



**2. Traffic Light - Church Road & Getwell Road - Clarification of Board Order**

The County Administrator, W. E. "Sluggo" Davis notified the Board of Supervisors he had spoken with Mayor Greg Davis of the City of Southaven in connection with the traffic light at Church Road and Getwell Road. Mr. Davis said Mayor Davis would like an agreement with the County for the traffic light to share the cost of the installation, which he estimates at \$ 6,000.00. However, Mayor Davis said the City of Southaven planned on the installation of the traffic light regardless of funding from the County.

Mr. Davis stated the County funded \$ 1,500.00 for the cost of the blinking light and Mayor Davis was requesting funding in the amount of \$ 3,000.00 for installation of the traffic light. Mr. Davis said that Mayor Davis was satisfied with the County's contribution of \$ 1,500.00 towards the light and credit for the \$ 1,500.00 investment in the blinking light, since the City of Southaven will keep the blinking light.

**See Exhibit D.2.**

**3. Merritt Powell - MPO - Request for Support of Pedestrian Railroad Crossing**

Merritt Powell of the Planning Commission appeared before the Board of Supervisors requesting guidance in voting with the MPO in connection with support of the Pedestrian Railroad Crossing.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion, and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion authorizing Merritt Powell of the Planning Commission to vote with the Executive Staff and not to oppose the issue. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**\*\*See Exhibit D.3\*\***

**4. Kenny Gunn - Central Maintenance - Hot Mix Overlay**

Road Manager Kenny Gunn presented the Overlay Contract figures to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Mr. Gunn reminded the Board of Supervisors the line items in his budget were not cushioned.

Supervisor Eugene Thach reminded the Board the \$ 250,000.00 set aside for Church Road should not be spent. Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated County Engineer, Daniel Murphy would go out for bid in the Spring of 1999 for improvements to Hacks Cross Road, which are estimated at \$ 150,000.00.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor Jake Pearson seconded the motion, to hold \$ 250,000.00 in escrow for the Church Road Project. The **motion failed** by a vote as follows:

- Jessie Medlin-----No
- Eugene C. Thach-----Yes
- James D. Pearson-----Yes
- John Caldwell-----Absent
- Tommy Lewis----- No

**ITEM D.4, CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion to spend \$ 675,000.00 for the Overlay. The **motion failed** for lack of second.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion authorizing Road Manager Kenny Gunn to work up an overlay estimate up to \$ 500,000.00 for the FY99 budget year. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----Yes  
Eugene C. Thach-----No  
James D. Pearson-----Absent  
John Caldwell-----Yes  
Tommy Lewis----- Yes

**\*\*See Exhibit D.4\*\***

**5. Financing - Road Widener & Single Axle Truck with Dump Body**

Road Manager, Kenny Gunn and Vanessa Lynchard presented the Leasing Bid Tabulations for the Road Widener and the Single Axle Truck with a Dump Body to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Mr. Gunn said the Comptroller, Dale Thompson requested annual payments in the leasing of this equipment. Mr. Gunn said he recommended First Continental Leasing, as they were the low bidder at a interest rate of 4.31% for the Road Widener and the Single Axle Truck with a Dump Body.

At the recommendation of the Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve First Continental Leasing at an interest rate of 4.31% for the Road Widener and the Single Axle Truck with a Dump Body. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**\*\*See Exhibit D.5\*\***

**6. Civic Center - Dirt Hauling**

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn notified the Board of Supervisors the approximate cost of hauling dirt to the landfill would be \$ 45,000.00 to \$ 50,000.00.

Supervisor John Caldwell said the Civic Center needs to know if the County is interested in moving the dirt to the landfill. Supervisor Caldwell suggested using the money out of the park line item. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked Vanessa Lynchard how much is in the line item, and if any money has been used. Vanessa replied, this line item had \$ 80,000.00 appropriated and only \$ 3,500.00 has been used.

Board Attorney, William Austin asked who would be paying for the dirt after it is hauled. Supervisor John Caldwell said this Board could increase the allocation to the Civic Center to cover the cost of the dirt. Mr. Austin said legally the dirt belongs to the contractor.

**ITEM D.6, CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the Road Manager, Kenny Gunn how much damage would be done to the roads in hauling this dirt. Mr. Gunn replied, no damage should be

done. Mr. Gunn said it would be advantageous to allow the contractor to haul this dirt rather than Central Maintenance. Mr. Gunn said with Central Maintenance hauling the dirt, it would take approximately 3,000 loads versus a contractor at 1,500 loads.

Supervisor Eugene Thach recommended the Board Attorney check for any legalities. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if this dirt could possibly be used for the horse arena. Supervisor John Caldwell replied, yes.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Jake Pearson seconded the motion to notify the Civic Center that the County is interested in the hauling of the dirt, if the contractor accept it as part of the bid. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Jessie Medlin-----No  
Eugene C. Thach-----Yes  
James D. Pearson-----Absent  
John Caldwell-----Yes  
Tommy Lewis----- Yes

**\*\*See Exhibit D.6\*\***

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Jail Inspection Report**

In accordance with Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972, which states that a least annually, and as often as it may think proper, the Board of Supervisors, or a competent person authorized by the Board of Supervisors, shall examine into the state and condition of the jail, in regard to its safety, sufficiency and accommodation of the prisoners, and from time to time take such legal measures as may best tend to secure the prisoners against escape, sickness and infection, and have the jail cleansed.

Having completed such inspection Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to acknowledge the inspection of the DeSoto County jail by the Board of Supervisors as outlined in Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**\*\*See Exhibit E.1\*\***

**2. Acceptance E-911 Audit**

At the recommendation of the County Administrator, W. E. "Sluggo" Davis, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to accept the E-911 Audit as part of the minutes. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**\*\*See Exhibit E.2\*\***

**ITEM E.3, CONTINUED,**

**3. Civil Defense - Authorization to bid - Tone Alert Receivers  
(to be paid out of grant proceeds and local match)**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion, and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve to go out for bids in connection with the Tone Alert Receivers and authorize the County Administrator to open the bids. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**\*\*See Exhibit E.3\*\***

#### **4. Jim Flanagan**

##### **a. Coordinator - Census Update**

Mr. Jim Flanagan of the DeSoto Council presented Mr. Forbes Johnson as the Census Coordinator for DeSoto County.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked Mr. Johnson when he plans to begin this project. Mr. Johnson replied, he already has begun. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked Mr. Flanagan if Mr. Johnson would be the only coordinator hired. Mr. Flanagan replied, yes, as all other census takers would be on a volunteer basis.

County Administrator, W. E. "Sluggo" Davis thanked Jim Flanagan for helping in the placement of a Census Coordinator for DeSoto County.

Ellen Meacham of the DeSoto Times asked if a contract amount had been established. Mr. Flanagan replied, at this time it is an open ended contract, with an amendment to the budget for DeSoto Council, as Mr. Johnson would be compensated by the job.

Mr. Johnson requested each Supervisor recommend a representative from their district to serve on the Census project. Supervisor Tommy Lewis and Supervisor Jake Pearson requested Mr. Johnson to appoint a representative from their districts.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis inquired what if the appointee did not spend enough time on the Census project. Mr. Johnson replied, at that time a replacement for the representative would be brought before the Board for approval. Vanessa Lynchard reminded the Board that Mr. Johnson and his committee of representatives would not actually do the count. Vanessa said this committee will only make the community aware of the census takers. Mr. Johnson notified the Board of Supervisors residents will be able to mail information in for the census count.

The Board of Supervisor recommended Mr. Johnson talk to Thomas Tello about the Mexican Community.

The Board of Supervisors thanked Jim Flanagan and Forbes Johnson for the Census Update.

#### **ITEM E.4.b, CONTINUED,**

##### **b. Jackson Legislative Issues**

Mr. Jim Flanagan notified the Board of Supervisors, the Wish List was presented to the Council of Government. Mr. Flanagan said the Council of Government intention was

not to remove items from the Wish List, but they requested the list be prioritized. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said the Council of Government determined it would be better to take some items off the list, to encourage some items being passed. The Council of Government felt more could be accomplished on a shorter list.

Supervisor John Caldwell said the AG opinion states the County cannot share in the cost of a press box on school grounds or a community center and he would support that. Supervisor Eugene Thach said the School Board would have to agree with the cost share of such a project. Supervisor Eugene Thach said schools do not allow church, or civic functions to be held in their gymnasiums. Supervisor John Caldwell said he had spoken with Superintendent Jerry Baird in connection with the cost share and Mr. Baird seemed to be in favor of this project.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he was not opposed to the idea of Supervisor Caldwell, but he sees that as being a bond issue. Supervisor Jessie Medlin suggested possible joint ownership of the gymnasiums, however, schools are very protective of gymnasium use. Supervisor Eugene Thach recommended speaking with the school board. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Board Attorney, William Austin to research AG's opinion and to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked for the County to be allowed to continue to do planning for a village until growth within the village warrants otherwise.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he would like something to be done on the east side to ease the wetland mitigation. The Board of Supervisors agreed to add that to the Blue Ribbon Trip.

The Board of Supervisors discussed the need for an accurate rating system for fire protection outside municipalities.

Mr. Flanagan reminded the Board this is only a draft of the Wish List. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the Board if they wanted to strike any items from the Wish List. Supervisor Eugene Thach said the cities should address the fire insurance rating separately. Supervisor John Caldwell said if DeSoto Council understood the issues, the Council can address issues anyway possible.

No motions were made nor votes taken. **\*\*See Exhibit E.4.b\*\***

## **F. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **ITEM G., CONTINUED,**

## **F. OTHER ISSUES**

**1. Election Commission - Carl Payne**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion, and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Carl Payne of the Election Commission. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

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

**2. Joey Treadway - Tax Collector - Salaries**

The Board of Supervisors summoned the Tax Collector, Joey Treadway to appear before the Board of Supervisors to clarify salary increases given to five (5) individuals. Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated there is some confusion regarding salaries of five (5) employees for the Tax Collector’s office. Supervisor Medlin said the Board based a 5% increase for these employees prior to the increase employees received in September 1998.

Supervisor Eugene Thach thought salary increases were given based on salary at the end of the year. Supervisor John Caldwell replied, salary increases were discussed in August, and these individuals received salary increases mid September. Supervisor Caldwell stated the Board of Supervisors did not approve the salary increases given to the five (5) individuals in mid September. Supervisor Eugene Thach stated Mr. Treadway had been extended every opportunity to justify raises in September and October.

Mr. Treadway said at the end of September he increased his five (5) lowest paid employees by 5%. Mr. Treadway said with the 5% increase given in October, this would bring these individuals in line with other departments, and the employee would benefit.

Supervisor John Caldwell said he understood a situation arose between an employee in the Tax Collector’s office and a tax paying citizen. Supervisor Caldwell stated he would not give a 10% salary increase to a employee treating the public in such a manner.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis reminded Mr. Treadway that in September the Board told him he could decide which employee deserved a higher increase, however, he could not give a 7% increase across the board. Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated the Board did not know everyone on his list, and asked Mr. Treadway what he calls “new people”. Mr. Treadway replied, employees which have been with the County two (2) to three (3) years.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked Mr. Treadway what prevents this from happening again next fiscal year. Supervisor Caldwell said we spent this year keeping salaries in line, and who is to say another department could not get around this. Mr. Treadway replied, his goal is for his ladies to reach an average level of pay. Supervisor Caldwell said increase the starting pay level.

Supervisor Jake Pearson reminded Mr. Treadway if he came to the Board requesting an increase in salary, for the lower paid employees they will support it. Mr. Treadway said the 5% increases were given in September to the lowest paid employees, because he did not believe the Board would support the larger raises.

**ITEM G.2, CONTINUED,**

Mr. Treadway said he was under the impression when he gave the 7% blanket increase, the Board was aware of the 5% increase given in September. Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board asked Mr. Treadway to justify which employees needed more than a 5% increase, and he stated all the ladies were equal.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked Mr. Treadway how many employees are in the Tax Collector's department. Mr. Treadway replied, sixteen (16).

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to leave the 5% salary increases given in the month of September to certain Tax Collector employees as is, and to adjust the 7% salary increases given to all Tax Collector employees in October, 1998 through December, 1998 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999, to reflect a total 5% increase at the close of fiscal year 1999.

### **3. Sewer Study Update**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis notified the Board of Supervisors that a meeting is scheduled in Jackson, on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1999 with Jimmy Palmer to discuss the sewer study.

Supervisor Lewis said Waggoner has concerns about going to Washington during the impeachment trial. The Board agreed the meetings should not be called off since travel has already been arranged and it is non refundable.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to recess until Tuesday, January 19, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1999, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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JESSIE L. MEDLIN, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors