

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**EUGENE C. THACH, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING**

**October 11, 2000**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The October 11, 2000, Special Sessions meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Eugene C. Thach of DeSoto County.

In accordance with Section 19-3-19 of the Mississippi Code regarding the Power to call Special Meetings, which states in case of emergency arising as a result of serious damage to county property, or to roads or bridges or as a result of epidemic, or where immediate action is required for the repair or reconstruction of county roads or bridges, special meetings of the Board of Supervisors may be called, as provided herein, for the purpose of considering such emergency matters and taking appropriate action with reference thereto, upon twenty-four hours= notice given to each member of the board of supervisors in person, or by leaving a copy thereof at his usual place of residence, the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors called a meeting to discuss the damage caused to a one lane railroad overpass at Starlanding Road.

Commander John Magness of the Sheriffs= Department for DeSoto County was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a special session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1- ABSENT  
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2  
Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----District 3  
Supervisor John Caldwell-----District 4  
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5  
W. E. ASluggo@ Davis-----Chancery Clerk  
David Armstrong-----County Administrator  
William Austin-----Board Attorney  
Commander John Magness-----Sheriffs Department

**B. INVOCATION**

The invocation was presented by Board of Supervisors President Eugene Thach.

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Damage to Underpass on Starlanding Road

Board Attorney Bill Austin said that the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors called this meeting to discuss the damage caused by a semi truck hitting the bridge at a one lane railroad overpass at Starlanding Road. The incident happened approximately at 7 P. M. on Friday evening October 6, 2000. Mr. Austin stated that he has taken pictures that show the damage inflicted to the railroad underpass at Starlanding Road. Supervisor John Caldwell stated that Starlanding Road is a major east and west road and with the future plans for the Interstate 55 Interchange, the Board of Supervisors course of action as to how to handle the repair to this railroad underpass is of upmost attention. Mr. Austin stated that the I C Railroad Authority can file claim against the truck driver, the trucking firm, and the insurance company, but that they may not expand the underpass unless the County and State help with the cost. Supervisor Caldwell stated that the Railroad Authority advised him that they have thirty days to

make repair to the underpass on Starlanding Road. Mr. Caldwell said that timbers are being used to support the railroad so that the trains are able to use the tracks, but the road has been blocked off. This underpass was a one lane road under the railroad, and Mr. Caldwell would like to see the Railroad Authority use the money for repair to be in line with the County and State=s plans for the widening of Starlanding Road for the Interstate 55 Interchange.

Supervisor Eugene Thach suggested the Board of Supervisors= pass a resolution asking the Railroad Authority to allow the County and State to help repair the underpass. County Administrator David Armstrong said a transportation bill from Senator Cockran=s office has funds available that have not been appropriated by the State and suggested the Board of Supervisors send a resolution to MDOT for the funds to be allocated to DeSoto County to be used along with the Railroads funds to repair the Starlanding Railroad underpass that will meet with the future plans for the interchange. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to send a Resolution to the Railroad Authority Commission and to copy each Mississippi State Highway Commissioner, Senator Trent Lott, Senator Thad Cockran, Representative Roger Wicker and Governor Ronnie Musgrove, requesting the railroad work with the County and State to accomplish improvements to the Starlanding Road railroad overpass to provide a multi-lane/ five-lane overpass. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion, that authorized travel for all persons necessary on behalf of the County and the Engineering Firm of Engineering Associates, Inc. to meet with representative of the railroad to present the Starlanding Road Plans required for the future Interstate 55 Interchange and to work with the railroad to improve the roadway. The motion passed by a vote as follows

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

Supervisor Gerald Clifton asked that Road Manager Kenny Gunn set up detour signs for traffic, since the sub-structure of the Road is beyond repair at this time.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked County Attorney Bill Austin to contact Senator Lott=s office that the Resolutions are being sent, and to contact the Railroad Authorities and MDOT in Jackson with copies of the Resolution. Mr. Austin stated that the Resolution is being worked on at this time and would be mailed out before the end of day.

Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to recess until October 16, 2000 at 9:00 A.M. The vote passed by a vote as follows:

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

THIS the 11th day of October 2000, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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Eugene C. Thach, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors