

DRAFT

# DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

MARCH 23, 1998

### A. CALL TO ORDER

The March 23, 1998, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Tommy Lewis, 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  
John Caldwell-----District 4  
Tommy Lewis-----District 5  
W. E. ASluggo@ 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 Eugene Thach.

### C. OLD BUSINESS

#### 1. Barry Bridgforth - Rezoning Approval

The DeSoto County Planning Commission presented this item of business and the minutes are presented under the portion of the minutes by the Planning Commission.

#### 2. Texas Gas Update

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, notified the Board of Supervisors that Texas Gas is requesting a sum of money to do the preliminary studies on the improvements on Church Road. Mr. Reed said that the County Engineer, Daniel Murphy, will come back to the Board with more information on this item of business.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin suggested beginning the project and not digging deep enough to cut the pipes belonging to Texas Gas. The Board Attorney said that a study has to be done to determine the kind of pipe and the amount of fill it will take.

**Item C.3., Continued,**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if Texas Gas has a written agreement with the County from when the road was built. The Board Attorney says that he does not think there was anything there when the road was built. This item was held over.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Administration Building**

Dave Nicholson and Barry Yoakum of Allen & Hoshall appeared before the Board of Supervisors and said that they would concur with the Board's decision to reject the bids for the DeSoto County Administration Building. Mr. Nicholson said that Allen & Hoshall takes responsibility for the bids coming in over budget. He said they have been working since last Thursday to make a full accounting of the problems with the project. They plan to work to make the necessary changes to bring the project within budget, however, Mr. Nicholson said they feel the general layout of the project will not be affected. Mr. Nicholson requested the Board reject the project bids and give authorization to rebid the project. Mr. Nicholson said that Allen & Hoshall's contract with DeSoto County is to get the specifications for the project within the project budget, therefore, their contract price will not be affected by the changes necessary to do so.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if Allen & Hoshall has a time frame for the re-bid.

Dave Nicholson said that he did not really have a firm idea for time, but this delay could possibly affect the project one (1) month to six (6) weeks. Mr. Nicholson said that changes should be made to the plans within two (2) weeks.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked when Allen & Hoshall would bring the project back before the Board for approval. Dave Nicholson answered that they should be able to discuss that at the April 6th meeting. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if a bid date could be set after they bring the changes back. Dave Nicholson said yes.

County Administrator, Clovis Reed, requested Allen & Hoshall to meet with the Administration Building Committee. Dave Nicholson said they will.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to reject the bids for the DeSoto County Administration Building and re-advertise. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**2. Authorize Kenny Evans to Sign Requisitions**

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, requested the Board authorize Kenneth Evans, Director of Buildings & Grounds, to sign requisitions. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize Kenneth Evans, Director of Buildings & Grounds, to sign requisitions. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

**Item D.2., Continued,**

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**3. Adoption of State Duplicating Fee Schedule**

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, requested the Board adopt a County schedule for duplicating fees and suggested they use \$.50 per copy if the office makes the copy and \$.25 per copy if the individual makes the copy.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the County's policy now. The County Administrator responded that administrative offices have always given such copies when requests were made, however, Elected Officials, including the Chancery Clerk and Circuit Clerk use the State Fee Schedule.

Supervisor Medlin asked if this will cover all offices. The County Administrator responded that it will cover all administrative offices. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion to approve the Board adopting a fee schedule of \$.50 per copy in County offices if County employees make the copy and \$.25 per copy if the individual makes the copy. After discussion, Supervisor Medlin withdrew his motion.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked why the Board has not done this before. The Board Attorney said that he originally thought this had been adopted earlier by the Board but could not find evidence of same in the Board Minutes.

The Chancery Clerk, W.E. "Sluggo" Davis, asked if the Chancery Clerk's office will be covered under the Board of Supervisors Order. The Board Attorney, William Austin, said he feels all County offices will be covered.

Bill Bayne, of the Commercial Appeal, told the Board that they can do whatever they want to but, if the Board is using that to delay providing records, then Mr. Bayne would oppose it. The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, responded that in the past this has not been a problem from administration. Bill Bayne responded that he agreed, he has never had a problem with the County Administrator's office, but said some of the offices do have a problem giving records when requested. Mr. Bayne suggested putting language in the Board's Order to say "extensive files".

