

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MARK GARDNER, PRESIDENT 2013 PRESIDING**

**September 20, 2013**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The September 20, 2013 special emergency meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Mark Gardner, Board President. Written notice of the calling of this special emergency meeting was issued by Supervisor Mark Gardner, three or more hours prior to the convening of this meeting and provided to the members of the Board of Supervisors by hand delivery. A copy of the notice of the special emergency meeting is made a part of these minutes.

Deputy Carl Hurt 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 Harvey Lee	District 5, <i>Present by Tele-conference</i>
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff, <i>Absent</i>
W. E. Sluggo Davis	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney, <i>Absent</i>

**B. INVOCATION**

Supervisor Mark Gardner presented the invocation.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Emergency Management Services**

Chief Deputy Director Chris Olson, Deputy Directors Tim Curtis and D.W. Gilbert appeared before the Board of Supervisors to request a burn ban in DeSoto County.

Chief Olson said they are working on the new building and said they really appreciate the new space and it is coming together very well. He thanked the Board for the additional space.

Chief Olson said the Mississippi Forestry Commission determined drought and wildlife conditions exist and recommended a burn ban. He said they contacted the weather service and Memphis is expecting about 3/4 of an inch of rain today and it is currently raining in parts of DeSoto County. It will not be enough rain. Chief Olson said they worked all weekend fighting fires and the Forestry was fighting fires as well. He said they have had calls every day. Chief Olson said most of the fires have been caused by household fires.

Supervisor Mark Gardner said he received a call from someone asking what the ban includes.

Chief Olson said there are a couple that are exempt from the burn ban. He said one is for agriculture burning; the farmers are very conscientious when burning. Chief Olson said the other one is for the construction on I-69; it is exempt and they do have permits. He said most of the time they are burning in a pit which is the correct way to burn. Chief Olson said they also call to let them know when they will be burning.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said there are 3 contractors working on I-69. Chief Olson said they are burning correctly by using a pit.

Deputy Director Tim Curtis said the farmers are constantly burning corn stalks.

Chief Olson said the phone number for commercial and construction burning is 662-469-8017; residential burning is 662-429-1358. The number for the Forestry is 1-877-226-5414.

Supervisor Gardner asked about cooking on outdoor grills and any other outdoor cooking. Chief Olson said using an outdoor grill is acceptable. He said box fires, a pit in the ground or fire ring are not acceptable. Deputy Gilbert said the fire ring can be used if it is for cooking.

Chief Olson said they are requesting a burn ban for 30 days based on the rainfall. He said the Board can end or extend the burn ban.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve a burn ban in the unincorporated areas of DeSoto County beginning September 20, 2013 and ending in 30 days, or that date established by extension or abatement of time determined necessary by the State Forestry Commission; to designate the Director of Emergency Services as the representative and contact of the Board of Supervisors for communicating with the State Forestry Commission; to authorize the Director of Emergency Services to confirm a desire for the burn ban to remain in effect should the State Forestry Commission make inquiry upon the County for such confirmation; to authorize the Director of Emergency Services to announce any extension of the burn ban established by the State Forestry Commission which extension is verified by the Director of Emergency Services to be necessary; and to authorize the Director of Emergency Services to announce the lifting of the burn ban upon a determination being made by the State Forestry Commission that drought and wildfire conditions have expired, and it is safe for outdoor burning to resume, and the Director of Emergency Services has verified such findings; and for the Director of Emergency Services to inform this Board of any extension or termination of the burn ban and request this Board take any further and necessary action to extend or terminate the burn ban.

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 Harvey Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

**See Exhibit D.1**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting until October 7, 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>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Harvey Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

THIS the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, 2013, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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Mark Gardner, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors