

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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

**November 8, 2000**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The November 8, 2000, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Eugene C. Thach of DeSoto County.

Commander John Magness of the DeSoto County Sheriffs Department, 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---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

**B. INVOCATION**

The invocation was presented by Supervisor Tommy Lewis

**C. PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission brought several items before the Board of Supervisors as evidenced by the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission. **\*\*See Exhibit C\*\***

**D. OLD BUSINESS**

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. \$18,00,000 Bond Issue - Cost of Issuance**

Financial Advisor Demery Grubbs reminded the Board of Supervisors that they had earlier gone through a list of County needs to determine the list of items that need to begin in FY01. The Board voted to issue \$18,000,000.00 in bonds. Mr. Grubbs said he came to the Board and explained that due to new legislation, the County is now able to run this debt through the State Development Bank. To do so may save the County over \$2,000,000.00 in interest. The County actually signed two sets of documents - general obligation bond documents and variable rate documents. By going through the State Development Bank, your Aup front@ money is more, but the County will make that up the first year.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked how that happens. Demery Grubbs responded that is done through the bank level. Because it is a variable rate, we couldn=t afford to take bids. We took quotes and they came in at 5.67%. Then we slashed the fixed rate to a variable rate that floats a little each month. This will save you an estimated \$2.7 million dollars. At any time the County chooses you can lock in the rate and go back to a fixed rate. Supervisor John Caldwell asked how much that will cost? Demery Grubbs said it will not cost the County anything.

County Administrator David Armstrong asked Demery Grubbs to forward that information to Moody=s and Standard & Poors. Demery Grubs said they will receive that information in the audit report.

**ITEM E.1, CONTINUED,**

Demery Grubbs said the cost of issuance is well within reason for the issue. Mr. Grubbs said the cost of issuance will be back in the program in six to eight months.

**2. Approval to Accept Other Than the Lowest Quote for Circuit Court Reporter Equipment with Stenograph**

County Administrator David Armstrong stated that Circuit Court Judge George Ready asked for bids to purchase new Stenograph software for court reporting. Mr. Armstrong stated that after receiving bids for the Pro Cat Court Reporting software for \$3,750.00 and the Case CATalyst Court Reporting software for \$3,995.00, he had received a letter from the Court Reporter Ginger Canoy stating the advantages of the Case CATalyst Court Reporting and asking the Board of Supervisors to approve the purchase of the Case CATalyst Court Reporting software. Mr. Armstrong stated that the County would be able to get a \$1,000.00 rebate on the Case CATalyst software when purchased. Board Attorney Bill Austin stated that since the Case CATalyst Court Reporting software would be compatible with the County=s existing software, he recommended the purchase of the Case CATalyst Court Reporting software. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion that based on the technical advice of the user it is the lowest and best bid that the County purchase the Case CATalyst Court Reporting software, as to do so will alleviate the need to buy other compatible computer technology necessary to use the Pro Cat. 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

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

**3. Approval of Resolution and Request for Advance of Funds from the State Development Bank**

At the November 6<sup>TH</sup> Meeting, and after hearing from Dr. E. O. Franklin and Stuart Taylor of the DeSoto Civic Center, the Board of Supervisors determined the need to request and authorize a first advance against the \$10,000,000.00 loan between the Mississippi Development Bank and the County. The Board of Supervisors found that it is necessary and in the public interest to request an advance of \$1,600,000.00 for the Civic Center construction bills.

Supervisor Gerald Clifton made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a resolution of the Board of Supervisors of DeSoto County, Mississippi (The ACounty@) authorizing a first advance under that certain loan agreement, dated as of October 9, 2000, by and between the Mississippi Development Bank and the County in the amount of \$1,600,000.00 against the loan between the Mississippi Development Bank and the County. 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

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

**4. Metro Narcotics - Return of Forfeited Weapon to Original Owner**

County Administrator David Armstrong present letter from Captain T. M. Harris of the DeSoto County Metro Narcotics requesting the Board of Supervisors authorize return of the stolen weapon seized by the DeSoto County Metro Narcotics to the original owner of weapon. Supervisor Gerald Clifton made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to authorized the return of the stolen

weapon to the original owner that was seized by the DeSoto County Metro Narcotics who determined it

**ITEM E.4, CONTINUED,**

surplus and to remove the weapon from inventory and to approve any budget amendment necessary.

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

**\*\*See Exhibit E.4\*\***

**5. T. H. Walker - Civil Defense - Designation of Car for Tim Curtis**

Director of DeSoto County Emergency Management Agency T. H. Walker appeared before the Board of Supervisors requesting a vehicle for Mr. Tim Curtis, a permanent employee with the DeSoto County Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Walker stated that Mr. Curtis has made after hour calls for the department when he is not available. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if mileage could be authorized for Mr. Curtis when he makes calls. County Attorney Bill Austin stated that the Board of Supervisors could award mileage to Mr. Curtis. Supervisor John Caldwell asked for Tim Curtis to receive mileage on his personnel vehicle. Mr. Walker stated that it was his understanding that personal vehicles not be used because of liability, and this is why he is requesting a county owned vehicle for Tim Curtis's use.

County Administrator David Armstrong stated that the vehicle he is driving is a 1995 Ford Crown Victoria. Mr. Armstrong stated that money was not put in the budget for him a new car.

Supervisor John Caldwell suggested that the Board of Supervisors consider a comparable car off state contract for \$22,839.50 to be paid from the general fund to purchase car for County Administrator David Armstrong. Supervisor Gerald Clifton made a motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to purchase a new car off state contracts in the amount of \$22,839.50 and to approve a budget amendment to the County Administrator's budget, with funds coming from the general fund and to wait until new car arrives before decision made how to pass down the County Administrator's old vehicle.

Transfer from fund	001-901-999	-\$22,840.00
Transfer to fund	001-120-930	+\$22,840.00

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

**6. Tax Assessor Request to Remove Erroneous Assessments**

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis a presented letter to Board of Supervisors regarding parcels of land belonging to Ella Daniel. The letter states that Mrs. Daniel did not receive Homestead credit on parcel #3099 2900.0 00019.00 and 3099 2900.0 00017.00. Supervisor Gerald Clifton made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to grant Mrs. Ella Daniel credit for 1999 taxes on land parcel #3099 2900.0 00019.00 and 3099 2900.0 00017.00 by striking these parcels from the tax sale. 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

**ITEM E, CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis YES

**\*\*See Exhibit E.6\*\***

**7. Risk Management Proposal**

County Administrator David Armstrong presented a copy of the proposed Service Contract between the County and Bob Lynam of J. Henry & Company. Mr. Armstrong stated that Board Attorney Bill Austin and Rex Haynes had both reviewed the contract and felt like everything was in order and that the

service will benefit the County. Mr. Armstrong stated that the contract has three phases of completion and the County would pay the following upon completion of each phase.

- Phase I - Audit of major departments for safety procedures and practices for a fee of \$3,000.
- Phase II - Training of department heads or supervisors into Accident Investigation Procedures for a fee of \$3,000.
- Phase III - Provide specific Fleet Management Guidelines and recommendations and a Train the Trainer program for a fee of \$4,000.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the Board of Supervisors had put \$66,500 in the budget for the Risk Management Program. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve the contract with J. Henry & Company for the three phase programs for Risk Management in accordance with the full terms of the contract listed as Exhibit E.7, and to authorize Board President to sign contract. 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

**\*\*See Exhibit E.7\*\***

**F. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The AExecutive Session@ portion of this meeting is presented under the portion of minutes called AExecutive Session?.

**G. OTHER ISSUES**

**1. Blue Ribbon Trip**

County Administrator David Armstrong informed the Board of Supervisors that Jim Flanagan wanted to know who would be going on the Blue Ribbon Trip scheduled February 28<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

**2. County FY00 Ending Balance**

County Administrator David Armstrong advised the Board of Supervisors that Comptroller Joyce Riales had given him the final year end figures for FY00. Mr. Armstrong said that the County had projected an ending balance of \$7,800,000 but the actual figures show an ending balance of \$8,502,858.89. Mr. Armstrong stated that FY99 ending balance was \$8,138,071, which gives the County a \$364,787 balance over last year.

**3. Public Hearing on R20 Lots**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the Board of Supervisors is still interested in having a public hearing **ITEMS G, CONTINUED,**

on the R20 Lots. The Board of Supervisors committee of Supervisor Tommy Lewis and Supervisor John Caldwell will meet with County Engineer Tom Childress and the Planning Commission to discuss the issue. No motions were made at this time.

**4. Item to discuss with County Engineer**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked that the Board of Supervisors make a list of items that need to be discussed with the County Engineer Tom Childress so that he can start work on these projects. The following items were discussed to be put on the list:

- 1. Road Bonds
- 2. R20 Lots
- 3. Water Table
- 4. Curb and Gutter issues

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked that to make a change to regulations if it has to go to the Planning Commission. Merritt Powell said he thinks that it needs to go to the Planning Commission and then decide if a public hearing is needed. However, Mr. Powell cautioned that the Planning Commission may not want to change the regulations without a good reason.

**5. Burn Ban**

Bobby Storey Director of DeSoto County Fire and EMS stated that he had talked with Jim Sledge at the Governor=s office in regards to the County lifting the Burn Ban, as the hazardous conditions caused by drought have been alleviated by the 2 1/4" of rain the County has received in the last week. Supervisor John Caldwell made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to send a letter asking for the state to lift the DeSoto County Burn Ban to Mr. Jim Sledge at the Governor=s office. 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 Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to recess until November 20, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. 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

THIS the 8th. day of November 2000, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene C. Thach, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors