

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT 2001, PRESIDING

January 3, 2001

A. CALL TO ORDER

The January 3, 2001, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Tommy Lewis, Board President 2001.

Chief Deputy Charlie Brown of the DeSoto County Sheriff's 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:

Jessie Medlin-----District 1
Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
Gerald Clifton-----District 3
John Caldwell-----District 4
Tommy Lewis-----District 5
W. E. ASluggo@ Davis-----Chancery Clerk
James Albert Riley-----Sheriff
David Armstrong-----County Administrator
William H. Austin, Jr.-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Eugene Thach presented the invocation.

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

1. Building Permit Issued to BL Development Corporation

Billy Myers stated that B. L. Development Corporation pulled five permits on July 12, 1999, for construction of billboards. Mr. Myers presented the Board of Supervisors with a copy of invoice #99908-048 dated August 18, 1999, from Gerald R. Page Corporation, architect, to Eller Media Corporation, fabricator of billboards. Mr. Myers stated that payment was made to Eller Media Corporation prior to the fabrication of the five billboards. Mr. Myers stated that the footings for the billboards do not have anything to do with the fabrication of the billboards until they are ready to be installed at the location. Mr. Myers stated that the review of the DeSoto County Zoning Ordinance fails to reveal any specific statement that the permit will expire if the footings are not inspected within six months. Mr. Myers said that he could find no legal basis for DeSoto County to prevent Eller Media from proceeding with construction of the billboards and it is the desire of Eller Media to clarify this issue so that it may complete the construction of the footings and install the billboards within the two year

ITEM D.1, CONTINUED,

period granted by the building permit.

Supervisors Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Myers if he had a copy of the cancelled check to Eller Media. Mr. Myers stated that he did not. Mr. Foster Holly from Eller Media said that the foundation for billboards was considered the last step of construction for billboards. Mr. Myers stated that the County needs to look at changing the building permit for billboards.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to uphold the Planning Commissions interpretation of the ordinance for permits until a new ordinance permit can be developed. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

****See Exhibit D.1****

2. Approval to Draw \$2.2 Million from the State Development Bank for Civic Center

Dr. Ed Franklin and Stuart Taylor appeared before the Board of Supervisors with a request for an advance from the Mississippi Development Bank in the amount of \$2.2 million for the current Civic Center bills and for future construction cost.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if the recent hot water problems at the Civic Center had been resolved. Mr. Franklin stated that there were no problems regarding hot water at the Civic Center.

Supervisors Jessie Medlin asked Dr. Franklin about who was responsible for the lighting from Church Road out to the Civic Center. Mr. Stuart Taylor stated that Mayor Greg Davis of Southaven had agreed to furnish the lights from Church Road to the Civic Center. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked what could be done to expedite the lighting situation. Mr. Taylor said that Entergy had installed the lights out to Highway 51 from the Civic Center and the Civic Center could approach Entergy about installing the lights out to Church Road. Board Attorney Bill Austin stated that he had spoken with Gary Lambert at Carothers Construction and was told to speak with John Woods at Entergy and his conversation with Mr. Woods was different from his conversation with Mayor Greg Davis. Mr. Austin stated that according to his conversations that the following three items were to take place for the lights.

1. City of Southaven to provide lights and installation.
2. Civic Center to bury sleeve under asphalt for wire, which is done.
3. Entergy to provide three transformers and drops for lights.

Mr. Austin said that he had talked with Rex Haynes and Chris Wilson and that there are to be forty light fixtures installed on the road from Civic Center to Church Road.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked for Dr. Franklin and Stuart Taylor to work on the issue to insure the light installation from the Civic Center to Church Road.

Having heard the Civic Center Board's request for funding, the Board of Supervisors determined the need to request and authorize an 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 \$2,200,000.00

ITEM D.2, CONTINUED,

for the Civic Center construction bills.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve a resolution of the Board of Supervisors of DeSoto County, Mississippi authorizing an 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 \$2,200,000.00 against the loan between the Mississippi Development Bank and the County. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit D.2****

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Central Maintenance – Approval of Cellular Contract & Delete Pagers

At the request of the County Administrator David Armstrong, Vanessa Lynchard stated that the Central Maintenance Department now has mobile phones and pagers for seven of their personnel and the fee for the pager system were \$80.00 per year for each pager. Vanessa stated that with the purchase of a new phone that has a pager built into it the County would be saving the expense of the pagers now in existence. The County can purchase seven phones for \$89.99 per phone and the Central Maintenance personnel will turn in their present phones and pagers. The phones will be inventoried and put back into County circulation upon request. Mr. Gunn has also requested two additional phones with pagers for his two shop foreman. Vanessa Lynchard said the contract minutes could be increased to 300 minutes at no additional charge. The Board of Supervisors agreed. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve all phones for the following Central Maintenance personnel for at \$89.99 each and to increase their contract to 300 minutes:

Jim Ivy	603-7003
Bill Williams	604-5889
Kenny Woods	604-5890
Dale Owings	604-5891
Terry Wright	604-5892
Joe Gatewood	604-5893
Hugh Thomas	604-5894
Jim Green	
Jimmy Cox	

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

2. Jail Inspection

In accordance with Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972, which states that at 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.

ITEM E.2, CONTINUED,

Having completed such inspection, Supervisor Eugene Thach made a motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis 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 unanimous vote.

3. Agreement between Board of Supervisors and Architect for Regional Libraries

County Administrator David Armstrong stated that the Board of Supervisors has received a contract from Marvin Johnson, architect, for the Libraries at Hernando, Olive Branch and the New Library for Southaven. Supervisor Tommy Lewis stated that he was not willing to sign a contract until the determination had been made regarding the asbestos and the lead paint that might exist in the present libraries and the cost involved in the removal. Supervisor Lewis said he would be willing to do a contract with Mr. Johnson regarding his estimation on the asbestos and lead paint at the libraries at this time but that was all.

Supervisor John Caldwell stated that when the Board of Supervisors signed a contract for the libraries that the design architect must understand to stay within the County's budget.

Supervisors Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to carry this item over until January 22, 2001 Board meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked that during the last addition to the Hernando Library if the question of asbestos and lead paint was brought out. Mr. Medlin stated that if so there should not have to be any estimate for asbestos and lead paint and the Hernando Library. County Administrator David Armstrong stated that he would discuss this with Jim Anderson.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion, and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to recess until 1:15 p.m. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

The Board of Supervisor recessed for lunch to give a tour of the Administration Building and the Civic Center to a group of Rankin County Supervisors, County Administrator, Board Attorney and other county officials who are interested in building such a facility in Rankin County.

4. Approval to Negotiate Contract with Robert Meacham

County Administrator David Armstrong stated that the County contract with Dr. Robert Meacham and the DeSoto County Jail would expire on January 1, 2001. Mr. Armstrong stated that the County budget for this contract was increased five percent. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize County Administrator David Armstrong to negotiate a new contract with Dr. Meacham. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. Appoint Supervisors Committee to Review Insurance Proposals

County Administrator David Armstrong stated that the County insurance program was a self funded insurance and that over the last year the amount of claims had increased, which had drawn down the County reserves. Mr. Armstrong stated that the insurance program would

ITEM E.4, CONTINUED,

expire on February 28, 2001. Mr. Armstrong asked the Board of Supervisors for permission for the staff to look over the insurance program for solutions needed. Supervisor Eugene Thach stated that the County has a good program. There were no motion made on this item.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The executive session portions of these minutes are recorded under the portion of the minutes called "Executive Session".

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to recess until Monday, January 22, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 3rd. day of January, 2001, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Tommy Lewis, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors