

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DISTRICT ONE SUPERVISOR JESSIE MEDLIN, PRESIDING
April 01, 2020

A. CALL TO ORDER

The April 01, 2020 Special Called Emergency Meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Jessie Medlin, Board President.

Sheriff Bill Rasco 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 Ray Denison	District 3
Supervisor Lee Caldwell	District 4
Supervisor Michael Lee	District 5 – Came in late
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff's Department
Misty Heffner	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Ray Denison offered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. SPECIAL CALLED EMERGENCY MEETING

Supervisor Ray Denison made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to make the notice of special called meeting part of the Board 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 Ray Denison, Third District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>ABSENT</u>

See Exhibit D.

Board Attorney Tony Nowak stated he has spoken to the Governor's counsel and the Governor will be making the announcement today for the State of Mississippi to shelter in place.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the firm of Smith, Phillips, Mitchell, Scott & Nowak to work on anything the County needs related to Coronavirus.

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 Ray Denison, Third District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>ABSENT</u>

E. OLD BUSINESS

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Governor's Press Conference

Governor Reeves had a press conference stating a Shelter in Place Order will go into effect Friday, April 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. for the entire state of Mississippi. He stated his message to his fellow Mississippians is that this is not easy for anyone, but it is the right course of action at this time. He said the goal of the order is to keep medical facilities from being overwhelmed.

In addition to Governor Reeves; State Health Officer Dr. Dobbs, National Guard General Boyles, Speaker Philip Gunn, and MEMA Director Michel all spoke and affirmed their stance to support the Governor in the Shelter in Place Order. Dr. Dobbs stated MS has had the advantage of watching other states when they put a Shelter in Place order into effect. He said MS is well earlier doing so based on statistics.

Governor Reeves stated schools would be closed until April 20th; and he will be looking in a week or two to see if that will be extended. The Governor repeatedly stressed the importance of not having gatherings of 10 or more. He said the supply chain is working and there is no need for anyone to stock up for months on groceries or household supplies.

Governor Reeves said the Unemployment Office has been inundated with calls from less than 1,000 two weeks ago to over 6,000 last week. He said people will be eligible for benefits based on the termination date, not the date they call.

Governor Reeves said MDH is on the offensive by sending out 9 teams to identify and isolate COVID-19 cases; and sending out mobile testing units. He stated they will continue to send out mobile testing units.

Supervisor Caldwell stated the Governor has asked for the boards across the state to address all questions to the Board Attorneys and they will contact the Governor's counsel.

Sheriff Rasco said liquor stores should not be essential. Mrs. Lynchard stated that came in the federal orders, not the state. EMS Director Mark Davis said that the MS Dept. of Health is concerned because there are so many chronic alcoholics; if their alcohol was taken away, they would be filling up the hospitals or dead.

2. COVID-19 Update

Circuit Clerk – Mrs. Thompson said they are issuing marriage licenses by appointment only and issuing about 10-20 per week. She stated a lot of people were coming from Shelby County and she stopped that; but she wanted to know if she could legally do that. Mrs. Thompson expressed concern for her employees having to fill out the forms in person.

Mrs. Lynchard asked the Department Managers to identify who is essential in each department and plan how to staff using the least people possible based on the work flow. She stated the County has to continue to support essential services and cannot lose sight of that.

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session today.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to recess the Board meeting until Friday, April 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

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

THIS the 4th day of May, 2020, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Jessie Medlin, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors