

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JESSIE L. MEDLIN, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

August 19, 1999

A. CALL TO ORDER

The August 19, 1999, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Jessie L. Medlin of DeSoto County.

DeSoto County Chancery Clerk W. E. "Sluggo" Davis 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:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1
- Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
- Supervisor Jimmy James-----District 3
- Supervisor John Caldwell-----District 4
- Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5
- W. E. "Sluggo" Davis-----Chancery Clerk
- David Armstrong-----County Administrator
- William Austin-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by Supervisor Eugene C. Thach.

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Budget Amendments

a. Personnel

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1998, and ending September 30, 1999. With the approval of Larry Woods, Director of Data Processing, Supervisor Jimmy James made a motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the budget amendment for Personnel as follows:

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|------------|----|
| Decrease | 001-123-550 | Legal Fees | \$ |
| | | 2,000.00 | |
| Increase | 001-123-936 | Computer | \$ |
| | | 2,000.00 | |

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

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Supervisor Jessie Medlin | YES |
| Supervisor Eugene Thach | YES |
| Supervisor Jimmy James | YES |
| Supervisor John Caldwell | YES |
| Supervisor Tommy Lewis | ABSENT |

****See Exhibit C.1.a.****

ITEM C.1.b., CONTINUED,

b. Building and Grounds

Vanessa Lynchard notified the Board of Supervisors that the budget amendment request for a computer for Kenny Evans was reviewed and approved by Larry Woods, Director of Data Processing. Ms. Lynchard explained that Kenny Evans would use the computer to track maintenance on buildings, schedule workers, and to record the inventory and the budget. She said that the cost of the computer was \$ 3,000.00 instead of \$ 2,000.00 due to additional memory capacity being needed for the computer as it is not connected to the AS400. Supervisor Jimmy James asked if an old computer was available for Kenny. Vanessa said the old computers did not have enough memory.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1998, and ending September 30, 1999. Supervisor Jimmy James made a motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the budget amendment for Building and Grounds as follows:

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|---------------------|----|
| Decrease | 001-151-570 | Insurance and Bonds | \$ |
| | | 3,000.00 | |
| Increase | 001-151-936 | Computer | \$ |
| | | 3,000.00 | |

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

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| Supervisor Jessie Medlin | YES | Supervisor Eugene Thach | YES |
| | | Supervisor Jimmy James | YES |
| | | Supervisor John Caldwell | YES |
| | | Supervisor Tommy Lewis | ABSENT |

****See Exhibit C.1.b.****

2. Approval of Change Order - Administration Building

Vanessa Lynchard presented a change order for the Administration Building. Vanessa recapped the previously approved change orders and the request for change orders to the Board of Supervisors. Vanessa said Jim Bearden, Director of Operations and Maintenance does not recommend the addition of shelving in the Tax Collector's office. Vanessa explained the circumstances of each change order request.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the change order #3 for the Administration Building without the shelving in the Tax Collector's office, and to authorize the Board President to sign Change Orders #1 and #2. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Supervisor Jessie Medlin | YES |
| Supervisor Eugene Thach | NO |
| Supervisor Jimmy James | YES |
| Supervisor John Caldwell | NO |
| Supervisor Tommy Lewis | YES |

****See Exhibit C.2.****

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Amendment - Justice Court

Vanessa Lynchard notified the Board of Supervisors that Linda Aldridge of the DeSoto County Justice Court requested a budget amendment to purchase additional phone lines for her office

ITEM D.1.,CONTINUED,

and a phone system to accommodate the lines. Vanessa said that Justice Court has a six line phone system and only two of the lines are actually used in the office. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if there was money in the Justice Court budget to cover the expense of additional phone lines. Vanessa advised that the money was available in the budget. Vanessa said that Larry Woods, Director of MIS has advised that he will need an additional phone line later this year and to get the line he can work toward cutting the access to the AS400 line in the Courthouse.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1998, and ending September 30, 1999. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to approve the budget amendment for Justice Court as follows:

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Decrease | 001-166-404 | Office Clerical | \$ 1,700.00 |
| Decrease | 001-166-575 | Jurors & Witness Fees | \$ 300.00 |
| Increase | 001-166-933 | Office Machines & Equipment | \$ 2,000.00 |

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

2. Hernando Middle School - Request for Assistance

Supervisor Tommy Lewis presented a request by the Hernando Middle School to add two stop signs at the intersections on Dilworth Lane. Supervisor Lewis also presented requests to cut weeds at the under pass, to remove a speed bump, and to move a load of dirt.

Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to grant the requests of the Hernando Middle School subject to a written request by the Board of Education. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

E. BUDGET FY 2000

County Administrator David Armstrong presented the proposed budget for FY2000. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the Budget is still balanced. David Armstrong said that at this time the budget is \$75,000 under budget. David Armstrong said that capital expenses are counted as computers and Sheriff's cars and can be funded through the State Development Bank. Mr. Armstrong said that the items have to be funded. Supervisor John Caldwell said he does not consider cars and computers capital expense, but operational expenses. Supervisor Eugene Thach said we do not need to borrow money for cars and computers. David Armstrong responded that he wished that we did not have to, but it is unavoidable. Supervisor Thach asked why the County Administrator cannot balance the budget with a 9.1% increase. Comptroller Dale Thompson said that the County has been operating at the level of revenues and she does not recommend getting cars and computers through financing.

Park Fund- County Administrator David Armstrong said that Supervisor Caldwell had suggested the Park Funds be combined into one budget for Supervisor Caldwell's Park Fund. Supervisor Caldwell responded that the park fund in the DeSoto County budget is not John's Park Fund, but the County's as a whole. The Board of Supervisors discussed whether to carry the park funds over. The Board agreed to carry the District Park Funds over in the FY2000 Budget.

Civic Center- Supervisor John Caldwell asked what is the plan to keep the Civic Center expenditures from recurring. Rex Haynes of the Convention and Visitor's Bureau said the requested budget will take the CVB to the opening of the Civic Center. Mr. Haynes said that the CVB has held off hiring an Operations & Maintenance Director and a Marketing person to help get commitments for the Civic Center. Mr. Haynes said that they have held off hiring an

ITEM E.,CONTINUED,

Assistant Manager as well. Comptroller Dale Thompson asked what will happen to the Civic Center's revenues. Rex Haynes said that the CVB will handle these revenues. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if this is going to be a recurring request and said if it is, it would help to get a three year projection. Rex Haynes and Stuart Taylor agreed.

Chancery Court- The County Administrator said that they have to make up revenues lost in the Chancery Court and to do so, they have added \$100,000 to Justice Court revenues.

Feasibility Study (Item 108-592)- The County Administrator said that \$9,817 was given to the County several years ago for a Master Plan Update and this money has never been used.

GIS- The Board of Supervisors agreed to go to the State Development Bank for GIS if it is determined GIS is needed during the FY2000 budget year.

County Administrator's Office (120)- The County Administrator reported that this budget decreased by 1%.

Accounting (121)- The County Administrator reported that this budget increased by 1%.

Purchasing (122)- The County Administrator reported that this budget increased by 11% due to an increase in computer equipment and contract printing.

Personnel- The County Administrator said that the proposed budget results in a 67% decrease from the requested budget as Ginger Allison has asked for her own department.

Board Attorney- A 5% increase was asked for this line item in the budget.

Board Appointed Attorney- This item is recommended to stay at the same level as last year.

Operations & Maintenance- The recommended budget for this department will show a 5% increase.

Building and Grounds- David Armstrong said that this increase is for three people to be added and the utilities for the new building. David Armstrong said that in addition the trucks are in bad shape in that department.

EMS/Fire- County Administrator David Armstrong said that previously EMS/Fire dispatchers have been funded out of fire millage. This year it is proposed in the new budget that the dispatchers move into a different budget category. The Board discussed that the millage due to annexation does not allow the fire department to operate adequately. EMS/Fire Director Bobby Storey came before the Board to discuss salaries for EMS dispatchers. Mr. Storey said that the cities start dispatchers at \$19,200. The Sheriff starts dispatchers at \$18,600 and Fire/EMS starts dispatchers at \$14,400. The Board of Supervisors asked the County Administrator to increase the salaries in EMS/Fire for dispatchers to match the salaries of the Sheriff's Department.

Veterans Services- The County Administrator reported a 32% decrease between the current budget and the suggested budget for FY2000.

PBX- The County Administrator recommends an 18% increase in the PBX budget. Mr. Armstrong said that this is largely due from the salary that has been built in to the PBX budget if \$11,500 for the PBX back up and Inventory Assistant.

Chancery Court- Mr. Armstrong said that this budget will receive a 3% increase in FY2000.

Circuit Clerk- The County Administrator reported a 5% decrease in this budget due to other court costs being decreased.

ITEM E.,CONTINUED,

County Agent- County Administrator reported a 6% increase in this budget.

Circuit Court Reporters- The County Administrator reported an increase in this budget of \$14,732.

Youth Court- The County Administrator reported a 5% increase in this budget.

Lunacy Court- The County Administrator reported a 51% decrease in this budget. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he had received a letter from the Association of Supervisors regarding the State's role in lunacy cases. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to send a resolution to NAS supporting asking the State to fund the beds for lunacy patients to get this responsibility and liability away from the County's where patients are being served in a jail facility rather than in a hospital.

Justice Court- County Administrator reported a 4% increase in this budget.

Coroner- The County Administrator said that he had been requested to include a Ranger in the Coroner's budget but was unable to do so. The Coroner's budget resulted in a 6% increase.

District Attorney- The County Administrator said that computers are the reason for the budget increase in the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Armstrong said that the computers must be updated in the coming budget year.

County Attorney- The County Administrator said that because the incoming County Attorney is a first year County Attorney with less experience, he decreased the salary in the budget. The Board of Supervisors instructed the County Administrator to change the salary of the County Attorney to the amount allowed by statute.

Court Appointed Public Defenders- The County Administrator said this budget had been lowered by 25%.

Public Defenders- The County Administrator said there is a 3% increase in this budget.

Victim's Witness
Coordinator-
David
Armstrong
reported an
11%
increase in
this budget
totaling
\$99,992, but
reminded the
Board that
other
Counties
contribute
\$33,000.

The County Administrator discussed the proposed budget with the Board of Supervisors. The items discussed included:

- (1) Chancery Court Administrator- the suggested budget represents a 3% increase.
- (2) Election Expense-the suggested budget represents a 12% decrease
- (3) Sheriff-the suggested budget is up 4%
- (4) Patrol Law Enforcement-the suggested budget represents a 2% increase
- (5) Cost of Prisoners in Jail- the suggested budget represents a 7% increase
- (6) Prisoners Medical Costs- the suggested budget represents a 1% decrease
- (7) Juvenile- the suggested budget represents a 6% increase
- (8) EMS-the budget increased \$138,000 to accomplish raises for dispatchers
- (9) EMS/Rescue- the suggested budget represents a 10% decrease
- (10) Civil Defense-the suggested budget represents a 3% increase
- (11) Armory- the recommended budget is the same as last year
- (12) Constables- the suggested budget represents a 5% decrease
- (13) Port Commission-the suggested budget represents a 4% decrease
- (14) Disease Control- the suggested budget represents a \$100 decrease from last year
- (15) Animal Control-the Board of Supervisors discussed the truck used by the animal control officer and because of the cost of repairs during the previous year, the Board instructed the County Administrator to add a vehicle in the budget of the Animal Control Officer.
- (16) Mental Health-The suggested budget represents a 2% increase
- (17) Other Health- the County Administrator said this budget was cut \$1,200
- (18) Public Health-the suggested budget represents a 2% increase. The Board of Supervisors instructed the County Administrator to find out if this will take care of the clerical person requested in that department and to ask the Director of the State to look at the Health Department funding in DeSoto County as according to the DeSoto County Office, it is constantly underfunded.
- (19) Economic Assistance-the budget is \$24,450. The Board of Supervisors said they got a letter about a grant for funding to reduce pregnancies and asked the County Administrator to look into it.
- (20) Assistance to Paupers-the suggested budget for this department is \$1,500.
- (21) Literacy-the County Administrator said that he had taken out \$1,000 from this budget. Supervisor Thach said that they are getting money back from United Way now. Supervisor John Caldwell said if the Literacy Council is operating efficiently why should the County cut it back at the expense of teaching people to read and write. After discussion, the Board of Supervisors asked the County Administrator to add \$1,000 back in the Literacy Council budget.
- (22) DHS/Child Support-The Board discussed the rental agreement in DHS/Child Support. The County Administrator said that the rental agreement was not figured in the budget. The Board Attorney said he was waiting to hear from DHS on the rental agreement at this time.
- (23) Family & Children Services-the Comptroller Dale Thompson, notified the Board of Supervisors that Family & Children Services use line item 456-440 for budget amendments. She and the County Administrator recommend cutting this item out of the budget.
- (24) Mid-State Opportunity-the Board of Supervisors instructed the County Administrator to add \$8,000 into this budget
- (25) DeSoto Sunrise-this budget will remain the same as last year
- (26) Domestic Violence-the suggested budget represents a 5% increase
- (27) Recreational District- Supervisor John Caldwell said demands are getting higher for Parks in the county and they need a county wide park effort. Supervisor Caldwell said that we need to decide how the Board wants to proceed to address park needs in the County. Supervisor Caldwell said that the Board may want to fund parks as a department. The Board discussed the park issue. Supervisor Caldwell informed the Board that at the present time, on rainy days, the children in schools watch videos rather than participating in Recreation because there is no gym type facility for them to use. The County Administrator asked if it is feasible to address this need during the FY2000 budget year. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said it may be possible to add funding to the cities to help with their part. Supervisor Thach said that the citizens of the City of Southaven are fed up with paying for parks. The Board Attorney Bill Austin said that the Board could elect to develop a master plan for parks and call for a bond issue with a referendum. The Board discussed this option. The Board asked the County Administrator to increase line item 520-913 to \$50,000 for the

Starlanding Park. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the County Administrator to get a map to The Board showing the County wide parks. The Board discussed that at one time Leadership had developed a County wide map and that may be a good place to start. The Board decided to carry over the funds left in each district's park fund to the FY2000 budget and add that amount to the district's allocations.

(28) Child Development-this budget will remain the same as last year

(29) Soil and Water-this budget is \$53,200

(30) Extension Service- the proposed budget represents a 3% increase in this line item

(31) 4-H-the suggested budget is equal to last year

(32) DeSoto Council- there is an increase in the budget because this is their year to host the Legislative Reception

(33) North Delta-the suggested budget is equal to that of last year

(34) Advertise County Resources-the County Administrator said that he cut this budget from \$16,000 to \$12,000. The Board instructed the County Administrator to replace the \$16,000 in this budget.

(35) Building Improvements-The Board discussed this portion of the budget and instructed

ITEM E.,CONTINUED,

the County Administrator to budget \$100,000 for the engineering phase of the Jail.

(36) Jail Mechanical-the County Administrator said that Jim Bearden recommends carrying over the balance of \$250,656 to complete the jail renovation.

(37) Building and Grounds-Jim Bearden, Director of Operations & Maintenance, addressed the Board of Supervisors on budgets for departments 150 and 151. Jim Bearden said that Building and Grounds has four vehicles but they are not reliable enough to go to Memphis.their milage ranges from 138,000 to 300,000 per vehicle. Mr. Bearden said that four additional personnel must be added to maintain the Administration Building.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

E. OTHER ISSUES

1. Workforce Investment Act - Vivian Berryhill

Vivian Berryhill a member of the Governor's State Workforce Initiative Board, appeared before the Board of Supervisors about the Workforce Investment Act. Ms. Berryhill told the Board of Supervisors that she attended a Workforce Board meeting in Jackson on Tuesday, August 17, 1999 regarding the Workforce Investment Act. She informed the Board that the Governor had designated five service delivery areas with DeSoto County being placed in the fourth service delivery area.

Ms. Berryhill said that each service delivery area, regardless of how many counties are in it, will get approximately the same amount of funds. She expressed concern over the possibility of DeSoto County not getting the needed funds if the county belonged to a service delivery area with more counties.

Another concern of Ms. Berryhill was the possibility of losing Employment Services if Northwest Community College was chosen as the one-stop agency. She said that the loss of Employment Services could have an adverse effect on DeSoto County because individuals seeking employment and training with little education may not want to go to a community college for assistance.

Ms Berryhill said that the date to request a service delivery area had changed again from

October 15, 1999 to September 15, 1999. She recommended that the Board of Supervisors send a resolution to the Governor requesting that DeSoto County be placed in the third service delivery area by September 7, 1999 to ensure that the request is received before the deadline.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to recess until Wednesday, August 25, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by vote as follows:

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-----|
| Medlin | Supervisor Jessie YES | |
| Thach | Supervisor Eugene YES | |
| James | Supervisor Jimmy YES | |
| Caldwell | Supervisor John ABSENT | |
| | Supervisor Tommy Lewis | YES |

THIS the 19th day of August, 1999, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Jessie L. Medlin, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors