to Supervisor Tommy Lewis to sign any and all documents pertaining to DeSoto County in regards to grants, proposals and other related documents. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.1.**

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session portion of the minutes are being presented in the portion of the minutes called Executive Session. **See Exhibit F.**

G. OTHER ISSUES

1. James D. "Jake" Pearson Public Library and Community Center

Supervisor Jake Pearson asked whose responsibility it is to put in the road at the new library. Board Attorney, Bill Austin, said the property for the road was conveyed to the county as a "toothbrush" area. Supervisor Pearson reminded the Board of Supervisors that bond money is available for roads, but said Hal Crenshaw has agreed to build the road.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he did not understand on the front end that the county would be responsible for the road.

Supervisor James Pearson asked why he could not put bond money into the road. Supervisor Eugene Thach said he understood Hal was going to build the road to the apartments. Supervisor Pearson explained the apartments are at the other end of the property.

Item G.1., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he did not think the county could take in the property

until the bond was released.

2. County Road Clean-up

Supervisor John Caldwell said he would like to hire two people to work under the Code Enforcement Officer in the Planning Commission that are responsible for cleaning up the roads in DeSoto County.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he thinks Central Maintenance should work on the problem. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he agrees. The Board of Supervisors discussed the best department for these people to work in. Supervisor Eugene Thach reminded the Board of Supervisors that with all the annexations, the land mass under county government is less than ever.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked who will be responsible for hiring and firing the workers.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said that Central Maintenance rides the roads already. Probably Building Maintenance or Central Maintenance should work the road cleaning workers.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said that before the county hires anyone, they should try Central Maintenance. The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, said he has already sent out a notice to all employees in Central Maintenance of that need. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said this need has come up before and county employees have to take notice.

3. Bids on Tractors

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, presented the bid tabulation for tractors. Mr. Chancery Clerk, Sluggo Davis, and the County Administrator, Clovis Reed, agreed that the bids can exceed specs, but cannot fall short. The Board discussed that all bids took exception to some part of the specs.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to take the bids under advisement. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit G.3.**

4. Homesteads

The Chancery Clerk, W.E. "Sluggo" Davis, presented several adjustments to homestead exemptions for approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the adjustment to homestead exemptions as presented by the Chancery Clerk. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

5. Authorization to Advertise for Maintenance Director

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to authorize the advertisement for maintenance Director. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

6. Acquisition of Right of Way at Hwy 301 and Sullivan Road

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize Daniel Murphy and Bill Austin to acquire right of ways at

Hwy 301 and Sullivan Road at and near the site of Couch's Store. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

7. Appointment of Fire Director

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to appoint Bobby Storey temporarily as Fire Director until plans can be made to replace the position permanently, effective January 16, 1998. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to recess until Tuesday, January 20, 1998, at 9:00 . The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 7th day of January, 1998, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

TOMMY LEWIS, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors