

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

August 5, 1998

A. CALL TO ORDER

The August 5, 1998, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board President, Supervisor Tommy Lewis of the DeSoto County.

Sheriff James Albert Riley of the DeSoto County 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, Absent
- James Albert Riley-----Sheriff of DeSoto County
- Clovis Reed-----County Administrator
- Bobby Chamberlain-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by the County Administrator Clovis Reed.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission brought several items before the Board of Supervisors as is evidenced by the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission.
****SEE EXHIBIT C****

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. LEGISLATIVE WISH LIST

Supervisor Eugene Thach ask if the state was going to help with the paving of Germantown Road to the bypass, however that has not happened.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked about the Great River Roads. Supervisor John Caldwell, MDOT initiated the study. They are trying to hire Mississippi State or Ole Miss for the study. For funding purposes it did not pass through DeSoto County, but for promotional purposes DeSoto County is included. They are trying to get imput to assure not missing historical archeological sites. Supervisor Caldwell said it is a historic/tourism effort. The road follows #1 to Helena and then crosses the river. Any counties that touch the river are part of the package.

The County Administrator asked about the Railroad Overpass on Starlanding, and Supervisor John Caldwell stated this is a FYI item only, to keep the legislators up to date.

No motion was made nor vote taken on this issue.

E. NEW BUSINESS

T.L.

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1. DESOTO COUNTY MUSEUM

Mrs. Annie Ruth Brown and Bob Barber came before the Board of Supervisors to ask for a commitment from the county for the proposed DeSoto County Museum.

Mr. Barber, Chairman of the DeSoto County Museum Committee gave an update of progress on this project. Mr. Barber said Mrs. Brown and the Historical Committee are creating an Advisory Board, and this board will be divided into two (2) sub-committees in seeking funding for this project. One committee will request resources from government, while yet another committee will be requesting resources from our business community. Mr. Barber said these committees will be responsible for budgets, start up operation, and organizing approximately 175 people to obtain resources from private businesses or organizations. Mr. Barber announced August 27, 1998 to be the initial kick off of the fund raising effort, and the Goal Deadline for this fund raiser will be November 20, 1998.

Mr. Barber said a brochure will be developed to work with the promoting of the DeSoto County Museum to preserve our rich history of DeSoto County for our children, residents, and visitors to our county.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked Mr. Barber how he arrived at a figure of \$ 200,000.00 for this project. Mr. Barber responded they know they can get grants through the Department of Archives/History and other departments through the state, however, they need a commitment from the county to proceed with application for these grants. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked Mr. Barber if state funds will be available later. Mr. Barber responded, the states looks favorably on this project at this time, however, they need to see some progress before application of a grant. Supervisor Eugene Thach clarified that Mr. Barber, was not asking for the \$ 200,000.00 on the front end, and Mr. Barber responded, no.

Mr. Barber stated there goal is for each district committee to raise \$ 50,000.00 from the businesses and private sectors in the community, this would enable the committees to match dollar for dollar the county's contribution to this project.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Bob Barber when they would request the contribution of \$ 200,000.00. Bob Barber responded not until Spring of 1999, but the date has not been established. Mr. Barber said they would need the \$ 200,000.00 on the closing date of the property.

Mr. Barber stated that if the funding is not totally secure, the funding is not needed. Supervisor John Caldwell asked Mr. Barber if the contribution from the County and the Department of Archives & History would be a one (1) time contribution. Mr. Barber replied, they would not return to the Board year after year, unless it was necessary to do so, as they are wanting private funding as much as possible.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to back the proposed DeSoto County Museum effort and to match dollar for dollar the local and grant contributions up to \$ 200,000.00 for this project. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Eugene Thach clarified the committee is not asking the county to fund the entire project and that they are working with the citizens of DeSoto County to fund the museum. Bob Barber said if the people do not support the project, they have been told do not want the project to go forward.

ITEM E.1 CONTINUED,

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Supervisor John Caldwell asked if the committee would rather have a \$ 200,000.00 contribution for support up front, or if they would rather have \$ 300,000.00 for three (3) years. Supervisor Caldwell said this structure may help the budget process. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if legally we can do that. Attorney Bobby Chamberlain answered yes, but certain criteria has to be met. County Administrator Clovis Reed said that the next Board will not be bound by it.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if they will need the \$ 200,000.00 in this budget year, or if can run it into the 2000 budget. Harvey Ferguson said he thinks we could structure the payment of the property based on the commitment of the County. This would depend on negotiations with the seller or going to a lending institution based on the local commitment. Harvey Ferguson said that he agreed that they will not need the \$ 200,000.00 if they do not get the local support.

After motions, County Administrator Clovis Reed suggested clarifying the commitment to identify the Budget year this will be paid.

****SEE EXHIBIT E.1****

2. APPROVAL OF FIRE REPORT

The County Administrator presented the Fire Report to the Board of Supervisor for approval. Mr. Reed said this report is being spread on the minutes in accordance with Section 83-1-39 (6) of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the Fire Report into the minutes in accordance with Section 83-1-39 of the Mississippi Code. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

****SEE EXHIBIT E.2****

3. APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL FEES FOR ALLIED ENTERPRISES IN CONNECTION WITH ADDITIONAL ALTERNATE 1

County Administrator Clovis Reed presented an invoice from O. Marvin Johnson, Architect in the amount of \$ 13,796.25 for additional cost to add Additive Alternate 1 to the scope of the Allied Enterprises expansion project. Mr. Reed explained the increase in fees was to cover the additional office space as requested by George Patterson of Allied Enterprises. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if these additional charges would be covered from the original grant structure. Mr. Reed said they would.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion, and Supervisor Jake Pearson seconded the motion to approve the invoice for O. Marvin Johnson, Architect, in the amount of

\$ 13,796.25 and to authorize the Chancery Clerk to write the check. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

****SEE EXHIBIT E.3****

ITEM E.4 CONTINUED,

4. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE - PUBLIC HEARING FOR

T.L.

8/5/98

FY 99 BUDGET

Section 27-39-203 et seq. of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, does provide for the publication of notice to the citizens of the county for a budget hearing including budget years when the only increase in revenue is due to an overall increased assessed valuation within the county. Said county must publish any type of notice of tax increase, budget increase, or budget hearing. Further, Section 27-39-203 requires counties to hold a public hearing at which the budget for the following fiscal year will be considered, regardless of whether or not the certified tax rate is being increased. In accordance with Section 27-39-203, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the attached notice (Exhibit E.4.) to be made advertising a Notice of Tax Increase and Budget Hearing to be held at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 31, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Conference Room in the Courthouse in Hernando, Mississippi. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

****SEE EXHIBIT E.4****

5. DANIEL MURPHY - APPROVAL TO TRANSFER STATE AID FUNDS TO COMPLETE STATE AID PROJECT #SAP 1752 (CHANGE ORDER)

Daniel Murphy requested the Board of Supervisor approve a transfer of State Aid Funds in the amount of \$ 15,000.00 to complete State Aid Project #SAP 1752, the new section of Church Road.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if there is anything the Board of Supervisors can do to encourage State Aid to go on with improvements to the west. Daniel Murphy said they sent out the public notices recently. If there are enough replies, they will have a public hearing.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked about the progress on Pratt Road. Daniel Murphy said it is advertised on September 9th, as well as Bean Patch Road.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked how long are planned improvements to Pleasant Hill Road. Daniel Murphy said four (4) miles. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if there was a problem doing three (3) miles of the road if the Right Of Way was obtained and holding upon thereafter. Daniel Murphy said the should not be a problem. Daniel Murphy said at the present time State Aid is jumping through the hoops to appropriately address the wetland issue. They are still researching the project. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion for approval of transfer of funds in the amount of \$ 15,000.00 to complete State Aid Project #SAP 1752 (change order). The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

****SEE EXHIBIT E.5****

ITEM E.6, CONTINUED,

6. CENTRAL MAINTENANCE RENOVATION

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Architect Marvin Johnson and Road Manager Kenny Gunn presented to the Board of Supervisors a revision of Central Maintenance plans for renovation. Mr. Johnson said he had spoken with several contractors in regards to this project. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Johnson why this project started at \$ 200,000.00 and now has gone to \$ 430,000.00. Supervisor John Caldwell asked Mr. Johnson if this \$ 430,000.00 included architect fees and Mr. Johnson replied no, those fees are in addition to the \$ 430,000.00. Marvin Johnson said this should be worst case and it does include painting the whole building and parking.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he felt the county should erect equipment storage sheds at the present time, and later on take another look at the renovation prospect of the Central Maintenance Building.

Supervisor Lewis said the Board of Supervisors started talking about spending \$ 200,000.00. We need to store the equipment today and add to the building later. Supervisor John Caldwell said even if the price came down to \$ 200,000.00, we don't have to do it all at once. Supervisor John Caldwell asked County Administrator Clovis Reed could this project be added into a Bond Issue and the cost spread over several years. Mr. Reed said this project could be included in a bond issue with the appropriate resolutions.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to taken under advisement the renovation of the Central Maintenance Building. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis also requested Mr. Johnson and Kenny Gunn to return to the Board Meeting on August 17, 1998 with plans on one or more 40 x 50 Equipment Sheds for the county's equipment.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The "Executive Session" portion of this meeting is presented under the portion of minutes called "Executive Session"

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to recess until Monday, August 10, 1998 at 8:00 a.m.

THIS the 5th day of August, 1998, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

TOMMY LEWIS, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors