

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

EUGENE C. THACH, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

August 14, 2000

A. CALL TO ORDER

The August 14, 2000, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Eugene C. Thach of DeSoto County.

Sheriff James A. Riley, 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:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1
- Supervisor Eugene C. Thach----- District 2
- Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----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 John Caldwell.

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Planning Commission - Campbell - 3 lots of 1.0, 2.1, and 3.6 acres from 7+ acres

Planning Director, Merritt Powell, advised the Board of Supervisors that Ruth Campbell is requesting a modification of three lots on her property. Supervisor John Caldwell said he spoke with Ruth Campbell and based on the advice of Board Attorney Bill Austin, he recommends that the subdivision be approved subject to the acquisition of the right of way and that the County proceed with the appraisal procedure.

Ruth Campbell informed the Board that this will not be a subdivision. Ms. Campbell said that the land has been in her family for over 100 years and her husband wanted the land to go to her children. Ms. Campbell further stated that the lots will not be sold but deeded to her children. Kathleen Raby, Ruth Campbell's daughter, said she is in the process of securing the loan to build her house and cannot proceed until the Board approves the lots.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis suggested waiving the right of way procedure and getting a working easement and acquiring the right of way in the future when the road is expanded. Supervisor John Caldwell agreed with Supervisor Lewis and said that by acquiring an easement, the Board can approve the lots. Ruth Campbell said she will not give an easement or donate the right of way.

ITEM C.1, CONTINUED,

Supervisor Caldwell said to proceed with eminent domain and pay the appraised value for the

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right of way. Supervisor Caldwell said his intent was to speed up the process so as not to delay Ms. Raby's house plans.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the division of the property subject to acquiring the right of way. The **motion failed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----NO
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----ABSENT
Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----NO
Supervisor John Caldwell-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

Kathleen Raby said she would not have gotten her house plans and applied for a loan if she had known that there was going to be a problem with the division of lots. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said that the Board is handling this matter as it does all other requests for subdivisions and others who have gotten building permits. Supervisor John Caldwell said that the house can always be built in Ruth Campbell's name. Merritt Powell said in Agricultural zones, an owner can build more than one house as long as the houses are in the same name.

Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the subdivision of lots three and four on Ruth Campbell's property. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----YES
Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----YES
Supervisor John Caldwell-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Accepting Donation to the Park Fund from Fairview Ball Field

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to receive and accept the donation to the Park Fund in the amount of \$200.00 from Fairview Ball Field. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.1****

2. Travel Reimbursement - Youth Court

County Administrator David Armstrong informed the Board of Supervisors that Judge Mills Barbee is requesting that the Board approve a late bill for travel reimbursement. Supervisor Eugene Thach cautioned that the State Auditor does not want the Board to approve bills in between the claims docket. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a late bill for travel reimbursement to Youth Court Judge Mills Barbee in the amount of \$170.76 and authorized the Clerk to write the check. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.2****

3. Budget Amendments

a. Extension Service

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the **ITEM D.3.a, CONTINUED,**

Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for the

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Extension Service under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Increase	001-631-440	Part Time Salary	\$ 4,221.00
Decrease	001-631-401	Administrative Salary	\$ 4,221.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.a****

b. Property/Liability Insurance Fund

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for property and liability insurance fund under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Board of Sup

Decrease	007-200-590	Sheriff Department Claims	\$ 1,479.00
Increase	007-300-590	Central Maintenance Claims	\$ 1,479.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.b****

c. District 1 Park (2)

d. District 3 Park

e. District 4 Park

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve budget amendments under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

District 1 Park

Increase	001-521-510	Utilities	\$ 2,000.00
Decrease	001-521-913	Other Construction	\$ 2,000.00
Increase	001-521-913	Other Construction	\$ 200.00
Increase	001-000-344	Gifts/Donations	\$ 200.00

District 3 Park

Increase	001-523-510	Utilities	\$ 2,200.00
Increase	001-523-581	Other Contractual Services	\$ 884.00
Decrease	001-523-913	Other Improvements	\$ 3,084.00

District 4 Park

Increase	001-524-510	Utilities	\$ 3,070.00
Decrease	001-524-913	Other Construction	\$ 3,070.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.c.d.e****

ITEM D.3.f, CONTINUED,

f. Constables

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for the

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Constables under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Increase	001-262-463	Constable Fees	\$13,045.00
Increase	001-262-570	Surety Bonds	\$ 858.00
Increase	001-262-571	Dues	\$ 50.00
Increase	001-262-587	Training & Registration	\$ 25.00
Increase	001-262-691	Uniforms	\$ 300.00
Increase	001-000-225	Constable Fees	\$14,278.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.f****

g. Purchasing

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for Purchasing under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Increase	001-122-934	Office Furniture & Fixtures	\$ 100.00
Decrease	001-122-936	Computers	\$ 100.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.g****

h. Accounting/Personnel (2)

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for Accounting/Personnel under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Increase	001-121-521	Legal Advertising	\$ 200.00
Increase	001-121-534	Office Machine Rental	\$ 375.00
Increase	001-121-603	Office Supplies	\$ 350.00
Increase	001-121-477	Travel in County	\$ 26.00
Increase	001-121-401	Comptroller	\$7,795.00
Decrease	001-121-936	Computer Equipment	\$3,374.00
Decrease	001-121-934	Office Furniture	\$ 114.00
Decrease	001-121-602	Duplication Supplies	\$ 400.00
Decrease	001-121-572	On Line Services	\$ 180.00
Decrease	001-121-571	Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 150.00
Decrease	001-121-553	Other Fees	\$1,300.00
Decrease	001-121-544	Maintenance Contract	\$ 300.00
Decrease	001-121-543	Repairs Office Machine	\$ 100.00

ITEM D.3.h, CONTINUED,

Decrease	001-121-502	Phone	\$ 500.00
Decrease	001-121-404	Office/Clerical	\$1,128.00
Decrease	001-123-936	Computer Equipment	\$1,200.00

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.h****

i. Youth Court Victims Witness

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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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for the Youth Court Victims Witness under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Decrease	001-175-934	Office Furniture & Fixtures	\$ 250.00
Decrease	001-175-933	Office Machines	\$ 75.00
Decrease	001-175-501	Postage	\$ 175.00
Decrease	001-175-502	Telephone	\$ 45.00
Increase	001-175-936	Computer Equipment	\$ 545.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.i****

j. Board of Supervisors

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for the Board of Supervisors under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Increase	001-100-476	Meals/Lodging Out of County	\$ 1,200.00
Increase	001-100-521	Legal Advertising	\$ 100.00
Increase	001-100-523	Contract Printing	\$ 20.00
Decrease	001-100-554	Consultant Fees	\$ 1,020.00
Decrease	001-100-933	Office Equipment	\$ 300.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.j****

k. Sheriff's Department

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, 1999, and ending September 30, 2000. Supervisor Gerald Clifton made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as follows:

Decrease	001-201-501	Postage	\$ 196.00
Increase	001-201-502	Phone (Beepers)	\$ 116.00
Decrease	001-201-545	Other Repairs	\$ 367.00
Decrease	001-201-552	Medical Fees	\$ 25.00
Decrease	001-201-613	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$ 268.00

ITEM D.3.k, CONTINUED,

Decrease	001-201-677	Aviation Fuel	\$ 218.00
Increase	001-201-682	Equipment Repairs	\$1,018.00
Decrease	001-201-935	Other Machines & Equipment	\$ 60.00

The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.3.k****

4. Authorization to Open Bids for Nesbit Fire Truck - August 30, 2000

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to authorize the County Administrator or his representative to open bids for Bid File

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Number 00-251-003, one new tanker for the Nesbit Volunteer Fire Department, on August 30, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.4****

5. Approval of Sole Source - Derby Mfg. for Mattresses for the Jail

County Administrator David Armstrong notified the Board of Supervisors that the Sheriff's Department is requesting approval to declare Derby Manufacturing as a sole source for seamless mattresses for the jail. Mr. Armstrong said that Vanessa Lynchard has researched the mattresses and also called the State Audit Department to make sure it is okay to declare Derby Manufacturing as a sole source. Vanessa Lynchard said that she has also spoken to Board Attorney Bill Austin about the mattresses and Don Buffam of the State Audit Department advised that the mattresses can be purchased on a research basis since this type of seamless mattress is a new technology and because the life of 25 of the 35 mattresses purchased in May has expired. The Sheriff's Department expects these mattresses to last longer.

Supervisor Gerald Clifton made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the purchase of 100 Derby sealed seam correctional mattresses at a cost of \$86.95 each and to approve Derby Manufacturing as a sole source for sealed seam correctional mattresses. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.5****

6. Smoking in County Buildings

County Administrator David Armstrong informed the Board of Supervisors that due to questions regarding the smoking policy in various County buildings he recommends that all County buildings be designated as smoke free with no designated smoking areas inside the buildings.

In accordance with Section 19-3-41 of the Mississippi Code, which authorizes the Board of Supervisors of a County to maintain a County Courthouse and Section 19-7-1, which authorizes the Board of Supervisors to acquire and maintain real estate for the County, Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to prohibit smoking in all County buildings with no designated smoking areas. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

7. Authorization for Waggoner to Proceed with Digitized Mapping

County Administrator David Armstrong informed the Board of Supervisors that Joe Waggoner requested authorization to proceed with the digitized mapping as budgeted in the 1999-2000 EPA grant application. Mr. Armstrong said that the Board can proceed with the digitized mapping with the verbal approval from the EPA.

Board Attorney Bill Austin suggested working on legislation to amend the law to allow Counties already digitized to fly only high growth areas or impact areas. Supervisor John Caldwell asked that this item be added to the Legislative Wish List.

ITEM D.7, CONTINUED,

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked what steps have to be taken before the mapping goes to the Tax Assessor's office. Vanessa Lynchard said that before entering the information onto a disc, the lots and parcels have to be added. Supervisor John Caldwell said that is just the software and that the hardware and manpower has to be paid.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to proceed with the digitized mapping with the verbal agreement of the EPA as budgeted in the 1999 EPA Grant application with the scope of work as formally approved in Amendment #2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Waggoner Engineering and made a part of the minutes on May 22, 2000 and with the funding of the scope of work as formally approved in Amendment #3 to the Professional Services Agreement with Waggoner Engineering on May 22, 2000. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

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8. Making Fully Executed Agreement with Duke Energy for Fee in Lieu of Tax a Part of Minutes

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to make the fully executed agreement with Duke Energy for Fee in Lieu of Tax a part of the minutes. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.8****

A. BUDGET 2001

County Administrator David Armstrong notified the Board of Supervisors that approval was needed to advertise for a public hearing on September 5, 2000 on the 2001 Budget. Mr. Armstrong said that the notice will be published on August 21, 2000 and on August 28, 2000. Mr. Armstrong further stated that the budget has to be approved by September 15, 2000 and the millage set by September 15, 2000. Supervisor Gerald Clifton made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the County Administrator to advertise for a public hearing on the 2001 Budget on Tuesday, September 5, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

The Board of Supervisors began reviewing the preliminary budget with the General Fund as follows:

001-(General Fund)

County Administrator David Armstrong said that the millage value on the levy sheet is conservative at 625,000 and that he is going to meet with Bill Bryant to get a more accurate value. Mr. Armstrong said the homestead reimbursement for 2001 is estimated to be \$1,325,000.00. The Board asked that homestead reimbursement be added to the Legislative Wish List.

Justice Court

Supervisor Eugene Thach questioned the lower fees and fines in the Justice Court Budget.

Civic Center

County Administrator David Armstrong said the preliminary budget does not include a reimbursement from the Civic Center.

Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors instructed County Administrator David Armstrong to move Supervisor John Caldwell's travel reimbursement from the Road budget to the BOS budget.

The Board of Supervisors questioned the addition of an Administrative Assistant.

ITEM E, CONTINUED,

Mr. Armstrong said that the person would assist both the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator's office. Supervisor Eugene Thach said that the position is not necessary because the Board already has a secretary. Supervisor John Caldwell said that he has mixed feelings about the necessity of the position and said that a salary of \$24,000.00 is too much for that position.

The Board of Supervisors also questioned their travel budget. Mr. Armstrong said that funds were added Regional Utility Authority budget for the sewer trips.

Chancery Clerk

The Board directed Mr. Armstrong to change the Chancery budget for records preservation to \$6,000, and to revise social security and retirement accordingly. Also, the Board directed Mr. Armstrong to revise the Chancery budget to reflect 6 land record employees and 3 court records employees.

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Tax Assessor

The Tax Assessor's budget reflects moving a part time person to a full time person.

Supervisor Eugene Thach, Supervisor John Caldwell, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin directed that the Tax Assessor and the Tax Collector's budget be revised, where necessary, to keep the salary at the FY2000 level, whereby they receive \$10,000 each for city tax collections.

County Insurance

Mr. Armstrong advised the Board that the County insurance budget increased due to the liability insurance and the addition of \$2,000 for employee flu shots.

Redistricting

The Board directed Mr. Armstrong to add \$20,000 to line item 000-108-554 for redistricting.

GIS

Mr. Armstrong informed the Board that a GIS department was added to the budget. Supervisor John Caldwell questioned the salary of the GIS technician. Supervisor Jessie Medlin requested a total cost of computer equipment in the FY01 budget.

Regional Utility Authority

The Board directed Mr. Armstrong to add the salary increase for the Regional Utility Authority duties to the County Administrator's budget.

County Administrator

Mr. Armstrong said a full time grant writer at a salary of \$30,000.00 is added to the County Administrator's budget. Supervisor Eugene Thach said he is not in favor of adding a grant writer or an administrative assistant to the budget.

Accounting/Personnel

The Accounting and Personnel budgets are combined in the FY01 budget. Accounting recommends more training for the employees.

Risk Management

Mr. Armstrong said that a Risk Management position was added at a salary of \$45,000.00. The Board discussed the Risk Management position and no clear action was taken.

Operations and Maintenance

Jim Bearden, Director of Operations and Maintenance, advised the Board if a roof goes bad, he will have to ask the Board for a budget amendment from the General County fund. Mr.

ITEM E, CONTINUED,

Bearden said there are 42 buildings and 138 air condition and heating units. Mr. Bearden further stated that the budget has gone from \$47,000 two years ago to \$15,000 and that can be used early in the budget year and he may also have to ask for a General County budget amendment, if needed. The Board of Supervisors gave Mr. Bearden the authority to issue an emergency purchase order if funds are not available to repair a heating or air condition unit until an amendment can be done at the next Board meeting.

The Board asked Mr. Bearden to replace the Christmas lights on the courthouse and to coordinate the lights with the City of Hernando or Chamber of Commerce. The Board instructed Mr. Armstrong to add \$3,000 plus the cost of lights to 001-151-906.

County Engineer

Mr. Armstrong advised that \$75,000.00 is in the County Engineer's budget for a full-time County Engineer. The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to step up the efforts to hire a County Engineer.

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Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to recess from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

Civil Defense

Mr. Armstrong notified the Board that the City of Olive Branch will not participate in the Cities share to Civil Defense, line item 001-000-301, unless an interlocal agreement is drawn up.

Supervisor Eugene Thach requested that agreements also be drawn up with the DeSoto Sunrise and the DeSoto Council.

Chancery Court

Mr. Armstrong informed the Board that he will get with Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis to discuss the division of court and land records.

Youth Court

Mr. Armstrong explained the Youth Court prosecutor's salary increase.

Lunacy Court

The Board instructed Mr. Armstrong to increase the Lunacy budget by \$9,750.

Justice Court

Mr. Armstrong presented a list of requests from the Justice Court Judges. Mr. Armstrong said that he will discuss the requests with Linda Aldridge and the Justice Court Judges and bring a recommendation back to the Board.

County Coroner

Mr. Armstrong said the increase in the Coroner's budget is due mostly to increased autopsy fees.

Public Defenders

Mr. Armstrong said Circuit Judge Andrew Baker and County Judge Mills Barbee requested a meeting with the Board to discuss a salary increase for the public defenders.

Victims Witness Coordinator

Mr. Armstrong said the District Attorney's victim's witness coordinator's salary is set by the judge and a 10% increase was requested. The Board instructed Mr. Armstrong to see if an increase of 5% is agreeable. The Board was advised that DeSoto County will likely pay 40% of

ITEM E, CONTINUED,

the district fees.

Sheriff's Department

Supervisor John Caldwell recommended that a 5% increase plus an additional \$1,000.00 be added to the salaries of the 58 patrolmen. The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to double check the figures in department 220.

Road Department

The Board was advised that the Road Budget will have \$4,000,000 left in the budget this year.

Port Commission

Mr. Armstrong said the Port Commission was lowered because the County does not spend funds out of that budget very often.

Regional Mental Health

The Board instructed Mr. Armstrong to find out what Communicare does for the County.

Economic Assistance

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Mr. Armstrong advised the Board that the State has eliminated paying postage for the Department of Human Services. The Board requested that funding of State Agencies be added to the Legislative Wish List.

DeSoto Sunrise

Mr. Armstrong said that \$150,000 is in the budget for DeSoto Sunrise. Supervisor Jessie Medlin recommended \$175,000 for DeSoto Sunrise. Supervisor John Caldwell and Supervisor Eugene Thach agreed with \$175,000 as long as there is a contract with DeSoto Sunrise for the emergency shelter.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the Austin Law Firm to draw up a contract between DeSoto County and DeSoto Sunrise for use of the emergency shelter. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES
- Supervisor Eugene Thach-----YES
- Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----ABSENT
- Supervisor John Caldwell-----YES
- Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----ABSENT

Emergency Relief

The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to cut funding for the House of Grace to \$5,000 and Domestic Violence to \$1,300, as requested.

Parks

The Board discussed funding the Parks and Recreation through the Operations and Maintenance or Building & Grounds budgets. Supervisor Jessie Medlin requested a list of the County parks.

The Board agreed to carry over the balance of the District Park Fund budgets.

Civic Center

The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to get with Civic Center Director, Stuart Taylor, to discuss salary increases in the Civic Center. Mr. Armstrong reported a \$5,000 increase in the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau budget for the Civic Center grand opening.

Library

Mr. Armstrong reported that Jim Anderson, Director of the First Regional Library, wants to discuss his budget requests with the Board.

ITEM E, CONTINUED,

Museum

Mr. Armstrong informed the Board that the museum has requested assistance to get the museum started. Supervisor John Caldwell said that they are going to have to get the museum open. The Board requested a report on the progress of the museum.

DeSoto Council

The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to talk to Jim Flanagan to discuss the needs of DeSoto Council, including a box at the Civic Center. The Board was not supportive of meal reimbursements for the County Administrator’s office. No action was taken on this item.

Building Improvements

Mr. Armstrong said an expense for the rental of the Commerce Street property was added to the budget. Mr. Armstrong said \$175,000.00 was budgeted for the acquisition of land for the Love Fire station and \$125,000.00 was added for the Miller Fire Station/Voting Precinct. The Board asked Mr. Armstrong to include the addition of an ambulance bay in Eudora.

State Development Bank

Mr. Armstrong said the total payment of \$452,500 to the State Development Bank was added

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to the FY01 budget.

Mr. Armstrong estimated the contingency to be at approximately \$7.8 million at the end of the fiscal year.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

G. OTHER ISSUES

1. Centralized Dispatch

Supervisor Eugene Thach informed the Board of Supervisors that the Centralized Dispatch Committee met last Thursday for two hours and if the Board feels the committee is not necessary to implement the Centralized Dispatch, then let the committee know before it meets again. Supervisor John Caldwell said it is too premature to make any decisions about the Centralized Dispatch. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said that a decision cannot be made without figures and if the Centralized Dispatch won’t save money then why change from the current dispatch system. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he would also like to see figures before making a decision. Supervisor Thach said that based on the Greenville, MS Centralized Dispatch System, 911 can be an own entity if there is a centralized dispatch and the system would come under the 911 system and not be the Sheriff’s Department versus the Fire Departments. Supervisor Thach continued that if the County does not want to go to a Centralized Dispatch System, then the Board needs to make that decision.

Supervisor John Caldwell agreed with Supervisor Lewis in that the County is already receiving a good service, however, what is driving a rush decision about the Centralized Dispatch is the jail expansion because the EMS office will be knocked down during the expansion.

Sheriff James A. Riley said he would support the Centralized Dispatch if the Cities were willing to participate today. Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Cities do not want to join until they see how the system is going to work. Sheriff Riley said there is no way to see how the system will work unless the Cities participate. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if any of the Cities were represented at the meeting last Thursday. Supervisor Thach said none of the Cities have

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representatives on the committee. Supervisor Caldwell said the Cities should be involved in the preliminary meetings to see if any of the Cities are interested in participating. Supervisor Tommy Lewis suggested that the Centralized Dispatch System be discussed at the next Council of Governments meeting. No motions were made nor votes taken on this issue.

2. Chief Justice Lenore Prather

Mr. Charlie Williams introduced Chief Justice Lenore Prather of the Mississippi Supreme Court to the Board of Supervisors. Chief Justice Prather thanked the Board of Supervisors for their work and the great progress of DeSoto County and asked the Board for their support during her campaign for re-election to the Mississippi Supreme Court.

3. DeSoto County Liability Insurance

Vanessa Lynchard advised the Board of Supervisors that there is no deductible for liability to other people’s property but there is a deductible of \$1,000.00 for County property. Vanessa said there is a \$5,000.00 deductible per claim on public official claims such as EEOC but the liability insurance covers all legal fees in those cases.

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Supervisor John Caldwell asked what the deductible is for a building that has burned. Vanessa Lynchard said she thinks it is \$25,000.00 but is not certain.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if it is feasible for the Supervisors to have liability insurance. County Administrator David Armstrong said that is one area they will look at next year when reviewing proposals for liability insurance.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to recess until August 17, 2000 at 8:30 a.m. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----YES
Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----ABSENT
Supervisor John Caldwell-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----ABSENT

THIS the 14th day of August, 2000, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

EUGENE C. THACH, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors