

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DISTRICT ONE JESSIE MEDLIN, PRESIDING**

**September 15, 2016**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The September 15, 2016 meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Jessie Medlin, 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
Misty Heffner	Chancery Clerk
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

**B. INVOCATION**

Sheriff Bill Rasco offered the invocation.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D. CITIZENS REMARKS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Board for items not on the Agenda. No one came forward.

**E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

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

The following requests were made to add to the Agenda:

**1. Supervisor Mark Gardner requested an item be considered for Executive Session regarding an Industrial Prospect.**

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to approve the Agenda with the additions 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**

## G. OLD BUSINESS

### 1:00 p.m. – Public Hearing - Budget FY17

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to open the public hearing to discuss the FY17 Budget.

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>

Supervisor Jessie Medlin stated the public hearing is continued from September 6<sup>th</sup> and opened the floor for comments from the public.

#### 1. DeSoto County Schools

DeSoto County Schools Superintendent Cory Uselton spoke with the Board regarding school finances and how they are preparing for the future. Mr. Uselton presented a slide show explaining the DeSoto County Schools FY17 Budget. In this budget, Mr. Uselton pointed out that over \$1,000,000.00 was cut in salaries from administrative positions since January 1<sup>st</sup>. He also informed the Board of Supervisors that the School District is currently conducting an efficiency study in order to find ways to save more money. In the end, Mr. Uselton stated he was proud to say the DeSoto County Schools were presenting an amended budget that did not increase from FY2016. Mr. Uselton stated he appreciated the Board of Supervisors' support of the DeSoto County School District and he is excited for the future.

Supervisor Medlin stated his appreciation for Mr. Uselton and the job he does. He stated he has seen lots of changes in DeSoto County and a lot of growth recently. Supervisor Medlin asked Mr. Uselton if the schools got any information from the Planning Department when large developments were approved.

Supervisor Caldwell stated the Planning Commission is working to let the School District know of such developments. Supervisor Caldwell also stated education is what drives economic development, and the Board recognizes the challenge to keep great schools when budgets have to be stretched.

Supervisor Gardner expressed his appreciation to the School Board members for their attendance; and expressed thanks to Mr. Uselton for his presentation and clarification of the budget, and the School Board's reconsideration of their budget to have no increase.

Supervisor Russell stated his father was Superintendent of Horn Lake Area Schools in 1960, and there are more students in DeSoto County Schools today than there were County residents back then. He stated he is proud of the education his son received in DeSoto County Schools and he knows how hard the administrative staff at DeSoto County Schools works.

Supervisor Lee stated the Board of Supervisors is a very good representation of DeSoto County Schools and the students they turn out. Mr. Uselton stated Supervisor Lee was the School Resource Officer at Hernando High School when he first began his teaching career in DeSoto County.

Supervisor Medlin also expressed appreciation to the representation from the State Legislative Delegation in attendance, and the jobs they do to help DeSoto County & DeSoto County Schools.

**See Exhibit G.1.**

#### 2. DeSoto County Budget

County Administrator Vanessa Lynchard stated the people of DeSoto County are attentive and

engaged with the workings of DeSoto County Government. She stated this Board has worked very hard to increase spending efficiency and to increase public transparency. Mrs. Lynchard praised the Board as being a good government model. Mrs. Lynchard presented a slide show noting the high points of the FY17 DeSoto County Board of Supervisors Budget.

**See Exhibit G.2.**

**3. DeSoto County Tax Levy**

Chief Financial Officer Andrea Freeze presented the 2017 Tax Levy Statement.

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the DeSoto County School Board Order revision with a flat budget and recommending a flat millage from 2016 and place the order in the minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

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>

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve and adopt the FY2017 budget as presented and with the changes previously discussed and approved by the Board during budget discussions; to set the tax levy as presented on the approved budget; to set the millage rates based on the 2017 budget as listed below; and to make Mrs. Lynchard's report a part of the Board minutes.

IN THE MATTER OF LEVYING COUNTY AND  
AD VALOREM TAXES FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017  
INCLUDING ROAD MAINTENANCE, SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AND ANY OTHER TAXING DISTRICTS

It is ordered and adjudged by the Board of Supervisors of DeSoto County that the following ad valorem tax rates, or tax levies, be and the same hereby are, imposed and levied for fiscal year 2016-2017, upon all taxable property in DeSoto County, State of Mississippi, and in the County school district, drainage districts and any other taxing districts in DeSoto County as the same are now assessed and listed or may hereinafter be assessed and listed on the Assessment Rolls of said County, as of January 1, 2016 upon each dollar of valuation.

PURPOSE OF LEVY	LEVIED MILLS
<b>FOR DESOTO COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</b>	
(1) Levy authorized by Section 27-39-329, Mississippi Code of 1972	4.00
This levy for 4.00 mills is for the following items:	
General County	3.00 mills
General County Mandatory (current expenses and maintenance authorized by Section 27-39-329 (2)(b), Mississippi Code of 1972)	1.00 mill
(2) For General County purposes (current expense and maintenance authorized by Section 27-39-303, Miss. Code of 1972)	23.09
This levy for 23.09 mills for General County purposes is for the following items: office and administration, judicial, law enforcement, assistance to individuals, farm and home services, operation and maintenance of county facilities, economic opportunities, advertising county resources, libraries, county health, soil and water conservation and emergency medical services, as shown by the budget to be adopted by the Board of Supervisors in accordance with the regulations of the State Audit Department.	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL COUNTY</b> .....	<b>27.09</b>
(3) For maintenance and construction of roads, as authorized by Section 27-39-305, Code of 1972.	2.97
(4) For county-wide maintenance and construction of bridges and culverts, as authorized by Section 65-15-7, Code of 1972	4.00
<b>TOTAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND BRIDGES</b> .....	<b>6.97</b>
(5) For operation of the solid waste disposal program and the rubbish pit, authorized by Section 19-5-21, Code of 1972	1.37
<b>TOTAL SOLID WASTE</b> .....	<b>1.37</b>

(6)	2005 \$6,960 million refunding bonds, interest and sinking (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 223)	.55
(7)	2007 \$8,755 million refunding bonds, interest and sinking (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 216)	.37
(8)	2009 Public Improvement refunding bonds, interest and sinking (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 224)	.95
(9)	2009 \$16 million general obligation bonds, interest and sinking (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 225)	.72
(10)	2009 Refunding bonds-Mississippi Development Bank (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 226)	.315
(11)	2010 Refunding Bonds (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 227)	.55
(12)	2010 \$5 Million Bonds (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 228)	.275
(13)	2012 Refunding Bonds I&S (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 229)	1.08
(14)	2013 \$10.5 Million Bonds I&S (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 231)	.455
(15)	2015 Refunding Bonds I&S (Section 19-9-9) (Fund 232)	.325
	<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE.....</b>	<b>5.59</b>
	<b>TOTAL DESOTO COUNTY.....</b>	<b>41.02</b>
	<b>FOR DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOL OPERATIONS:</b>	
(1)	For the operations of all public schools in the DeSoto County School District, as required by the State Department of Education, and as authorized by Section 37-57-104, et. seq., Code of 1972	40.35
(2)	Board of Education Notes interest and sinking fund (Section 37-59-107)	3.00
(3)	Board of Education Bonds interest and sinking fund (Section 37-59-23)	10.22
	<b>TOTAL DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS MILLAGE.....</b>	<b>53.57</b>
	<b>FOR NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPERATIONS:</b>	
(1)	Support of Northwest Mississippi Community College, as authorized by Section 37-29-141, Code of 1972	1.99
(2)	Support of Northwest Mississippi Community College Building and Improvement Fund, as authorized by Section 37-29-141, Code of 1972	2.12
	<b>TOTAL NORTHWEST MISS. COMMUNITY COLLEGE MILLAGE.....</b>	<b>4.11</b>
	<b>TOTAL EDUCATION MILLAGE.....</b>	<b>57.68</b>
	<b>TOTAL COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE.....</b>	<b>98.70</b>
	<b>OTHER LEVIES:</b>	
(1)	For support of County Fire Protection Districts, in accordance with Section 19-5-189, Code of 1972, as follows:	
	a. Brights/Lewisburg Fire Protection District (real property only)	1.00
	b. Walls Fire Protection District (real property only)	1.00
	c. Eudora Fire Protection District (real property only)	1.00
	d. Love Fire Protection District (real property only)	1.00
	e. Nesbit Fire Protection District (real property only)	1.00
(2)	For support of Volunteer Fire Departments in accordance with Section 83-1-39, Code of 1972, as follows:	
	All property in DeSoto County, exclusive of municipalities	2.00
(3)	For providing fire protection, a forest acreage tax on all timbered and uncultivated lands in DeSoto County is hereby levied as authorized by Section 49-19-115, Code of 1972.	.09 per acre
(4)	Yazoo Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District (Section 51-8-43)	.75
(5)	Yazoo - Mississippi Delta Levee District (Miss. Const. Ann. Art. 11)	2.00
(6)	Drainage tax against all property liable therefore, as authorized by Orders of Records as of this date, and as authorized by Section 51-31-65, Code of 1972.	
	a. Cane Muscogee Drainage District	3.00
	b. Northwest Mississippi Consolidated Drainage District	3.50
	c. Short Fork Creek Drainage District	0.25
	d. Lake Cormorant Drainage District	0.00
	e. Horn Lake Creek Watershed Drainage District	2.60

None of these levies exceed any of the limitations set out in Title 27, Chapter 39, Code of 1972, or amendments thereto.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, DESOTO COUNTY

I, Misty Heffner, Chancery Court Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in and for said County and State, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the taxes levied by the Board of Supervisors at its September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting.

Given under my hand and official seal this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

(SEAL)

Misty Heffner, Chancery Clerk

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 YES  
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District YES

**See Exhibit G.3.**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Michael Lee seconded the motion to close the public hearing.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

Supervisor Caldwell stated this is a government of the people, and she expressed appreciation to the citizens who respond and let the Board know what they like and don't like.

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

**I. PLANNING**

**J. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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 made the motion to recess the Board meeting to September 19, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

THIS the 15th day of September, 2016, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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Jessie Medlin, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors