

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DISTRICT ONE SUPERVISOR JESSIE MEDLIN, PRESIDING
August 24, 2020

A. CALL TO ORDER

The August 24, 2020 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 (Came in late)
Supervisor Lee Caldwell	District 4
Supervisor Michael Lee	District 5
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff's Department
Misty Heffner	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Mark Gardner offered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. CITIZENS REMARKS & PRESENTATIONS

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Supervisor Medlin asked if there was anyone who wished to add or delete items to the Agenda. There was none.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented.

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

F. CONSENT AGENDA

G. OLD BUSINESS

H. PLANNING

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. 8:00 a.m. – Flood Study – Comments for MS River Commission – Signature Required

Mr. Tracy Huffman, Engineer for the Flood Study, stated he drafted this letter and other comments in response to a suggestion received from the new project manager. He stated this testimony includes more along the lines of bank stabilization, cleaning out ditches, and cleaning out silting.

Supervisor Caldwell said Mr. Huffman has really pushed and directed this project from the County's side and the Corps of Engineers has gone from answering no to the County's requests to helping. She stated these are the County's real needs and what we have needed. She said the Committee feels like we have now made great strides and this is the last hope to get what we need.

Mrs. Lynchard stated Mr. Huffman has the expertise to navigate the system; but the Flood Committee has held firm with the Corps and had some frank conversations that they are not happy with the study thus far.

Supervisor Medlin asked if the Corps was working with DCRUA. Mr. Huffman stated the Corps emphasized they are including environmental protection because of settlement. He said the settlement has affected some DCRUA sites.

Supervisor Caldwell stated that writing a letter to Senators and Congressmen got things moving. She said she felt like with this new group, the Committee feels like they have some listening ears. She said they have come on site and looked at some problem areas with the County.

Mr. Huffman stated, like most Corps studies, this one will not have everything the County wants; and they will likely have to take their study and further develop it and break it into pieces. He said he did not know if the County will get the full benefit; but he noted that there are lots of areas that wish they got the authority to even get a study. He said the County will have to do something with what they get.

Supervisor Denison asked if there was oversight and people that checked the streams to be sure they are not blocked. Supervisor Caldwell said they have done a lot of that work with drones and the helicopter. She stated the problem is that, as a County, they are not allowed to go into those creeks and clean them out. She stated you can do that through the Corps and that is one thing they are asking for.

Supervisor Medlin recalled that at the first meeting the Corps said the Coldwater River blockage was about ¾ mile long. He said he felt like the Corps did not want the settlement in Arkabutla. Mr. Huffman stated he can amend the comments to specifically ask for cleaning out snags and dredging. He noted that a lot of the flooding in DeSoto County is runoff from urban areas.

Supervisor Gardner noted that a few years ago, the County hauled out about 200 truckloads. He asked if it was silted back in. Mr. Scott Young affirmed. Supervisor Lee said it has been dredged since then; but the County is cleaning as far as they can go due to the building.

Mrs. Lynchard stated the Committee sat and looked at extensive helicopter and drone footage and identified a lot of snags. Supervisor Gardner stated the County will have to have preventative maintenance on ditches just like they do on roads. Mr. Huffman said that would be good; but Supervisor Lee said the County can only clean out what they can get to without getting in where building is going on.

Supervisor Medlin said the Board may have to start having developers set one or two lots aside for detention and access.

Supervisor Caldwell said they are requesting the Board approve putting in another bullet point regarding cleaning out of snags.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to approve the letter and summary including adding a bullet point regarding cleaning out snags; and authorize the Board President to sign the letter.

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
See Exhibit I.1.

YES

2. Budget Discussion – FY2021

Mrs. Lynchard stated Accounting has made the changes from the last meeting. She stated this morning they will present the Road Department budget, tidy up the General Fund and hear the Sheriff's Department budget in the afternoon.

Page 31 – Youth Court

- Court Administrator increase by Statute – Not sure if AOC will cover increase
- Judge Treadway is working to try and get that
- Possible that State will pick up all the parent attorney's salary, County now paying half
- State Public Defenders office is asking for one public defender in every Youth Court

Page 44 – Election Support

- Never 100% sure of what will be received – Revenue at 001-000-256
- If HAVA funds change, will have to amend

Page 44 – Youth Mentoring Program – Community Foundation Grant

- Started by Judge Wilson – Challenge to spend with restrictions on it

Page 45 – Community Resources – New Department created in 2020

- Website upgrades, mileage, travel, supplies & uniform needs discussed
- Advertising in DeSoto Times to promote the County

Page 52 – Juvenile Drug Court

- Erica Banks has talked to the grant people to help her capture all the money awarded

Pages 53 & 76 – Adult Drug Court

- Grant changed, anything over \$300,000 will need a transfer in from Fund 026
- Budgeting \$300,000 in revenue, this year to date taken in about \$400,000
- They will pay for renovations for old Child Support Building

Pages 56 – 60 – Constables

- Only increase is statutory for their lost cost

Page 63 – Vital Statistics

- They bill each county for certificates ordered

Page 67 – DHS Economic Assistance

Department of Road Management

Page 62 – Fleet Management

- 60 vehicles supported through Fleet management
- Fuel budget used to be very high, now well managed
- Lubrication went up – more vehicles, higher prices
- Every time fuel is purchase, have to get quotes, prices fluctuate
- Mr. Jarman stated that Mr. Conlee and Mr. Pearson looked at the vendors and confronted some about their pricing. He said fuel is cheaper now that is was because of those discussions.
- Tire budget went up because took on RV and Rapid Response Truck
- Repair line was amended during the year because of an EMA repair
- Tax Assessor is asking for 3 new 4x4 trucks
- Recommend 2 new 4x4 trucks for Tax Assessor and keep one that was repaired
- Move 2 old vehicles from Tax Assessor to Fleet (Environmental Services and Loaner)
- Move another vehicle to GIS
- Surplus vehicles from GIS, Environmental Services, and a Loaner
- \$117,000 requested can go to 50,000 if Tax Assessor does not get 3 trucks
- Mr. Fitch said the Tax Assessor's trucks are their offices and he wants them to be safe and be able to get their job done

- Supervisor Gardner & Supervisor Medlin said if a 3rd truck is needed during the year, the Board will pledge to get it

Pages 99 & 100 – Road Management

- Added some to revenue due to growth
- Lines 305 & 310 decreases related to projects
- Line 374 – MPO project complete
- Reductions to salaries and related costs
- Closing post office box and using mailbox to save \$740/year
- Increase in cellular phone service for computers in trucks
- Increased utilities to cover new building – will know good numbers for next budget
- Will try not to rent as much equipment since receiving new, larger equipment – Amount is actual use not including storm usage
- Trying to do in house repair and service to our own vehicles – Also separating work into specific accounts to track better
- Towing costs are up – working with Sheriff to use their tow truck some
- Engineering fees are mostly under specific projects – This is for task orders from consultants, surveys, etc. - Trying to replace engineer position
- Uniforms are about 1,000 per month at each location – Looking into making some reductions, talking with the company
- Requesting to purchase a 4500 cab & chassie truck with no bed to pull equipment at the Eastern Shop for \$45,000. Will probably surplus a 3500. Also asking for a 2500 for \$39,000 out of another fund.
- Need new trailers, old ones are worn and new ones are safer. Looking at a broom that mounts to a skid steer with hydraulics. Will eliminate driving out the road sweeper in many instances.
- Overall 785,000 reduction in budget
- Next year will be finer tuned with a year of history to look at

Page 101 – Projects

Star Landing Road

- Star Landing is in different segments – current is Segment 2 – Railroad to Hwy 51
- Old earmarked project
- Submitted for DCIP, not invited for application – possibly other authorizations
- Segment 2 has Armory and Agri Ed center
- Only other Star Landing money is for design
- Talked about alignment east of Swinnea to Getwell on Star Landing – Scott Young said there is a full set of plans for the road, it is not just an alignment
- Putting Star Landing on agenda for September 8th

Commerce Street

- Includes moving forward with right-of-way purchases, no construction dollars currently

Armory Road

- Moving forward, all the money is there
- Road Department is building
- There will be wetlands to mitigate at some point

Page 102 – Bridge & Culvert

- Healthy interest income
- Use Tax to be used toward Getwell Road - \$250,000
- No NRCS projects at this time and none in queue
- Transfers in from losses from Fuel Tax
- Dropped Engineer's fees – most are in projects
- Put in \$5,500 for updated equipment for engineers
- Neel Schaffer and Digital Now split with cities, County share is \$20,000

Page 103 – Projects for Bridge & Culvert

Holly Springs Road

- Segment 1 – Funding sources in 5 different funds – Trying to use the Senate Bill, State Aid, and BUILD Grant funds first – Cost around \$23 million
- Completion date January 2022 for Segment 1
- Currently acquiring ROW for Segment 2
- Trying to overlap components, have to be obligated by September and ready to go to construction by March 2021 – Cost around \$19 million
- Completion date end of 2022 or first of 2023 for Segment 2

Pepperchase

- Funds put into 160-399 for City of Southaven from original Nail Road Interchange

Craft Road

- Allocation to MDOT for I269

Bridge Upgrades

- Not used in 9 or 10 years so reduced and put in Ending Cash
- Left \$182,000 for needed repairs

Nail Road Alignment

- This is the feasibility and alignment study portion.
- Not designed, just a study

McIngvale Extended

- Allocation to City

Getwell Road

- Intersection is MPO and County project with signal
- MPO & ERBR money

Page 105 & 106 – Bridge & Culvert

- Moved Jack Ethridge back into Engineering
- Laundry increased because of uniforms
- Will be trying to do more with the patching truck this year
- Spray truck is calibrated correctly and more efficient
- Again, trying to be sure funds are used correctly for record keeping
- Looking to purchase one skid steer this year so each crew will have one
- Planning to upgrade some shop equipment

Page 107 – Storm Debris Removal

- Will probably get a good portion of the \$2 million back to reimburse ending cash

Page 108 – State Aid Road Funds

Ingram's Mill Bridge

- Will go to construction soon, State Aid project
- State Aid pays contractor directly, County pays engineering, utility replacement and not all is reimbursable
- \$205,000 total County cost, \$80,000 left

Holly Springs Road

- Additional \$1 million requested for Segment 1 expenses – will true up

Craft Road Bridge

- LSBP project – expecting to start end of school year in 2021
- Replacing existing
- Engineering reimbursement at 100%, County will pay \$150,000
- LSBP will not pay for anything above sub-base.
- Detour through school for school traffic
- Official detour Laughter Road

Beginning Cash \$119,000, Ending Cash 2021 proposed \$244,000 for reimbursement
Bridge fund is pre-funded and will put back when receive State Aid money

Page 116 – ERBR Funds & BUILD Grant Funds

- For Holly Springs Road

Page 117 – Road Projects

- Locally funded road projects
- Hwy 51 Widening for AWG (Project 2023) and signal at Kapik Drive \$2.4 million

Page 118 – ERBR

- 100% reimbursable
- Watching for other grants and funding opportunities

Page 119 & 120 – GO Bonds for Capital Projects

Getwell Road – Lester to Pleasant Hill

- \$500,000 for Engineering on Getwell Road
- Going to use Use Tax money
- 100% reimbursement on the light at Pleasant Hill & Getwell from MPO because it is a signal

Swinnea Road – Star Landing to Bankston

- \$5 million project – 100% County funded

Nail Road – Hacks to Polk

- Construction portion, current project
- Millage will be coming off at about the right time to apply for construction for other miles
- Split out Polk Lane to the North for another project – No design work done, won't be ready for next year
- 2 or 3 years away from construction

Craft Road – Phase 2 – North to Bethel

- Working to get right of way
- Likely to be constructed next year in the spring

Craft Road – College to Church

- No firm numbers, possibly \$2 - \$3 million
- On 4-year Road Plan, but not initiated

ICAC Addition

- Added to the list

Polk Lane Extension

- Designing now south from Goodman to tie into Nail Road
- Hopefully \$3 million will cover all
- Need number to budget in the right line item

Page 122 – Amazon DIP Grant Project

- MDA & Board approved
- County putting in apx \$260,000

Sheriff's Department Budget Pages 46-49

(Bookkeeper Donna Ford, Chief Deputy Justin Smith, Sheriff Rasco presenting)

- Numbers from Accounting agree with beginning budget
- Request includes 5 officers

- Revenue from COPS Grant not included in the \$865,009 increase
- COPS Grant revenue is \$246,553
- Following years will be offsetting revenue from grant
- 1 new person as mechanic
- Money carried over for radios, payment will be made in FY21 budget
- Salary variance reflects promotions & certifications (step raises)
- Sheriff - Selling a helicopter to help pay for ICAC addition
- Aviation line cut – No paid pilots
- Taking \$160,000 from seizure money for furniture and server? Sheriff yes
- Money will go into forfeitures from seizure after judge’s order
- Purchasing 16 vehicles – new officers will use older cars – surplussing some
- Flat budget except for items listed

2021 BUDGET	2020 ADOPTED BUDGET	2021 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
200 ADMINISTRATIVE	1,219,031	1,331,249	112,218
201 AVIATION	222,254	111,604	(110,650)
202 PATROL/LAW ENFORC	15,055,370	15,987,945	612,575
220 JAIL	5,301,535	5,582,239	280,704
222 MEDICAL	1,127,082	1,188,060	38,978
223 JUVENILE DETENTION	1,330,234	1,254,068	(76,166)
225 RESCUE UNIT	33,550	40,900	7,350
Total	24,289,066	25,154,065	865,009

388,634 ICAC / Cops Grant H/C-5- Salaries, Uniforms, Equip,

Salaries including holidays & fringes

145,103 2 Dispatchers

26,265 1 P-T Fugitive Officer

95,634 1 Captain in Jail

47,965 1 Other Services-Mechanic

49,932 Overtime

56,475 Variances in rank, entry level / sr level, stipends

421,375 Total Increase Salaries & Fringes

57,000 200-503 Cellular Telephone, Laptops included, previously in IT budget.

865,009

NOTE: \$600,000 BUILDING ADDITION FOR ICAC CENTER NOT IN THESE NUMBERS

- ICAC Building is a one-time capital expense – Attorney General’s office buying computer for ICAC investigators – Secret Service helping with training and equipment for forensics side – Forfeitures \$160,000 for furniture and servers – Operational Expenses have not been budgeted
- Cellular includes money from IT to Sheriff’s Department to manage their own plan – Every patrol car has laptop and requires cellular data – Added service as well
- Moved Aviation headcount to other divisions
- Put Chad Wicker over both detention centers and put a captain at each one to help him – working out great
- ICAC - \$250,000 projected for sale of helicopter – \$160,000 from forfeiture - Some was capital project money - \$665,000 will be a one-time expense – discussed previously that money turned in could go to this project
- License plate readers bought with grant money – looking to find a vendor that allows more users
- Will look for more solar options for speed limit trailers
- School Resource Officers – p. 47, Line 443 – 5 resource offices from this year? Sheriff, yes, now 1 in every county school and school board is paying for 2. School board is applying for MCOPS grant as well. School district is paying for DCAC officer.

Page 81 – Sheriff’s Canteen Fund

- Has to be used for services for jail and prisoners
- Equitable sharing down because some vehicles were purchases out of it this year
- Revenue depends on drug arrests, have to split with another agency

Page 97 – Forfeiture Account

- Depends on revenue that comes in
- Goes into a holding account after trial and if released, goes into forfeiture

Page 63 – CESF – Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund Grant

- COVID money used for computer equipment, Gas masks, Medical Supplies

Page 67 – DHS – Economic Assistance

- Cut from \$10,200 to \$8,300 by DHS

Page 67 – Social Services

- Allocation for North Delta
- Now billing for Bus Driver and Homemaker raises, have not for several years

Page 68 – Emergency Allocations

- House of Grace – cut by 10% to \$19,350 – Other entities are now helping support
- Healing Hearts – cut by 10% to \$6,561

Page 68 – Workers Compensation

- With 5 COPS Grant people included

Page 69 –

- **Library Administration**- Requested even funding
- **Soil Conservation** - Less because of true up

Page 70 – County Extension & 4-H

- No change

Page 71 – Advertising County Resources

- DeSoto Council Allocation – Yearly allocation of \$290,000
- DeSoto Council - \$10,000 for RIF expenses as needed
- DeSoto Museum Allocation – Leave at \$35,000
- The Arc – Cut 10% to \$3,280.50
- DeSoto Arts Council – Cut 10% to \$9,593.10
- DeSoto Family Theatre – Last year’s amount \$20,000, requesting \$30,000. Less 10% would be \$18,000

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to cut the amount to DeSoto Family Theatre to \$10,000.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>NO</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>

Supervisor Medlin said he would like to not give any toward the theatre at this time.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion to reconsider. Second by Supervisor Mark Gardner.

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>

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Michael Lee seconded the motion to not allocate funds to the DeSoto Family Theatre in the FY21 budget.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin, First District	<u>YES</u>
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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>

Town of Walls – The Board agreed they need to talk about the County’s support of the Town of Walls. Supervisor Denison said they need to understand some things have to change.

Page 72 – Interfund Transactions

- **501 Fund** (Insurance) supplemented \$1.7 million this year. With 555 employees, that is a supplement of about \$10,700 per person. Supervisor Lee said this seems like a good time to pull out the 1.5% the Board put back last year to supplement insurance. Mrs. Freeze said they could move any extra in department budgets to insurance. Mrs. Lynchard stated there was about \$97,000 left in insurance money in the department budgets. Mrs. Crockett stated this will affect retiree medical and COBRA.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to put the remainder of the 1.5% money held back and the \$97,000 left in insurance lines in various budgets into the 501 Fund and adjust the amount of disbursements from life to medical; as well as increase retiree medical and COBRA amounts.

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>

Mrs. Crockett stated the outside agencies that participate in the insurance pool are not reimbursing the County any part of the supplemental payments to the fund. Mrs. Lynchard stated the County has never charged the outside agencies a pro rata share when supplements to the fund were made. Mr. Nowak said he would have to review the pool agreement to see if that is addressed.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the firm of Smith, Phillips, Mitchell, Scott & Nowak authority to look into the insurance pool agreement.

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>

J. EXECUTIVE

The Executive Session portion of these minutes is recorded under the portion of the minutes called “Executive Session”.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to recess the Board meeting until Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.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 8th day of September, 2020, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Jessie Medlin, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors