

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ALLEN LATIMER, PRESIDENT 2008 PRESIDING

February 19, 2008

A. CALL TO ORDER

The February 19, 2008, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Allen Latimer, Board President.

Sheriff Bill Rasco 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:

- Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1
- Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
- Supervisor Bill Russell-----District 3
- Supervisor Allen Latimer-----District 4
- Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5
- W. E. Sluggo Davis-----Chancery Clerk
- Michael Garriga-----County Administrator
- Tony Nowak-----Board Attorney
- Sheriff Bill Rasco-----Sheriff

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Eugene Thach presented the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. CONSENT AGENDA

County Administrator Michael Garriga said, based on current work load, we did more receiving in the past couple of years than prior to that, therefore, Dixie Lamb should not be removed as receiving clerk.

The Board of Supervisors considered approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as requested with the exception of removing Dixie Lamb as receiving clerk, as follows:

1. Accounting

a. Cash Bond Refund - \$625.00 to Daniel Hawkins –2004

b. Interfund Loan

From:	General County Fund	001-000-054	\$250,000.00
To:	2004 Bond Construction Fund	380-000-149	\$250,000.00

2. Chancery Clerk Allowance - \$1,866.66

3. Safety Officer's Report

4. Sheriff's Report

HIRES AND TERMINATIONS:
FEBRUARY 2008

HIRES:

01-31-08 CLYDE JOSEPH GUNTER
02-04-08 BILLY JONES
02-04-08 THOMAS BAILEY
02-04-08 MALCOLM E. MANNING
02-06-08 GEORGE HULLETTE
02-07-08 SUZANNE WALLACE
02-11-08 KATHY J. THOMPSON
02-11-08 JODIE W. BARONI
02-11-08 PANTHIA BRADLEY
02-11-08 JOSHUA JENKINS
02-13-2008 TRINA REDWING

TERMINATION:

02-04-08 SHARON BUIE
02-06-08 LISA DAVIS

5. **Make Agreements Part of the Minutes**
 - a. **Lease for Coroner Office Space**
 - b. **Interlocal to Maintain Public Roads for the Town of Walls**
 - c. **NWCC Clinical Affiliation**
 - d. **Interlocal for Use of Election Equipment**
6. **Publication of Board Proceedings** - according to Section 19-3-33 of the Mississippi Code
7. **Purchasing - Receiving Clerk – Remove Andrea Black and Denise Dingman**
8. **Sheriff’s Department – Inventory Clerk - Replace Daniel Evans with David Meredith**
9. **Department of Road Management – Adopt-A-Road – The Bailey Family**
10. **Circuit Court Clerk Allowance** - \$16,624.00
11. **Approval to Bid and Open Bids for Vending Machines**

The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

See Exhibit D

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Appointments

a. Planning Commission: District 2

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Allen Latimer seconded the motion to appoint Randy Jones, 2440 Goodman Road, Southaven, MS, (662-349-3698) as the District 2 appointee to the DeSoto County Planning Commission. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

b. Library Board - District 4

Supervisor Allen Latimer made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Tim Ford, 5605 April Drive, Southaven, MS, 38671, as the District 4 Appointee to the DeSoto County Library Board. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2. Vehicle Use Policy - Take Home Recommendations

County Administrator Michael Garriga said he has distributed the policies to the Department Heads for signatures and has received the policies back. Each Department Head was to return a signed policy for the individuals they were allowing to take county vehicles home. Mr. Garriga requested four Animal Shelter employees be allowed to take county vehicles home at night. He explained the requirements of the policy.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked about the vehicle idling is included in the policy. Mr. Garriga said yes, the idling limit stated in the policy is five minutes.

Mr. Garriga said that Emergency Services vehicles are already included in the policy so individually signed policies are unnecessary.

At the recommendation of the County Administrator, and upon the finding that the Animal Shelter employees discussed need to take their vehicles home in order to fulfill the duties of their jobs, and that it is in the best interest of the county to allow the employees to take the vehicles home, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approve four Animal Shelter employees to take county vehicles home. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Upon the determining the certain road department employees need to take their vehicles home in order to fulfill the duties of their jobs, and that it is in the best interest of the county to allow the employees to take the vehicles home, Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the Department of Road Management Superintendents and the County Engineer, mosquito spray designee and the crew chief of delivery, who at this time is Randy Prince, and the Assistant Road Manager to take vehicles home under the vehicle use policy. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----NO
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----YES
Supervisor Bill Russell-----YES
Supervisor Allen Latimer-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

3. Bi-weekly Payroll

County Administrator Michael Garriga said the Board discussed the probability of changing to a bi-weekly payroll. He said a bi-weekly payroll would be very beneficial to non-exempt employees and will benefit other employees as well.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis and Board Attorney Tony Nowak brought up whether some officials have to be paid monthly or semi-monthly. Mr. Garriga presented a hand-out showing who should be paid on a limited basis under Mississippi Code that included members of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Garriga said a change in the payroll would require approval from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Garriga said the easiest way would be to have a monthly payroll for the employees who are limited to be paid no more than twice per month and a bi-weekly payroll for other employees.

Personnel Director Vickie Richmann said the county is always going to be in a payroll process if we keep a bi-weekly and semi-monthly payroll.

Comptroller Tom Arnold said, keeping the bi-weekly and semi-monthly payroll, will create a tremendous amount of paperwork. Supervisor Bill Russell suggested giving a memo to all employees who would be changed to the monthly payroll and allow them to express their concerns about that system to the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked if the new payroll system will lead to adding new employees. Mr. Arnold said he does not think so.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said our legislators are in session at this time. He said we should contact them to get the payroll limitations changed for the few employees that are required to be under that system. Mr. Garriga said the deadline for the introduction of bills has passed.

Supervisor Russell said this affects the Sheriff's Department more than any other department because they are on a 24/7 work schedule. He said he would prefer to pay the employees bi-weekly.

Supervisor Thach suggested leaving the current system in place and change it next year.

Supervisor Russell said he agrees, but there is no guarantee the legislators will approve the revisions for pay of elected officials.

Mrs. Richmann said she spent 45 minutes with a deputy explaining his check to him and that is one example of many people who do not understand their paychecks. She said that a bi-weekly payroll would eliminate that confusion.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said the reason they do not understand is because the numbers change every payroll.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked Road Manager Russell Dorris about the Road Department. Mr. Dorris said they have similar problems during some pay periods for various reasons.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Allen Latimer seconded the motion to send letters to the department heads and those affected by the statute and tell them the Board is considering changing the payroll system and give them an opportunity to respond at the next Board meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

4. Hernando Civic Center Interlocal Agreement

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said the interlocal agreement for funding the Hernando Civic Center expired in December, 2007. He said this agreement allows the county to give money to the Civic Center from the City of Hernando. He said, if legislation is passed, in the future this interlocal agreement would not be necessary.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Smith Phillips Mitchell Scott and Nowak Law Firm to draw up an interlocal agreement similar to the terms of previous agreements between the county and the Hernando Civic Center. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Variable Interest Rate

Financial Advisor Demery Grubbs said through the years the county has asked for multiple variations bond financing. At the time of the \$18 million bond, the market best supported a variable interest rate bond financing. He said that strategy has saved the county \$1.4 million during the eight year period of time. He said the bond for the civic center was financed on a variable rate but that money is paid from the 2% tourism money.

Mr. Grubbs said that in the last several months, the sub prime situation has changed some factors of the market. He said, because a lot of those companies have exposure from variable bonds, those companies have been put on "market watch". Consequently, the county could be paying more in interest. Mr. Grubbs said that he and Sam Keyes are appearing before the Board to assure them that they are watching this situation very carefully. He said they are looking at the \$18 million bond to see what can be done if there is long term exposure. He said they are also looking at the civic center bond. He said they would need some approval from the Board to take measures to protect the county.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked about the \$22 million bond. Mr. Grubbs said that bond is on a fixed rate. He said the civic center bond and the \$18 million bond are the only two variable rate bonds the county has.

Sam Keyes said, in the proposed resolution, they are asking the Board to give the firms of Mr. Grubbs and Mr. Keyes the authority to watch the bonds and react quickly and make a decision if there is an opportunity to do so in the best interest of the county.

Mr. Grubbs explained the different options.

Supervisor Eugene Thach clarified that the county paid Mr. Grubbs' and Mr. Keyes' firms when the bonds were originally put in place and now the county will pay them again.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if we would not lock in the rates. Mr. Grubbs said that is what they are trying to determine. He said if we knew the market would level off, the county might be better to stay with the variable rate. He said they are looking for the best option. Supervisor Medlin said when the county did the bond it was for 20 years. He asked if the new strategy extends the maturity date. Mr. Grubbs said no, it would not extend the maturity on any bond restructuring. He said they will have to come back to the Board for final approval of any changes. Mr. Grubbs said they also went to the Development Bank about the issue and the bank authorized them to proceed upon the approval of this resolution by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Grubbs and Mr. Keyes to explain the highlights of the resolution to the Board. Mr. Keyes said the resolution authorizes their firms to proceed with restructures of the bonds if necessary.

Supervisor Thach asked if there are any penalties associated with the restructuring of the bonds. Mr. Grubbs said he does not think there are any call penalties in this bond but he will double check. Mr. Keyes said they do look at that factor as well. Mr. Grubbs said they will take a scenario and run the numbers. He said they weigh how the situation against a potential change to see what is in the county's best interest.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the resolution authorizing, canceling or altering various bonds. The motion passed by a unanimous vote

2. Tax Exemptions

President and CEO of DeSoto County Economic Development Council Jim Flanagan brought companies before the Board to request tax exemptions.

a. ScanSource, Inc. – Freeport

Shelby McCloud of ScanSource said the company relocated from southeast Memphis to DeSoto County and brought 200 jobs. She said they have launched a campaign to attract employees in DeSoto County.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said the average wage and benefits for ScanSource is good according to the guidelines. He said DeSoto County appreciates their efforts to encourage people from DeSoto County to apply for jobs.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve a Freeport Warehouse exemption for ScanSource. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.2.a**

b. IDI / MotoSport, Inc. – Real

Tim Moore of IDI requested a real property tax exemption from the Board of Supervisors based on a tenant, Motosport, Inc., who will be leasing an entire building located at 8835 Commerce Drive, Southaven, MS. Scott Durban of Motosport, Inc. said they are a direct distributor for motorcycle part sales. He said 150 jobs will start their business and will see

that number doubling in time. He said they have plans to attract employees from DeSoto County.

Supervisor Allen Latimer thanked Motosport for considering DeSoto County and for hiring people from the county.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked the company to describe their health benefits. Mr. Durban said the dental insurance plan is standard and they are getting a new provider for medical benefits. He said the company pays 50% of the benefits for their employees. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the minimum wage the company will start new employees. Mr. Durban said the minimum wage is \$10 per hour and they will add an incentive program to that rate of pay.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a ten year real property tax exemption for IDI for the building located at 8835 Commerce Drive, Southaven, MS. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

See Exhibit F.2.b

c. IDI on Behalf of Jobs Created by Trane, Inc. – Real

Tim Moore of IDI said that Trane, Inc. is moving from a location in Memphis into a space in DeSoto County built by IDI. Dave Shelby said Trane is closing a facility and plan to be fully functional for the additional jobs in Desoto County and the closing of the Memphis facility in July. He explained their operation.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked for information regarding medical insurance and Mr. Shelby described the benefits.

Mr. Shelby said they had a job fair and expected a couple of hundred people to apply for employment and received approximately 1,628 applicants. He said the number of applicants was a surprise. Mr. Shelby said that Trane realizes the need to provide benefits for employees.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a real property tax exemption for IDI on behalf of jobs that will be provided by their tenant, Trane, Inc. for property located 1560 E. Stateline Road, Southaven, MS. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.2.c**

3. ICS – Headstart

The ICS Headstart representatives postponed their meeting with the Board of Supervisors until March 3, 2008.

4. Grants - EMA – Tier 2 Shelter Letters

Grants Administrator Joyce Herring said we have been given a letter from the state authorizing EMA to send out offer letters to the approved listing of people in the county that have applied to install storm shelters on their property.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said that Tim Curtis of EMA said 80 people signed up for storm shelters and 70 people were approved. Ms Herring said that Mr. Curtis told her that he will send letters to the 70 people who are approved to see if they are still interested in constructing a storm shelter. Supervisor Medlin asked if there is an opportunity for more people to participate in the program. Ms. Herring said that after the state sees how many other confirmed applicants follow through, they will know how much money will be left throughout the state for reallocation.

Supervisor Medlin asked how long it will be before the shelters can be built. Ms. Herring said they will build the shelters and then submit bills for reimbursement.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if there are specifications for storm shelters that participants must follow. Ms. Herring said that Mr. Curtis will mail the specifications to the participants.

Supervisor Russell clarified that no one can be added to the program at this time. He said there may be an opportunity later. Ms. Herring agreed.

Supervisor Medlin said it would be wise to keep a list of people who may be interested in joining the program later.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the Board President to sign the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Safe Room and Storm Shelter Initiative. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

See Exhibit F.3

5. Accounting – Supplemental Claims Docket

Accounting Clerk Stephanie Hanks read the Claims Docket identified as exhibit F.5.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked for clarification on page 40 for the A.W. Bouchillon training. County Administrator Michael Garriga explained that this is a host of seminars for the Planning Commission.

Vanessa Lynchard explained the hotel claims for the transportation and said they will be decreased from the amount that is listed on the claims docket because not all of the participants listed, will attend the meeting. She asked for approval by the Board to modify the claims for the amount being less than what is listed on the docket.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked if we will get the money back which is listed on page 43 for a claim to Neel Shaffer on the Tourism Building. Comptroller Mr. Arnold said yes; either from the CVB or from the loan.

Supervisor Latimer asked about the claim on page five which deals with county wide insurance. Mr. Arnold said those are settlements from old suits and represent the county's portion of the insurance deductible.

In accordance with Section 19-13-31 and Section 19-11-23 of the Mississippi Code annotated, Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Chancery Clerk to pay the bills as presented by the Comptroller with the hotel fees for the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator's office to be decreased to an amount not to exceed the claims as presented on the docket. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.5**

6. Advertising County Resources Physically Challenged Hunting Association

Supervisor Allen Latimer presented a request for funding from the Arkabutla Physically Challenged Hunting Association which is a non-profit organization that was created to help fund an annual deer hunt for disabled hunters. Supervisor Latimer explained that this qualifies for advertising county resources because it attracts visitors into the county from many areas and qualifies under our county policy. Supervisor Latimer said there are approximately 100 volunteers who help with the hunt. They are furnished with food and lodging just like the hunters. The volunteers help transport the hunters to and from their blinds, help retrieve and field dress animals, cut firewood, cook and any other assistance as needed to participate in the hunt. Supervisor Latimer said the county donated \$1,000 last year from advertising county resources and he suggested that they contribute again this year.

Supervisor Allen Latimer made the motion, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to advertise DeSoto County Resources by contributing \$ 1,000.00 to the Arkabutla

Physically Challenged Hunt in accordance with Section 17-3-3, of the Mississippi Code of 1972. The Board of Supervisors did make a determination that the above request would advertise the resources and possibilities of DeSoto County and thereby advance the moral, financial and other interests of DeSoto County. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.6**

7. Kevin Dockery Day (& Resolution) – Feb. 23, 2008

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a resolution honoring Kevin Dockery and Brandon Jackson for their success in the NFL and the positive impact their success has had on DeSoto County. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

8. Board Attorney

a. Building & Grounds –Lawn Care Contract

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said he basically approved the contract with Rotolo Consultants for lawn care in DeSoto County with a clarification on how often the payments will be made. The Board discussed the process for paying the company in annual payments. Supervisor Lewis expressed concern that the company could receive payments in January and February before they actually perform work for the remainder of the year, and if they leave, the taxpayers would suffer a loss.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the contract if Rotolo agrees to amend the contract to to have a term of March 1, 2008 through February 28, 2010 in keeping with the 24 month term but changing the dates on the contract. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----YES
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----YES
Supervisor Bill Russell-----YES
Supervisor Allen Latimer-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----NO

See Exhibit F.8.a

b. BidBridge Contract

Board Attorney Tony Nowak explained that there is a new bidding process that the county has been asked to look into for county bids.

At the recommendation of the Board Attorney, Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Board Attorney to write for an attorney general’s opinion on the process to ensure that it complies with state law. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----NO
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----YES
Supervisor Bill Russell-----YES
Supervisor Allen Latimer-----YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----YES

The Board of Supervisors recessed the meeting until 12:30 p.m.

c. Olive Branch Tax Assessor Building

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said there is a road between the Olive Branch Library and another building to the south. The City of Olive Branch wants to improve that road. The city

wants to know if the county would cost share 50 / 50 on the project. Mr. Nowak said he does not have a cost estimate for the project.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the county built the road and donated it to the city a few years ago. The road needs to be improved and it would be a good time to consider the project because the state is looking at improving Highway 305. There is a circular drive in front of the library that is no longer used. The mayor will talk to the library about converting the area of the circular drive into a parking lot.

Supervisor Bill Russell said he is interested in doing the project but he would like to see the cost estimate.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said he would like to ask if the library can chip in some money on the parking lot. Supervisor Medlin said that is unlikely since the library has never made a practice of chipping in on those types of projects.

No motions were made nor votes taken on the issue.

9. Regional Correctional Facility Resolution

County Administrator Michael Garriga said he has prepared the resolution and it has been reviewed by the Board Attorney. It is an amendment to the Mississippi Code Section 47-5-931 to provide for the location, construction and operation of a regional correction facility in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Corrections in DeSoto County.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the resolution of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors in support of an amendment to the Mississippi Code Section 47-5-931 to provide for the location, construction and operation of a regional correction facility in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Corrections in DeSoto County. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.9**

Later in the meeting Supervisor Allen Latimer said he talked to someone who is opposed to building a correction center in the county. He asked if the Board would like to hold Public Hearings on the issue.

Supervisor Bill Russell said he does want to have a Public Hearing. He said he would encourage a referendum on the issue. He said the committee has determined that we have to do something about the jail. We cannot let it stay as it is. It will involve an expenditure of \$3 million to \$12 million. He said the committee does not have all of the definite answers yet to host a Public Hearing. Supervisor Russell said we need to talk about options. He said we can increase taxes or get help from the state. He said, if the public decides it would rather build a local jail and pay for the entire cost themselves, that is what the Board should do.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said, under the state option for a correctional facility, we would not have any tax increase for the debt service but we would likely have a tax increase for the operational expenses.

10. Department of Road Management

a. Amendment to FY 2008 Asphalt Overlay Plan and Four Year Road Plan

At the recommendation of the Road Manager Russell Dorris, Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to amend the four year road plan and overlay contract as follows:

- (1.) Remove Brights Road from Malone to Laughter Road
- (2.) Add Laughter Road from Pleasant Hill to Sunset Road

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.10.a**

b. Appointment to NACO Transportation Steering Committee

Road Manager Russell Dorris said that he has been asked to be an appointee to the National Association of Counties (NACO) Transportation Committee. He requested the Board's permission to participate and accept that appointment. The Board of Supervisors discussed that Supervisor Bill Russell has also been appointed to the NACO Transportation Steering Committee.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to acknowledge and authorize the Road Manager Russell Dorris and Supervisor Bill Russell to serve on the NACO Transportation Steering Committee and to approve all travel and expenses associated with the appointment. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.10.b**

c. Repair - Big Horn Lane and White Oak Drive

Road Manager Russell Dorris said that the intersection of Big Horn Lane and White Oak Drive has been a consistent problem. He said there are two catch basins that are not under the road. These basins catch water and it has deteriorated and caused problems in the area. Mr. Dorris said he recommends fixing the problem. He explained that this area of erosion is causing danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County and should be corrected by enlarging the cross drain pipe and catch basin and the entire drainage system needs to be upgraded. He said, in order to accomplish this task, we will need to repair the erosion and place limestone riprap along the outfall of the culvert. Mr. Dorris estimated the cost of the repair at about \$6,279.00.

Supervisor Allen Latimer asked if the project is on right of way. Mr. Dorris said some of it is and some is not.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to declare an emergency based on the condition being reported by Road Manager Russell Dorris, to be a danger to the health, safety and welfare of the public and to authorize the area to be fixed. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit F.10.c**

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

H. OTHER

1. Bonds – I-269

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked the Financial Advisor Demery Grubbs when the bonds for I-269 be issued. Mr. Grubbs said not before six months or so.

2. Solid Waste – 2008 Spring Cleanup

Supervisor Bill Russell said there is a meeting scheduled to discuss Cleanup DeSoto County. He notified the Board of Supervisors that the project is under way.

3. Department of Road Management – Intersections with I - 269

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said we have roads going over I-269. He requested asking the state to look into making the bridges and overpasses to be bid with an alternate with five lanes

where the county roads cross with the county paying for the additional two lanes if we determine a need to do so.

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said he can see where the state would agree to do that.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he wants to see if the Board is open to the idea. He said the Board has acknowledged many times that many of those roads are ready to be widened now.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approach the state to place an alternative in the bids for I-269 to make bridges crossing county roads five lanes with the county paying for the additional two lanes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

4. Board of Supervisors Approval of Travel

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to approve the Board of Supervisors, County Administrator, Board Attorney and Road Manager and others in the county as necessary to travel to the MAS Convention in June and the NACO Convention in July. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. Polling Place Maintenance

Supervisor Bill Russell said he received a call from an election commissioner that Goodman Road Baptist Church located at 4368 Goodman Road West, has a gravel road that accesses the polling place that is in bad shape. He said we need to see if we can get the access road fixed before the election.

County Administrator Michael Garriga said this is allowed under the rules for maintaining polling places.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve fixing the driveway at Goodman Road Baptist Church based on the fact that they will operate as a polling place at the upcoming election in March. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

6. United Way

Supervisor Bill Russell asked the status of the United Way payroll deductions. County Administrator Michael Garriga said we have received the AG's opinion that we can do payroll deductions for United Way and we can begin at any time.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked the County Administrator to check to see what the 211 program is under United Way and to put the item on the next agenda.

7. Trauma Center

Supervisor Bill Russell said he is on Representative John Mayo's mailing list and he recently wrote an explanation of the status of trauma care in the state. He said Representative Mayo's report confirmed what Baptist Hospital told the county. He said there is a lack of doctors. He said the state is working on legislation. He said that Representative Mayo reported about under funding of trauma centers. **See Exhibit F.8**

8. Homeowners Associations

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if we got an answer regarding the ability of the homeowners associations to regulate rental houses. Board Attorney Tony Nowak said we have not received an answer at this time.

9. Hunting Regulations

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if we have received an answer on the authority to regulate hunting in DeSoto County. Board Attorney Tony Nowak said we are still waiting on the Attorney General for that opinion.

10. Arts Council

Board Attorney Tony Nowak said the Arts Council received a grant for William Faulkner projects. He said the grant requires certain activities to be put on, and the Arts Council needs funding to do so. He said this will be a month long series of events.

Supervisor Allen Latimer said we gave \$20,000 to the Arts Council and \$5,000 to the Olive Branch Arts Council.

Mr. Nowak explained about the Arts Council's projects during the year and all they have done to promote the arts. The Board of Supervisors asked for more information.

11. M.R. Davis Library Dedication

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis said on March 1st the M.R. Davis Library will be dedicated at 10:00a.m. He invited the Board and others in the county to be a part of that ceremony.

12. Mitigation Grant – Outdoor Warning Sirens

The Board discussed the need to authorize the Board Attorney to draw up an interlocal agreement for the Hazard Mitigation Grant. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he is not against the cities having these funds but ask if we will have any sirens in the county. Grants Administrator Joyce Herring said they will not let anyone but the county apply for this grant funding. She said they are trying to disburse the sirens throughout the county, but have not decided on locations at this time.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to authorize the Smith Phillips Mitchell Scott and Nowak Law Firm to draw up the necessary interlocal agreements, and take all steps necessary to have the same approved in accordance with state law, in connection with the Hazardous Mitigation Grant for outdoor warning sirens.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting until March 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 19th day of February 2008, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Allen Latimer, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors