

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DISTRICT THREE BILL RUSSELL, PRESIDING

June 22, 2015

A. CALL TO ORDER

The June 22, 2015 meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Bill Russell, 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
Supervisor Lee Caldwell	District 4
Supervisor Michael Lee	District 5
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff
W. E. Sluggo Davis	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Mark Gardner presented the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. CITIZEN REMARKS & PRESENTATIONS

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if there was anyone present in the audience who wished to address the Board.

a. Joe Thompson - Bankston Road

Mr. Joe Thompson of 570 Bankston Road appeared before the Board of Supervisors to discuss concerns about the condition of Bankston Road.

Mr. Thompson said he is concerned about the money that is being spent. He remarked the people need to understand what is going on. He said last week he watched six tractors with cutters drive up and down the road not doing anything but wasting taxpayer's money.

Mr. Thompson said he placed a call to Road Manager Andy Swims who sent County employee Kenny Woods to inspect the road. That was over two meetings ago and he was here today wanting to know what the Board intends do with Bankston Road.

Mr. Thompson went on to voice other concerns regarding things he has witnessed by County employees.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked Mr. Thompson to please state the issues or concerns as it relates to Bankston Road.

Mr. Thompson stated there is a crack in the road with grass growing up in between it and a rusted pipe that goes across the road.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell asked for Road Manager Andy Swims to take photos of the crack, grass and rusted pipe and bring them back before the Board of Supervisors.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

Supervisor Bill Russell asked if there was anyone who wished to add or delete items to the Agenda.

1. Sheriff Bill Rasco requested adding the following items to the Agenda.

a. Approve Payment to Thomas Raceway (Firing Range)

Sheriff Bill Rasco asked the Board to approve processing a payment to Thomas Raceway, LLC for July through the end of the calendar year. He stated this is the Firing Range for his department. Sheriff Rasco said the contract ends with Thomas Raceway at the end of June 2015.

County Administrator Vanessa Lynchard said according to state law the County is unable to pay for rent or services in advance. Sheriff Rasco stated that it's been done this way for the past six years. Ms. Lynchard noted it may have but according to the law it should be paid in the arrears.

Ms. Lynchard passed out a copy of the lease agreement between the County and Thomas Raceway, LLC.

Supervisor Mark Gardner read item two (term) and item 4 (rent and additional rent) of the contract agreement out loud to all the Board members.

2. term. The initial term of the Lease shall be deemed to begin on the 1st day of August, 2012, and shall terminate on the 31st of December, 2015, unless terminated earlier, as set forth herein.

4. Rent and Additional Rent. (i) Tenant shall pay Owner as basic rent for the Realty, the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per month ("Rent"). All Rent shall be net, payable in arrears on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of each calendar month beginning September, 2012, and continuing each month thereafter until the lease is terminated and Tenant has vacated the Realty. (ii) All installments of Rent and Additional Rent which become five (5) days past due shall bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum and calculated from the 15th day of the month until date payment is made.

Supervisor Bill Russell stated according to the terms of the contract the rent for July has to be paid in August.

The Board had further discussion.

No motion or vote was taken on this item.

b. New Office Furniture in Dispatch Area

Sheriff Rasco asked County Administrator Vanessa Lynchard if E-911 was going to pay for furniture in the new dispatch center. Ms. Lynchard said no they are only getting new equipment. Sheriff Rasco said dispatch will need new furniture. He said he doesn't have it in his budget to purchase new furniture.

The Board asked Sheriff Rasco if he knew a dollar amount for the new furniture. Sheriff Rasco said about \$125,000.00. Supervisor Mark Gardner suggested this matter to be taken to the Jail Committee for discussion.

No motion or voter was taken in this item.

2. Road Manager Andy Swims requested adding the following items to the Agenda.

a. Traffic Study at Holly Springs & Jaybird

Road Manager Andy Swims reminded the Board of Supervisors of a car accident taking the life of a young man at the intersection of Holly Springs and Jaybird approximately a year ago. He noted after that incident flashing lights were installed to caution drivers of the intersection. He said his crews continue to trim back vegetation to improve visibility. Mr. Swims stated even with the precautions

taken by the County this intersection continues to be a problem that is exacerbated by the fact that motorists are traveling at a high rate of speed through the two-way stop and a slight rise in obscures any traffic which may be stopped or slowed down and waiting to turn.

Supervisor Michael Lee informed the Board of Supervisors he recently attended a community-wide meeting about the intersection. Supervisor Lee stated at one time that intersection was a four-way stop. He said when the subdivision was built, it became a two-way stop.

Mr. Swim's stated last year, along with MDOT they conducted a traffic study. He said in one week's time, there were more than 400 cars traveling in excess of 75 miles per hour and 1,000 cars traveling faster than 70 miles per hour. Mr. Swim's said the speed limit along that stretch of the road is 45mph. Mr. Swim's asked if the Board would approve his department to conduct another traffic study at the intersection of Holly Springs and Jaybird to determine if a four-way stop sign is needed.

Sheriff Rasco said every street in the County is a speed problem.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked Mr. Swims if making it a four-way stop would help. Mr. Swim's said they would need to study the intersection.

Supervisor Bill Russell stated they need to look at engineer specs and traffic warrants. He said there is damage when installing a stop sign where it is not necessary.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated they may need to identify, prioritize and set aside money for these dangerous intersections. He said he doesn't understand the law and not allowing the Sheriff to run radar.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell said Supervisor Medlin made a good point. Supervisor Caldwell asked for each Supervisor to identify the roads and intersections in their district and bring a report to the Infrastructure Committee.

Supervisor Caldwell informed Mr. Swims she received a call regarding the intersection at Hwy 304 and Hwy 301. She said people assume it's a four-way stop but it's not. She asked Mr. Swims to conduct a traffic study at that intersection. Mr. Swim's said he would be happy to.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked Mr. Swims about the traffic study at Malone Road. Mr. Swim's stated he has the raw data together and will send a report to all the Supervisors.

Supervisor Medlin asked Mr. Swims to send them data on Craft and Bethel.

Supervisor Michael Lee made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to approve the Road Department to conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Holly Springs and Jaybird to determine if a four-way stop sign is necessary; bring findings back to the Board of Supervisor at the July 6, 2015 meeting.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Mark Gardner, Second District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Bill Russell, Third District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

b. Road Management Working Hours

Road Manager Andy Swims requested approval from the Board of Supervisor to change the working hours for his Road crew. He stated due to the extreme high temperatures he would like to change the work hours to 6:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. He said it becomes a safety issue when the temperatures reach over 93 degrees.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked Mr. Swims how they plan to handle calls received after 2:30 p.m. Mr. Swims said the citizens can call the road Department and leave a message or, if there is an emergency, they are asked to contact the Sheriff's Department.

Supervisor Bill Russell and Supervisor Jessie Medlin agreed that the recording should say to contact Road Manager for an emergency not the Sheriff. Mr. Swims said he would go back and listen to the message.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked Mr. Swims if his office staff would have the new hours. Mr. Swims said they would remain the same 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

At the recommendation of Road Manager Andy Swims, Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the change in work hours for the road crews to 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The motion passed by a vote of 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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

Supervisor Jessie Medlin told Mr. Swims to be sure the crews were in gear and ready to work on the roads at six.

c. Finding of Fact 13121 Coldwater Drive

Road Manager Andy Swims stated a finding of fact analysis has been conducted at 13121 Coldwater Drive, Olive Branch, (Forest Hill Subdivision) where damage to private property associated with drainage and erosion has occurred, affecting the health, safety and welfare of the public. Mr. Swims said the County had worked on this issue about a year ago. He noted complaints have been they didn't go back far enough to handle the flow of water causing further erosion to take place. Mr. Swims stated the estimated cost is \$2,466.14 to repair the drainage ditch.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked if there is flooding over the road. Mr. Swims said yes flooding does occur.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated he was contacted by a constituent about this problem before the Road Department worked on the issue last year. He said there have been issues with this road for some time now.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Bill Russell seconded the motion to declare, as a finding of fact, that the conditions at 13121 Coldwater Drive, Olive Branch are adversely affecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of DeSoto County; that repairing a drainage ditch and stabilizing around the outlet end of pipe with rip rap will help prevent the road from flooding and protect the road and right of way, and to authorize the Road Manager to proceed with the repairs at an estimated cost of \$2,466.14; in accordance with Mississippi code section 19-5-92.1.

The motion passed by a vote of 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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit E.2.c

3. Chief Financial Officer Tom Arnold requested adding the following items to the Agenda.

a. FY2016 DUI - Mississippi Office of Highway Safety Grant

Grants Administrator Melissa Zizman requested approval to accept the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety Grant. Ms. Zizman stated Mississippi Office of Highway Safety (MOHS) changed their process to award grant requests due to a large reduction in the FY 2016 funding. She said she has to respond to MOHS by July 2, 2015 that DeSoto County will accept the awarded amount of \$154,599.00. She said this grant has no match and will benefit the Sheriff's Department for funding three DUI deputies. Ms. Zizman noted no Board President signature will be required today.

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve Grants Administrator Melissa Zizman Grants to notify the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety that DeSoto County wishes to receive their grant of \$154,599 that will benefit the Sheriff's Department for funding three DUI deputies.

The motion passed by a vote of 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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit E.3.a

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the additions and deletions as set forth above.

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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

F. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board of Supervisors considered the following items on the meeting's Consent Agenda.

1. Office of Procurement: Request to Accept & Approve Bid Specifications and Solicit Annual Emulsified Asphalt, Bid File # 16-156-013

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as set forth above.

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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit F.1

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Region IV - Tour of Facilities

Mr. Charlie Spearman, Director of Region IV, appeared before the Board of Supervisors to give an update on their programs in DeSoto County and briefly outline the facilities they would tour today. Mr. Spearman said he wanted to thank the Board for appointing Ms. Pat Sylvester as Commissioner

to the Region IV Board. She has brought in a wealth of information to the programs. Mr. Spearman also introduced Nikki Tapp, who is the Clinical Director for Region IV. He identified the buildings on the agenda to tour are as follows: The HUB, DeSoto PACT, The Clubhouse and The Pharmacy. Supervisor Bill Russell stated they may not be able to tour all four locations due to prior commitments.

The Board members, board attorney, and members of the press reconvened at the HUB a Region IV facility located in Olive Branch.

Mr. Spearman said they opened this facility in 2012 to serve the intellectual development class. They bring clients in to train in their interest, to develop communication skills and to help them with community safety. Mr. Spearman stated these clients are not suited for DeSoto Industries or the program that is in Oxford, MS due to the severity of their disability.

Members of Region IV provided a tour of the building and explained the programs and services they provide at this site.

Program Manager Shawnda Liggins reported they currently have twenty-two adults in the program. She said there are twelve participants Region IV doesn't receive money from Medicare for the services they provide. She said this year Medicare will allow them to be reimbursed for their services through the 1915 (i) State Plan Home and Community Based Services

Ms. Liggins said some of the participants will come in three days a week while others come two days a week. This is a place where they can interact with their peers in a controlled and safe environment.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said DeSoto County population has increased and Region IV has created programs to take care of the residents.

The Board members, board attorney, and members of the press reconvened at Desoto PACT a newly created Region IV program and facility located in Olive Branch.

Mr. Spearman informed the Board of Supervisors a \$600,000.00 grant (Program of Assertive Community Treatment) from the Mississippi Department of Mental Health has enabled DeSoto County to reduce the number of mental health patients housed in local jails and help patients receive the treatment they need to live a life of recovery.

Mr. Spearman introduced PACT Director Samantha Minyard to the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Minyard stated the program is aimed at individuals who have been diagnosed with a severe and persistent mental illness. She said many times, individuals will not seek help and will stop taking their medication. The Desoto PACT program takes mental health care to individuals in their homes and provides transportation for counseling and treatment. Ms. Minyard said this is a population of people who usually will not go out and get their medications. Their team will administrate medication in 30 day allotments not the typical 90 days.

Ms. Minyard said they have a staff psychologist, Dr. Scott Baymiller, along with a masters-level therapist, two full time nurse practitioners, a registered nurse and other staff. As the program develops, more staff can be added. She said at this time state guidelines limit them to three new patients a month. She said they currently have five people in the program. PACT has been operational for the past two months.

Supervisor Bill Russell asked them how they receive a referral. Mr. Spearman said they work closely with Baptist Hospital and the Sheriff's Department. He said they have a crisis intervention team of seven that can accompany deputies in crisis situations.

Supervisor Mark Gardner said the Sheriff has complimented Region IV on the programs that they offer.

The Board members, board attorney, and members of the administration department reconvened at the Region IV Pharmacy facility in Hernando.

Members of Region IV provided a tour of the building and explained the medications and services they provide at this site.

Mr. Spearman said having access to a pharmacy has been a major part of the program's early success. They have opened a pharmacy for clients which we have combined with 27 states to have buying capability to purchase drugs for our clients. They only dispense 30 day supply to the clients, but they have a warehouse for medication for the clients at all times.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell stressed the importance of the continued support for the children and the importance of Region IV actually being in the schools. This program prevents a parent from having to take time off from work to take the child out of school in order to take them to a counselor or pharmacist.

Mr. Spearman said their main job when they started in DeSoto County was to keep people out of the jail facilities. He said the cooperation that Region IV receives from the Sheriff Dept., Judge Lynchard, Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis and Baptist Hospital has allowed Region IV to make these programs available for DeSoto County.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Office of Finance & Accounting: Approval for Payments to Justice Court Judges and Pioneer

The Board, County Administrator and Board Attorney returned to the Board room at the DeSoto County administration building. Chief Financial Officer Tom Arnold stated after printing the claims docket that was presented to the Board June 15, 2015 they inadvertently omitted the payments to the Justice Court Judges and Pioneer Collection Agency. Mr. Arnold said the payments to the Judges were for various wedding services they had performed. He noted Pioneer Collection Agency is the company the County hired to handle Justice Court collections. Mr. Arnold said the amounts for both are as follows:

Judge Lantrip	\$200.00
Judge Carter	\$125.00
Judge Adams	\$225.00
Judge Vaughn	\$ 50.00
Pioneer Collection Agency	\$3,353.44

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to authorize the Chancery Clerk to write the check to pay the late bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer in Exhibit H.1.

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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit H.1

I. OTHER

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Michael Lee seconded the motion to postpone the presentation from Memphis Food Bank until September 7, 2015 Board meeting.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

