

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARK GARDNER, PRESIDENT PRESIDING

December 5, 2013

A. CALL TO ORDER

The December 5, 2013 meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Mark Gardner, Board President.

Sheriff Bill Rasco of the DeSoto County Sheriff's Department was present and opened the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear all business before the Board of Supervisors. The following officials were present:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin	District 1
Supervisor Mark Gardner	District 2
Supervisor Bill Russell	District 3 Participated by phone
Supervisor Lee Caldwell	District 4
Supervisor Harvey Lee	District 5
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff
W. E. Sluggo Davis	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Harvey Lee presented the Invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Proclamation of Local Emergency

Supervisor Mark Gardner said there is a possibility of inclement weather tomorrow and he listened in on a call with MEMA. He said the accumulation of freezing rain is estimated to be ¼ inch. Supervisor Gardner said the ice accumulation during the storm of 1994 was ½ inch. Supervisor Gardner said that the Sheriff's Department, EMA and the Road Department are prepared for the inclement weather.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the proclamation would run for a certain number of days. Board Attorney Tony Nowak said the proclamation be in place until the Board vacates it. The Board of Supervisors must reconvene not later than 30 days from today to review the status of need for the proclamation, but should rescind the proclamation as soon as is reasonably practical.

Mr. Nowak recommended making the "Notice of Special Meeting" part of the minutes.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to establish the "Notice of Special Meeting" at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2013 to discuss 1.) Proclamation of Local Emergency; 2.) Executive Session: Personnel – Emergency Services; posted on Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. as part of the formal record and enter into the Board's minutes.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Mark Gardner, Second District	<u>YES</u>

Supervisor Bill Russell, Third District YES (By Phone)
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District YES
Supervisor Harvey Lee, Fifth District YES

Supervisor Gardner read the proclamation as fully detailed in Exhibit D.1.

Supervisor Gardner said this was sent to the municipalities and they have passed it except for the City of Southaven.

DeSoto County Deputy, Macon Moore, said he would email the press about their emergency operations. Deputy Moore said there is a three stage plan and all patrol shifts are double staffed. He said they will be called out based on call volume.

Road Manager Andy Swims they have been working the last two days to stockpile road material and will work more on it today. The trucks are ready to go when necessary and they will be monitoring the situation through the night.

Supervisor Gardner asked Mr. Swims about additional fuel for this situation. Mr. Swims said they have resources that can provide fuel as needed. They are going to work with EMS and the Sheriff's Department.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if the county can help residents that are blocked in their driveways. He asked if they could cut down trees on private property. Mr. Nowak said yes, if such is necessary due to emergency needs of the homeowner, or if the tree is blocking a public road.

Environmental Services Manager Ray Laughter said the residents can leave their garbage at the curb and the pickup is going to be earlier than usual. The rubbish pits will be open as scheduled on Saturday and can be open on Sunday if necessary.

Sheriff Bill Rasco said that residents can swap phone and insurance information on non-emergency fender benders. The non-emergency number for the Sheriff's Department is 469-8500; the Road Department number is 469-8025.

Sheriff Rasco said the numbers will be on their web site as well. Deputy Moore said the emergency number is 911.

Supervisor Gardner said if there is a life threatening event, call 911.

Rob Long with the DeSoto County Times Tribune asked Sheriff Rasco if they are asking the public to stay at home. Sheriff Rasco said the public will be encouraged to stay off the roads.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell said the schools have announced they will be in session for only 60% of the day tomorrow.

It was noted that the emergency status for the County starts at the moment the Board passes the proclamation.

Supervisor Gardner commended the Sheriff, EMS and the Road Department for such timely and effective preparation. Supervisor Gardner said the Board is encouraging people to stay home, but our officers do not have that option.

Sheriff Rasco said his officers work 24/7 days a week and they have chosen that job. Sheriff Rasco said he is very proud of the DeSoto County officers.

Supervisor Medlin asked the Sheriff for clarification regarding auto accidents.

Sheriff Rasco said if there is a minor accident, they can swap phone numbers and insurance information. If it is a serious accident that involves alcohol or drugs, Sheriff Rasco said a patrolman needs to be called to the scene. He said the cities help the county and the county helps the cities during these types of situations.

Director of Administrative Services Pat McLeod said information on the County offices closing will be posted on the county website, desotocountyms.gov.

County Administrator Vanessa Lynchard said the public can look on the county website in addition to all 3 local channels on the TV.

Supervisor Bill Russell made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency as follows;

Whereas, Board of Supervisors does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within DeSoto County caused by winter weather/ice storm commencing on or about 8:00 a.m. on the 5th of December, 2013;

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency in order to provide for the health and safety of the citizens and the protection of their property within the affected jurisdiction;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that in accordance with Section 33-15-17(d), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, a local emergency now exists throughout said City/County; and shall be reviewed every thirty (30) days until such local emergency is no longer in effect and proclaimed terminated by the Board of Supervisors of the County of DeSoto, State of Mississippi.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that all DeSoto County agencies and departments shall render all possible assistance and discharge their emergency responsibilities as set forth in the County Emergency Operations Plan.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Mark Gardner, Second District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Bill Russell, Third District	<u>YES</u> (By Phone)
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Harvey Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit D.1

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Supervisor Harvey Lee made the motion to recess the Board meeting until December 16, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Lee Caldwell.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Mark Gardner, Second District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Bill Russell, Third District	<u>YES</u> (By Phone)
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Harvey Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

THIS the 5TH, day of December, 2013, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Mark Gardner, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors