

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

October 7, 1998

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

Sheriff James Albert Riley of 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
- James Albert Riley-----Sheriff of DeSoto County
- Clovis Reed-----County Administrator, Absent
- Bill Austin-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by Chancery Clerk W. E. "Sluggo" Davis.

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. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Contract for negotiations - BFI

This item was held over until October 19th, 1998

ITEM F, CONTINUED,

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F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Advanced Travel Check - MAGPA Convention

The County Administrator's office presented a request for a advanced Travel check for the MAGPA Convention in the amount of \$ 1,242.00 for lodging in Biloxi, October 11th - 14th, 1998.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorize the Comptroller, Dale Thompson, to issue a check in the amount of \$ 1,242.00 for lodging in Biloxi, October 11th - 14th, 1998 for the MAGPA Convention. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. ****SEE EXHIBIT F.1****

2. Brannon Professionals - County Administrator

Mr. Mark Brannon of Brannon Professionals came before the Board of Supervisors with a presentation of hiring options for the County Administrator's position. Mr. Brannon said Brannon Professionals would like to be considered as a consulting service in the search for a replacement for the County Administrator's position.

Mr. Brannon said his firm can offer various methods of a selection for an applicant. Mr. Brannon said his firm can provide resumes, education, work experience, decision making, ambitions, interviews, intuition, values, attitudes, passion, and behavior information on an impending applicant. Mr. Brannon said all of the above criteria plays a major role in the selection of a replacement for the County Administrator's position.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked Mr. Brannon what cost is involved for this service. Mr. Brannon replied, a cost of \$ 150.00 per candidate would be involved. Mr. Brannon said this would include the 1st interview to establish qualifications of the applicant, skills, education, and work experience background.

Mr. Brannon recommended his firm doing a study to find cities with the growth and size of DeSoto County to establish a benchmark. Mr. Brannon said this study would give the Board of Supervisors a better idea of the ideal candidate to bring to the table. Mr. Brannon said there would be no cost involved for this study, and upon completion of this study, he would return to the Board of Supervisors with his findings.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Brannon if the Board of Supervisors authorized Brannon Professionals to search for a County Administrator, what cost would be involved. Mr. Brannon said there would be no cost involved until the Board of Supervisors selected a candidate for the position. Mr. Brannon said when the selection of the candidate was made, a one time charge of 20% of the starting annual salary would occur.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said the Board of Supervisors are reviewing applications received for the County Administrator's position at this time. Supervisor Lewis thanked Mr. Brannon for his presentation.

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3. Ms. State Tax Commission - Tax Levy

Chancery Clerk W.E. "Sluggo" Davis presented letter of certification from the Mississippi Tax Commission authorizing the county to expend the avails of the one (1) mill levy.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion, and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the certification and authorize DeSoto County to expend the avails of the one (1) mill levy under Code Section 27-39-329 (2) (b), Mississippi Code of 1972 (1990), as amended. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****SEE EXHIBIT F.3****

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

H. OTHER ISSUES

1. E-911

Director Jessie Kennedy, and Chairman Van Gates of E-911 appeared before the Board of Supervisors requesting to upgrade the E-911 system. _____

Mr. Gates said at the present time there is only one (1) tower and if that tower goes out, E-911 is dead in the water. Mr. Gates said E-911 is proposing to upgrade the system with installation of four (4) free standing short towers. Mr. Gates said the main objective is to cover the Olive Branch area.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked Mr. Gates what cities would benefit from these towers. Mr. Gates replied, Hernando and Olive Branch. Mr. Gates said this would eliminate Horn Lake having problems with the eastern part of the county.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked Mr. Kennedy if E-911 could pay for these towers. Mr. Kennedy said savings is an issue and it is possible to tie into the existing trunk lines for the upgrade, as dedicated trunks are very expensive. Supervisor Thach said the public has asked what the \$.75 cent charge is for and when will this cost go down. Supervisor Thach said DeSoto County has a higher charge than Shelby County for this service. Mr. Van Gates said DeSoto County can now afford the upgrade of the E-911 system.

Mr. Gates recommended to the Board of Supervisors a 2.9 million dollar Bond issue for the upgrade with the approval of Board Attorney, Bill Austin.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the 2.9 million dollar Bond issue for the upgrade of E-911 to include the installation of four (4) free standing short towers. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the

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motion to recess until Monday, October 19, 1998 at 9:00 a.m.

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

TOMMY LEWIS, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors

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