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the Board Attorney if approving the schedule specifying 1 - 15 copies could be obtained within 2 days, 15 - 100 copies within 5 days, and 100+ copies within 10 days, would be appropriate. The Board Attorney discussed this option with the Board.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board would like to give any records requested as soon as possible. The Board Attorney read Section 25-61-7 of the Mississippi Code and Section 25-61-5 concerning duplication of County records. Supervisor Eugene Thach suggested asking the County Administrator to develop a schedule that would be appropriate for both offices and the public to time their request for copies of County records. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to adopt the Duplication Fee Schedule at \$.50 per copy if County employees make the copy and \$.25 per copy if the individuals make the copy. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

**Item D.3., Continued,**

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**4. Update of Architect for Jail Expansion**

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, said that at the Board's request, he did a quick RFP to send to architects for the jail expansion. Mr. Reed explained that he researched as many firms as he could find who had jail experience and sent them the RFP's. Mr. Reed said the he has gotten a call back from one of them and requested to hold this item over until the April 6th meeting to allow other proposers to answer the request. The Board of Supervisors agreed.

**5. Approval for Judge McCormack to Attend Conferences on 4/2/98 to 4/3/98 and from 5/31/98 to 6/4/98**

At the request of Justice Court Judge McCormack, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the Justice Court Judge to attend the Justice Court Judges' Spring Seminar in Jackson, MS, on April 2nd and 3rd and to attend the National Judges' Association Convention in Jackson, MS, on May 31, 1998. According to the Justice Court Clerk, Linda Aldridge, the money is available for the Judge to attend the trip, although a budget amendment may be necessary.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve travel for the Justice Court Judge as requested. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**See Exhibit D.5.**

**6. Approval of Budget Amendments**

**a. Sheriff's Department**

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, said that he had received a request from the Comptroller for a budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department moving money as follows:

Decrease:	001-202-935	Other Mach. & Equip	\$8600.00
Increase:	001-202-587	Training	\$5000.00
Increase:	001-220-935	Radios (For Jail)	\$3600.00

**Item D.6.a., Continued,**

The County Administrator also notified the Board that Jim Bearden, Director of Operations & Maintenance, had received 2 quotes for the 28 beds that the Board authorized obtaining. The County Administrator explained that a budget amendment would be necessary to the Sheriff's budget, however, to obtain the bids, moving the money from contingency into the appropriate Sheriff's Department budget line. The County Administrator explained that the low bid for the 28 beds and mattresses was \$4,443.52. Therefore, the item will not have to be bid out in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 31-7-13 of the Mississippi Code Annotated.

Supervisor James Pearson made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the 2 budget amendments for the Sheriff's Department moving the money from contingency into the Sheriff's budget to cover the expense of the beds as recommended by the Comptroller and also approve the budget amendment transferring \$8600.00 from Other Machines and Equipment into Training and radios for the jail. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**b. Department of Human Services**

The County Administrator presented a request from the Comptroller for a budget amendment for the Department of Human Services. Mr. Reed said, that according to Kathy White, the contract services for shredding paper has exceeded the department's budget. Therefore, she requested to move \$500 from Furniture to Other Contract Services. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the budget amendment for the Department of Human Services as follows:

Decrease: 001-450-934 \$500.00 Furniture  
Increase: 001-450-581 \$500.00 Other Contract Services

The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**See Exhibit D.6.b.**

**7. Bids Under Advisement - Front Deck Mower**

Vanessa Lynchard explained to the Board that the bids were opened March 19, 1998, for a Front Deck Mower and because the dealership had one in stock, the Road Manager had requested the Board authorize the low bid for the mower at this time. However, Vanessa explained that she has not obtained financing information for the mowers as there has not been time to send out the financing and allow the banks and lending institutions enough time to respond. Therefore, she requested to

**Item D.7., Continued,**

bring this item back to the April 6th meeting.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to buy the mowers rather than lease purchase them and approve the recommendation for the low bid from Stateline Turf & Tractor in the amount of \$13,748.00. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**8. Approval for County Administrator to Open Bids**

Supervisor James Pearson made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the County Administrator to open bids on March 30th for Collections; on April 1st for Sand and Gravel and on April 3rd for Architect for the Allied Expansion. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**E. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**F. OTHER ISSUES**

**1. Homesteads**

At the recommendation of the Chancery Clerk, W. E. : "Sluggo" Davis, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to approve the Homestead changes as presented by the Chancery Clerk. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**See Exhibit F.1.**

**2. Parking Lot at Maxwell Building**

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn said that he had received a request to get an estimate to pave the parking lot at the Maxwell Building. Supervisor Eugene Thach said that the Justice Court parking lot is also in bad shape. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the County has any money in Buildings & Grounds to cover the expense of paving these parking lots. The Road Manager estimated the cost of

**Item F.2., Continued,**

overlaying the Maxwell Building parking lot to be \$4,000.00. The County Administrator said that there was some money in that account, but until he knew the estimate for the Justice Court parking lot he could not determine if there would be enough to do both projects.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to get a firm estimate for overlaying the Maxwell Building and Justice Court building parking lots. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**3. I-69**

Supervisor Eugene Thach read portions of a memorandum from Jim Newland, Executive Director of the I-69 Mid Continent Highway Coalition, Inc. Supervisor Thach explained that the memorandum indicates that the U.S. Senate has approved legislation to raise highway spending to record levels. Supervisor Thach explained the effect on the I-69 corridor. Supervisor Thach commended Senate Majority Leader, Trent Lott, for brokering the agreement between Senate Budget Writers who demanded that any increase be accommodated within the balanced budget caps and high way advocates who demanded that revenue accumulating in the highway trust fund be used for highway improvements.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the memorandum and to send letters

in support of their efforts on the I-69 Corridor. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**4. Paving List**

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, notified the Board that he has submitted a paving list to the County Engineer, Daniel Murphy, and the County Engineer is working on this now.

**5. Appraisals - Church Road**

Supervisor James Pearson suggested it is time to obtain appraisals for parcels on the west side of Church Road. Supervisor Eugene Thach and Supervisor Jessie Medlin suggested that the east side of Church Road also has some right of ways that will need to have appraisals. The Board Attorney explained the efforts for right of ways to this point and estimated that several right of ways would be needed on both ends of Church Road.

**Item F.5.,Continued,**

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate with an individual to do appraisals on the Church Road corridor on the east and west ends. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**6. 1999 Overlay Project**

Supervisor Eugene Thach said that he wishes the Board would consider going out for contracts now for 1999 overlay with the work starting in October. Supervisor Thach said he fears that if the County starts working on the 1999 overlay now the Board could get into trouble and suggested making two contracts out, one for the 1998 and one for the 1999 overlay needs. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the Board does this and the work is complete on contract A and we did some of the contract B work in September having authorized paying for the work in October would be illegal. The Board Attorney said that would possibly depend on having available funds.

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, said that if the Board did advertise for the work now, it would give a better indication of how much money to appropriate during the coming budget year. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the Board should go on and do this.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to advertise for the 1998 paving contract. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor Eugene Thach made a motion to advertise in a separate contract providing the funds were available for the 1999 overlay work with work not starting until 1999. After discussion, Supervisor Thach withdrew his motion in anticipation of an estimate from the County Engineer for this work.

**7. Bid Opening**

**a. Compact Utility Tractor**

Bids were opened for one (1) or more compact utility tractors in connection with Bid File #97-156-006. In connection with Section 31-7-13 of the Mississippi code, the bids were read aloud and were as follows:

**Item F.7.a., Continued,**

	<u>PURCHASE PRICE EACH STANDARD MACHINE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
Blackton Equipment Exceptions: None	\$ <u>14,884.95.00</u>	<u>Massey Ferguson 1250 4wd</u>
Anderson Tractor Co. Exceptions: None	\$ <u>14,966.00</u>	<u>Kubota L3300 DT</u>
Baker & Powell Exceptions: Spec'd 34 HP - Bid 32.1 HP; Spec'd 27 PTO HP - Bid 25 HP;	\$ <u>15,018.50</u>	<u>Kubota L2900DT 4wd</u>
Hood Equipment  Exceptions: Spec'd 34 HP - Bid 33.3 HP; Front Weight Rack w/150 lb weight - Bid - No - Available, but not necessary	\$ <u>13,558.00</u>	<u>New Holland 1920</u>
Griffin Tractor Co.  Exceptions: Spec'd 34 Engine HP - Bid 28.5 HP	\$ <u>13,989.00</u>	<u>New Holland 1920</u>
Griffin Tractor Co.  Exceptions: Spec'd 34 HP - Bid 33 HP;	\$ <u>14,538.00</u>	<u>New Holland 1925</u>
Stateline Turf & Tractor  Exceptions: None	\$ <u>14,320.00</u>	<u>John Deere 970 4 x 4</u>

**b. Open Bids Chipspreader**

The bids were opened and read aloud for a chipspreader in connection with Bid File #98-156-004. The bids were as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>MODEL</u>	<u>BID PRICE</u>	<u>LS/PURCH</u>
<b>Contractors Equipment Memphis, TN Exceptions: None</b>	<u>Rosco SPRH-H</u>	<u>\$ 86,942.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,625.86</u>
<b>Power Equipment Co. Memphis, TN</b>	<u>Etnyre</u>	<u>\$ 87,323.00</u>	<u>\$1,632.99</u>
<b>State Equipment</b>	<u>WH Spread King</u>	<u>\$ 99,660.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,913.30</u>

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to take the bids for the compact utility tractor and chipspreader under advisement. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
 Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
 James D. Pearson-----Yes  
 John Caldwell-----Absent  
 Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**Item F., Continued,**

**8. Ravenwood Rezoning Amendment**

Ben Smith, Engineer, working with Ravenwood rezoning amendment for Chambliss Builders, came before the Board and requested the Board reconsider their previous motion for Ravenwood rezoning amendment. Attorney, Taylor Buntin, said he is here for Chambliss Builders who were the applicant for Ravenwood rezoning. Mr. Buntin said he has done some research about the action taken by the Board at the last meeting and the motion that was made concerning Ravenwood rezoning. Mr. Buntin said that he understands that at the last meeting the Board changed the application and approved it as changed without the approval of the applicant. Mr. Buntin said that there are no cases on that point, but there is a general law that the Board of Supervisor's action must meet due process. In this case, the applicant's plan was asked to be approved as presented. Mr. Buntin said he feels the applicant should be able to withdraw the application at any time before the application was voted on by the Board. Mr. Buntin said that in addition Article 14 of the DeSoto County Zoning Regulations state the Board of Supervisors do not have the authority to amend the zoning without written notification by the Board and prior approval by the Planning Commission. In effect, this is what took place at the last meeting, according to Mr. Buntin. Mr. Buntin said there is case law from other states that makes the prior action of the Board null and void. Mr. Buntin said that there have been times when changes were made with the approval of the applicant, but that is not the case in this situation. Mr. Buntin cited Section 17-1-17 of the Mississippi Code, which annuls the Board's action.

Attorney Taylor Buntin, said that Chambliss Builders was not afforded due process, because they were not permitted to have a ruling on the application as presented. In addition, they were not asked through prior written notification of the changes and the DeSoto Planning Commission did not approve the changes as presented by the Board. Mr. Buntin noted several reasons he considers the Boards action inappropriate. Mr. Buntin said when an applicant provides an application, they are entitled to a decision on the application.

The DeSoto County Board of Supervisors Attorney, William Austin, said that Attorney Taylor Buntin made a good case and he agrees with many of the things said concerning Ravenwood rezoning. Mr. Austin said that the thing that bothers him most is that an application was pending and he agrees that the applicant has the right to have an application acted on as presented. Mr. Austin said that normally when applications are approved it is with a prior understanding of the applicant, but that was not the case with the application for Ravenwood. Mr. Austin said that County regulations state that if notification to zoning comes before the Board it should be sent back to the Planning Commission for consideration and recommendation back to the Board. Mr. Austin said that it is his opinion that the motion made should be annulled, as there was a lack of due process concerning the matter. The Board Attorney recommends making a motion to reconsider the application and declare the prior motion to be null and void.

Supervisor James Pearson made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to reconsider the application for Ravenwood and declare the motion made at the March 16, 1998, meeting to be null and void. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent

Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**Item F.8., Continued,**

by Engineer, Ben Smith, said that the Planning Commission recommended the plan a 10 to 2 vote and we would like to have the plan approved or we will withdraw same. Mr. Smith said he considers that to be their only 2 options.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said that his problem is that there are no people here who showed up in opposition to the plan.

Attorney Taylor Buntin announced that Chambliss Builders has withdrawn their application for Ravenwood rezoning amendment to the existing PUD.

**9. Travel - County-Wide Sewer System**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said that it is his understanding that someone will have to go back to Washington for a meeting on EPA Guidelines. The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, agreed and said there will be a pre-construction funding conference at which time Waggoner Engineering will build the County up in anticipation of a EPA Funding Grant. Mr. Reed said that they wanted to move the meeting to this Friday to accommodate staff members in Washington and Waggoner Engineering has indicated that we need to get the application in.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the County Administrator, Clovis Reed, to go to Washington to present the application for the County-Wide Sewer System to EPA. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**10. Travel - National Supervisors Convention**

Supervisor Eugene Thach said that in order to take advantage of all travel discounts, the Board should consider authorizing travel to the National Convention.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made a motion to authorize the Supervisors to travel to the National Supervisors Association Convention. Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following vote:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**11. Beaver Control**

Johnny Carter, who is the representative under the Beaver Control Contract of DeSoto County, came before the Board and announced that he has transferred to the Starkville office. Mr. Carter introduced Pat Huddleston, who will be trapping in DeSoto County. Mr. Carter said that he will be showing Mr. Huddleston through DeSoto County on this date and indicating the areas that need to be

worked. Pat Huddleston said he will make an effort to continue the work once  
**Item F.11., Continued,**

performed by Johnny Carter. He will give 100% to DeSoto County and he appreciates working with the Board.

**12. Sale of Insurance**

Life Ginger Allison of Personnel, came before the Board and said that Charles Gordon and Leslie Smith came to see her about selling insurance by Life Investors. As Life Investors has been approved to be sold to County employees, their request was approved. It turned out that they also sold Texas Life to DeSoto County employees, which is not approved to be sold to County employees.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said that Charles Gordon had contacted him and Supervisor Lewis called Ginger Allison in to talk to him.

Ms. Allison said that some employees were quoted premiums that were different than are being withheld. She has called 10 of the employees and 8 of them cancelled and 3 want to stay with the company. Supervisor Lewis pointed out that this could have been a mis-understanding rather than a mis-representation.

Ms. Allison said that from now on she will handle the request to sell differently.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the Board should be able to pick and choose who can sell insurance to County employees, as they are not a private company. Supervisor Lewis said that the Board needs to look at this problem as a whole to make sure it is being handled fairly and accurately.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve Texas Life Insurance to be sold to DeSoto County employees. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Absent  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to authorize the County Administrator to review payroll deductions for personal and private insurance. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Absent  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**13. Mississippi Vietnam Veteran's Memorial**

Jessie a The County Administrator presented a letter that had been left by Supervisor Medlin from the Mississippi Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Committee requesting donation from the Board for a Vietnam War Memorial to be erected on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. According to the letter, new legislation has been passed allowing this donation and is exhibited in Mississippi Code Section 55-15-71. The letter requests \$3,000 be donated from DeSoto County for the memorials placed

on behalf of Vietnam war veteran's in DeSoto County.

**Item F.13, Continued,**

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he got the same letter and said they were even including pictures on the memorial.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis reminded the Board that the County never did anything for DeSoto County veterans in DeSoto County, which is an item of business they have discussed many times before. Supervisor Lewis said he would be more inclined to contribute if the memorial were in Jackson rather than the Gulf Coast, or if the funds were used for a memorial in DeSoto County. All of the Board discussed the importance of recognizing the veterans and discussed their long time goal to do something of this nature in DeSoto County. The Board decided to hold this item over until all Board members were present to give their opinions on the matter.

**14. Harassment Workshop**

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, notified the Board that a Harassment Workshop led by Jane Heidelberg has been scheduled for April 2, 1998. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the County Administrator to give the Board some feedback from the meeting. Jane Heidelberg said she has planned the meeting to be casual to allow participants to more openly discuss the issues.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board also voted to have sensitivity training done. Ms. Heidelberg said that this would not be covered in this workshop.

**15. Adoption of Personnel Manual**

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to adopt the Personnel Manual for DeSoto County ad developed and presented by Jane Heidelberg. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Absent  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

**16. Memphis, MS Annexation**

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor James Pearson seconded the motion to hire Taylor Buntin to check into matter of planning and zoning, roads, garbage, and boundaries in the County's interest in the Memphis, MS annexation. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Absent  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

Supervisor James Pearson made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to adjourn until April 6, 1998, at 9:00am. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Absent  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Yes  
John Caldwell-----Absent  
Tommy Lewis-----Yes

THIS the 23rd day of March, 1998, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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TOMMY LEWIS, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors