

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DISTRICT TWO SUPERVISOR MARK GARDNER, Presiding at Opening

After Passing of the Gavel

DISTRICT FIVE SUPERVISOR MICHAEL LEE, Presiding

January 03, 2022

A. CALL TO ORDER

The January 03, 2022 meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Mark Gardner 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 – By phone
Supervisor Lee Caldwell	District 4
Supervisor Michael Lee	District 5
Sheriff Bill Rasco	Sheriff’s Department
Misty Heffner	Chancery Clerk – By phone
Vanessa Lynchard	County Administrator
Tony Nowak	Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Supervisor Mark Gardner offered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

As required by MS Code of 1972, Section 19-3-27, option (b) the minutes of each day’s proceedings shall be adopted and approved by the Board of Supervisors as the first order of business on the first day of the next monthly meeting of the board. Supervisor Gardner asked if everyone had read over the December minutes.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Michael Lee seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Supervisors for December 2021, pursuant to Section 19-3-27 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, annotated.

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>

**E. ORGANIZATION OF THE 2022 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:
ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

As required by MS Code of 1972, Section 19-3-7; the members of the Board of Supervisors, having given bond and taken the oath of office, shall meet at the courthouse of their county, on the first Monday in January next succeeding the election, and shall organize by electing one of

their number to be President, and by electing one of their number to be Vice-President, and, being so organized, and attended by the Sheriff and Clerk, the Board may proceed to discharge its duties.

In order to allow the people who elect these Board members equal representation, the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors have chosen to rotate the offices of President and Vice-President yearly. This gives every Supervisor an opportunity to fill those positions equally and gives all Board members additional opportunities to serve the people of DeSoto County.

Supervisor Gardner announced his resignation of the position of Board President. Supervisor Gardner said it has been an honor to serve as the Board President and thanked the Board and the people of DeSoto County for their support. Supervisor Gardner opened the floor for nominations for his replacement.

Supervisor Caldwell thanked Supervisor Gardner and stated she appreciated what he has done and the way he has represented the Board. She stated it is important to have a good President.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to elect Supervisor Michael Lee as the 2022 Board of Supervisors' President and Supervisor Ray Denison as the Board's Vice-President, pursuant to Section 19-3-7, of the Mississippi Code of 1972, annotated.

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 Medlin stated the public might not know it; but sitting in the President's chair seems to be good when you first start; but you are always ready to give it up when the year is up. He stated the position takes a lot of time and effort and trips back and forth to sign papers. Supervisor Medlin said Supervisor Gardner has done a very good job. He also stated he was pleased the Board voted to rotate the presidency of the Board each year.

Supervisor Lee expressed his thanks to the Board for their confidence in him to lead this year. He noted this would be his second time to serve as President of the Board. Supervisor Lee said this is his 8th year to serve as Supervisor of the 5th district and he thanked the citizens for their confidence in him and the privilege to serve them.

F. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

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

1. County Administrator Vanessa Lynchard requested to add the following:

- a. COVID Report and Back to Work Guidelines (Old, J.3.a. & J.3.b.)

2. Supervisor Gardner requested to add the following:

- a. Request from Dr. Patel (Include with Old, J.3.a.)
- b. COG Update (Old, J.4.)

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

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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>

G. CITIZEN REMARKS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Swearing In of Election Commissioners

District 2 – Barbara Chatham

District 3 – Chad Engelke

Supervisor Caldwell thanked Ms. Chatham and Mr. Engelke for stepping in and filling the positions on the Election Commission. She said she appreciated their hard work and dedication to their positions.

Circuit Clerk Dale Thompson stated after Ms. Chatham was appointed; she ran for the office and won and will be in the position for three more years. Ms. Thompson stated Mr. Engelke was appointed to serve when Mr. Klein resigned and has done a great job. Ms. Thompson administered the oath of office to Ms. Chatham and Mr. Engelke.

Supervisor Lee asked if there was anyone present to speak to the Board on an item not listed on the agenda.

Ms. Pam McElvey Hamner spoke on behalf of the group she called the DeSoto County Redistricting Committee. She requested a copy of the rules for submitting a map and the proper protocols to submit and the timeline. Ms. Sharon Wofford also spoke and asked the Board to publish when they would be having meetings regarding the redistricting on the County’s website and social media.

The Board assured the group that the dates of the public meetings would be published in a timely manner.

Supervisor Lee asked if there was anyone else that wished to speak to the Board on an item not listed on the agenda. No one came forward.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Road Department

- a. Monthly Work Schedule
- b. Monthly Road Report
- c. Monthly Bond Report

2. Meal Log Affidavits (2) – MS Code 19-25-74

3. Add Requisition Signer for Animal Shelter

4. Receiving Clerk Changes for Animal Shelter

5. Contract Administration – Auto Renewal

- a. Animal Services – Kitty City
- b. Road Management – Civil Link for Professional Services

6. Chancery Clerk Allowance

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the actions and matters presented in the Consent 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>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit H.

I. 2022 APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. Yearly Appointments

The following are yearly appointments made according to the MS Codes listed below:

- Board Attorney – MS Code 19-3-47 – Tony Nowak
- County Administrator – MS Code 19-4-1 – Vanessa Lynchard
- Comptroller – MS Code 19-3-61 – Andrea Freeze
- County Engineer – MS Code 65-17-201 – Jason Youngblood
- County Road Manager – MS Code 65-17-1 – Robert Jarman
- County Prosecutor – MS Code 19-3-49 -
- County Fire Coordinator – MS Code 19-3-71 – Chief Chris Olson
- Purchasing Clerk – MS Code 31-7-101 – Angie Irving
- Receiving Clerk – MS Code 31-7-101 – Amber Williams
- Inventory Control Clerk – MS Code 31-7-107 – Stephanie Hanks

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the yearly appointments listed above and in the Appointment Directory, as presented to the Board, on pages 4-13 to include Lisa Guidry as Justice Court 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 Ray Denison, Third District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

2. District 1 Appointments

Supervisor Medlin made the motion to approve all the District 1 appointments as listed in the Appointment Directory. Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion.

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>

3. District 2 Appointments

Supervisor Gardner made the motion to approve all the District 2 appointments as listed in the Appointment Directory. Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion.

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>

4. District 3 Appointments

Supervisor Denison made the motion that all District 3 appointments as listed in the Appointment Directory remain the same. Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion.

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 YES

5. District 4 Appointments

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion to reappoint all the 4th District appointees as listed in the Appointment Directory with the exception of all the Horn Lake Library Board appointees. Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion.

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>

6. District 5 Appointments

Supervisor Michael Lee made the motion to reappoint all the 5th District appointees as listed in the Appointment Directory. Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion.

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>

7. At-Large Appointments

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve all the at-large appointments and committee/board appointments as listed in the Appointment Directory.

See Exhibit I.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. Environmental Services – Code Enforcement – 19-5-105 – Order to Assess Cost to Clean Property – 13260 Coldwater Drive, Olive Branch

Environmental Services Director Ray Laughter stated they had to continue this item because it was so wet; but the property has now been mowed and looks much better. He requested the Board authorize assessing the property clean-up cost of \$325 to the property tax and authority to file the lien in Circuit Court.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to approve to clean up costs, filing the lien in Circuit Court and assessing the property clean-up cost of \$325 to 13260 Coldwater Drive, Olive Branch; and authorize the Board President to sign.

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>

See Exhibit J.1.

2. Letter to Olive Branch Regarding Zoning at Polk Lane

Board Attorney Tony Nowak recused himself from this discussion.

Mrs. Lynchard said she discovered Olive Branch’s rezoning hearing for Sander’s Farm is on January 11th and she wanted to run the letter back by the Board. She said she got Planning Director Bennie Hopkins to come up with some language that would specifically and professionally address the rezoning; and she added the language the Board had requested.

Supervisor Medlin stated he wanted to be more direct that the Board is opposed to this rezoning. He said he also wanted the City of Olive Branch to know that when the PUD was approve the people in Whispering Pines were assured that the warehouses would not expand to the east or west. Supervisor Medlin also said he wanted the City to know the Board had turned this proposal down; and as soon as the property was annexed, the developer took it to the city.

Supervisor Caldwell agreed and said this Board told the citizens they would protect their homes and she wanted to stand up for what they promised. Supervisor Gardner agreed and said when the Board approved the warehouses and PUD at Hacks Cross Road and Goodman the Board assured the citizens that protested that there would not be more warehouses.

Supervisor Medlin stated that extending Polk Lane and Nail Road was to get some of the traveling public off Goodman. He said with the warehouses being proposed, he did not want truck on that road with the public. Supervisor Medlin said he wanted to do the right thing by the citizens and requested the Board authorize him to attend the Olive Branch Planning Commission meeting.

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to authorize Supervisor Medlin to represent the Board at the Olive Branch Planning Commission meeting to oppose the rezoning at Sanders’ Farm on Polk Lane.

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>

See Exhibit J.2.

3. COVID 19 Update

a. Statistics & Request from Dr. Patel

Mrs. Lynchard stated they have been bringing the COVID update the second meeting of the month; but there has been an uptick and they wanted to inform the Board. EMS Director Mark Davis stated there were 1,787 more cases since the last meeting, 4 deaths, and two days last week broke records for cases in one day. He noted both the 7-day and 14-day trends were up. He stated, though the numbers are up, people do not seem to be getting as sick.

Supervisor Gardner said Dr. Patel said Methodist Olive Branch is running into a shortage of nurses again. Director Davis said Baptist DeSoto has said the same thing. He said that when the State sent nurses before; the State and County were under a state of emergency, so the rules were different. He said people are having trouble getting tested; and they want to know where to get the vaccine, and where to get antibodies. Supervisor Gardner asked if the State is thinking about declaring a state of emergency. Director Davis said not at this time. He also noted that the nurses that came before were under FEMA contract.

Director Davis stated DeSoto County has two testing sites; at the Health Department in Hernando and Southaven’s safe room. Supervisor Gardner asked when is the next appointment available. Mrs. Barclay stated it is Wednesday at this time. Supervisor Gardner said people should keep refreshing the Health Department page since they update as people cancel.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Mark Gardner seconded the motion to make Director Davis' report a 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>YES</u>

See Exhibit J.3.a.

b. COVID Return to Work Guidelines

Human Resources Director Carla Crockett stated the CDC guidelines are changing and she presented the Return to Work policy to the Board for approval.

- After 5 days with no symptoms
- After testing positive, with no symptoms, stay out 5 days. When returning to work must wear a mask or work in an isolated office for 5 days
- Employees exposed should self-isolate 5 days and have a negative test to return to work.. If unable to do that they should wear a mask for 10 days and test negative.
- May work from home if it best serves the County.
- May be reassigned to another department or assignment is it best serves the County.

Road Manager Robert Jarman stated he took one of his workers and put him in a truck by himself and that helped him to come back to work even though he had a lingering cough. He asked the Board if they were okay if he put a foreman in a truck where he could be isolated if they have been exposed but do not have symptoms. The Board agreed.

Supervisor Medlin asked if people had to use sick days now if they have COVID or have to quarantine. Mrs. Crockett affirmed and said they have to use sick or vacation days.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the COVID return to work policy 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>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit J.3.b.

4. COG Update

Supervisor Gardner stated he took the information from the Board's December meeting regarding infrastructure prioritizing. He said this legislative session is very critical to the ARPA money and Infrastructure money. Supervisor Gardner said the Board needs to be in Jackson face to face with the legislators as much as possible this session. Supervisor Gardner also noted a change in the COG schedule to Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. to accommodate Supervisor Lee's schedule.

5. DCRUA Office Space

Mrs. Lynchard stated she wanted to be clear on what the Board wants. Supervisor Gardner said we just need to talk about the space as the County is looking for more office space. Supervisor Medlin said he did not want citizens to have to go to another site to pay. Supervisor Caldwell asked if Planning could take the payments and a DCRUA representative could pick them up. Mrs. Lynchard stated she will speak with the President of their board.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Grant Administration

a. Request to Apply for MDEQ – Solid Waste Officer Grant

Grant Administrator Sheila Garrett requested applying for the renewal for the solid waste officer grant from MDEQ. She stated they gave an \$8,000 increase this year.

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve applying for the MDEQ – Solid Waste Officer Grant and authorize the Board President to sign any related documents.

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>

See Exhibit K.1.a.

Supervisor Caldwell thanked Mrs. Garrett for quickly looking up some of the different grants from the Federal Government that the Transportation Committee had discussed. She stated they now would be asking Ms. Garrett to look at those more extensively.

2. Office of Finance and Accounting

a. Preliminary Inventory Dispositions – IT

Inventory Clerk Monica Jones stated this is IT’s periodic clean out of items that no longer work or are not compatible.

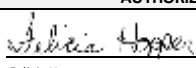
Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the Inventory Dispositions from IT as presented.

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

See Exhibit K.2.a.

DEPT NAME		IT								DEPT #:		152
ASSET #	DESCRIPTION	SERIAL #	ISSUE/REASON FOR DISPOSAL	Y R A C C O U N T	C O S T	LOCATION AT PRELIMINARY	PRELIMINARY APPROVAL DATE	DISPOSED OF BY	FINAL DISPOSAL LOCATION	DATE OF FINAL APPROVAL		
41657	APPLE IPAD 2 WI-FI	DMPG5VRFDFHW	not updatable	11	565	IT Dept						
43930	HP LASERJET PRINTER	CND8F9SL3S	will not print	14	725	IT Storage						
43985	APPLE IPAD	013370002150993	not updatable	14	499	IT Dept						
47605	DELL LATITUDE	FCLX6H2	Bad motherboard	17	935	IT Dept						
48454	IPHONE 7	DX3WV68RHG7F	will not hold charge	18	549	IT Dept						
48464	APPLE IPHONE 7	DX3XW0URHG7K	will not power on	19	549	IT Dept						
49124	APPLE IPHONE 8	FFPZ4BMWQC67	will not hold chare	20	549	IT Dept						
49125	Apple iPhone	DX3CJ5CKKXKN	will not recognize SIM	20	549	IT Dept						

AUTHORIZATION TO DISPOSE		INVENTORY CLERK INFORMATION	NOTES
SIGNED BY: 	DATE: 12/28/21	PRESENTED TO BOS	
PRINT NAME: Felicia Hopper		01.03.2022	
		PRESENTED TO BOS	

b. Claims Docket – MS Code 19-13-31

Chief Financial Officer Andrea Freeze presented a page-by-page declaration of the Claims Docket. Finance Admin Assistant Monica Jones was available to look up invoices to answer questions.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked about the following claims:

Page 15 – Election Commission Rent - \$2,300 – Mrs. Lynchard stated that is monthly. She said the city would like for them to move and the Board has discussed it; but not moved forward on it.

Page 66 – Premier Air – Mr. Jarman stated the Road Department rents the cylinders, but this fee is for filling. He stated he will check on the price to own tanks.

Page 65 – Stateline Turf and Tractor - \$40 for freight – Mr. Jarman stated they had to order some parts for chain saws.

Supervisor Mark Gardner asked about the following claims:

Page 2 – Compensatory Stream – Mrs. Lynchard stated it has to be done annually for five year; and when changes are made that time starts over. Supervisor Gardner asked if Waggoner filed the reports. Mrs. Lynchard affirmed.

Page 79 – Two L Electric – Mr. Houston stated that was for lights, wall switches and receptacles on Environmental Services’ remodel. Supervisor Gardner asked if all the bills were in. Mr. Houston stated they still have some work to do.

Page 80 – Xcavators – Amazon Transportation – The invoice showed pay estimate #2. Mr. Jarman stated Mr. Young and Waggoner review the invoices.

Supervisor Ray Denison asked about the following claims:

Page 76 – Status on purchasing building – Mrs. Lynchard stated they got the inspection list and it was pretty small things. Mr. Nowak stated the closing date is not later than January 20th unless there were issues with the inspection report.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell asked about the following claims:

Page 81 – Law Library – Mrs. Lynchard stated they are still set up for the library to be the host. She stated the lion’s share is for the actual materials. Supervisor Caldwell stated someone used to be paid to man it; but all the material is online. Mrs. Lynchard stated she will check into that.

Supervisor Michael Lee had no questions.

In accordance with Section 19-13-31 and Section 19-11-23 of the Mississippi Code Annotated, Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the claims docket and to authorize the Chancery Clerk to pay the bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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>

See Exhibit K.2.b

3. Chancery Clerk – Order for Payment of Certain Fees & Expenses

Chancery Clerk Misty Heffner stated these are the statutory fees paid to the Chancery Clerk and the orders need to be spread upon the minutes. She stated she included orders from 2016 and 2020, for her two terms of office and requested the Board President sign both.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the Board President to sign the 2016 and 2020 orders as presented by the Chancery Clerk and to spread them upon the Board’s 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 YES
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District YES

See Exhibit K.3.

4. Contract Administration

a. IT – C Spire Business

IT Director John Mitchell stated this is a basic contract for professional services as needed.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the contract with C Spire for professional services as needed and authorize the Board President to sign.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

See Exhibit K.4.a.

Supervisor Medlin asked what came out of the meeting with C Spire. Supervisor Caldwell stated they have been working on proposals and she asked Mrs. Barclay to send them an email so they won't forget. Supervisor Medlin said C Spire asked for easement on the right of way and they don't need to pick and choose who they will serve. Supervisor Caldwell said they had a strong discussion regarding using public right of way and not offering service.

Ms. Shulandra Kerr stated she is an experienced IT Project Manager and she felt the quote from C Spire was high. She said that impacted her subdivision and she felt the County should ask for a fair price. Mr. Mitchell stated that is pretty much the going rate with any company that the County uses; and that is a state contract price. He stated this has nothing to do with internet services.

5. Approval to Travel for the Year for Board Members, Staff, Board Attorney, Road Manager & County Administrator – MAS & Associated Group, Corps of Engineers, Legislative Meetings

Mrs. Lynchard stated they will spread the details on the minutes as the meetings come up. Supervisor Caldwell said the MAS associated groups will include committees with MAS.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the travel for the year as presented.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

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

6. Confirmation of Martin Luther King/Robert E. Lee Birthday Holiday – January 17 – MS Code 3-3-7

Mrs. Lynchard stated since this is a statutory holiday no Board action is required.

See Exhibit K.6.

7. Office of Procurement – Board Room Chairs

Director of Administrative Services and Procurement Angie Irving stated the chair that the Board did not like cost \$328 each and they budgeted \$4,000 for new chairs. She stated MPI quoted on

a style similar to the current board room chairs and they were \$800 to \$1,000. She stated these chairs are over 20 years old; and it is hard to find the same style. Mr. Jarman stated Facilities replaced the cylinders in some of the chairs; but the parts are very hard to find. Mrs. Irving thanked the Board for their input and said she will keep looking.

L. PLANNING

1. MPO Project Discussion

Mr. Austin Cardosi stated it time for the annual 4-year cycle for TIP to re-up and add new ones.

- Commerce Street for construction funds
- Lewisburg sidewalks – left on, just in case something happens with the timeline
- Agri Center Trail
- Signal at Pleasant Hill & Getwell
- Signal at Pleasant Hill & McIngvale - \$3.4 million, have received warrant

Supervisor Medlin said he would still like to look at College and Bethel and reevaluate that one. He stated there is a new development coming and that will impact that intersection. Supervisor Caldwell asked when the last traffic count was done. Supervisor Medlin said it was done at the same time as Getwell & Pleasant Hill. Supervisor Caldwell said they do need another study to get some current counts.

Supervisor Caldwell said they need to look at all the projects and be sure they are all in. Mr. Nowak asked if Star Landing needed to be listed. Mr. Cardosi said he checked with Mr. Simpson at Waggoner and the project will be added in February during the TIP amendment process.

Supervisor Caldwell stated the MPO will meet in February and they have to submit projects by January 12th; but they can update the list.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to submit the list for TIP projects 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>YES</u>
Supervisor Lee Caldwell, Fourth District	<u>YES</u>
Supervisor Michael Lee, Fifth District	<u>YES</u>

See Exhibit L.1.

Mr. Cardosi informed the Board that the published zoning ordinance will come up at the February 18th meeting. He stated Planning sent cards to everyone who will be affected.

Supervisor Gardner asked if they had the year-end numbers. Mr. Cardosi stated the County passed all the jurisdictions and broke County records; but they are still waiting for information from two cities.

M. WORK SESSION FOR COUNTY PROJECTS

1. Transportation Committee

ERBR – Supervisor Caldwell said the legislature will be adding more money to ERBR and the County will resubmit three bridges that were not funded last time.

Use Tax - Mrs. Lynchard stated the use tax money was designated for Getwell expansion and widening. She stated it looks like the use tax money could cover the cost of that project.

ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act – Total amount is \$35,923,398 – Mrs. Lynchard stated the County has received half and should get other half in July 2022. Mrs. Lynchard gave credit to CFO Andrea Freeze for having the money in an account that has gained \$138,502 in interest and

that interest money is non-restricted. She noted that it sounds like the lost revenue money is not restricted; but you have to use it correctly and that sounds like roads and capital expenses connected to COVID. She stated her biggest mission is that nobody comes back and asks DeSoto County for a penny back because it was not spent correctly.

ARPA Deadlines – Deadline to incur expense – December 31, 2024
Must be spent by December 31, 2026

State Deadline for Matching Funds – Submit this week (January 3-7)

Lost Revenue – 2020 - \$4,805,185 – Have to do another report for 2021 by end of January

- Timeline would require engineering & design done and right of way started or complete
- Suggested to use this on Swinnea (total for Swinnea is \$5,000,050) & use that designated money toward another project

ARPA money can be spent to respond to medical emergency, water, sewer or broadband.

Broadband -

- Looking at filling in holes all over the County - \$34 million total - \$10 million from County, \$10 million from State matching, \$14 million from other funding mechanisms
- North Central Electric has an expansion plan – County will not look at that area to give to another company – They got money that was just for energy companies
- County cannot put fiber in the ground unless legislation approves it
- Suggested for developers to lay empty conduit in future subdivisions – would be much less expensive
- Committee Recommendation - \$10 million for Broadband

Emergency Services:

Supervisor Gardner stated Chief Olson had said they still had some holes in emergency communication and could use another tower or two. He called Chief Olson who said that a tower is needed on the west side.

Supervisor Caldwell asked about an EOC. Chief Olson stated they are trying to save up for that. He said the State built a logistics center for their emergency operations to store COVID supplies and part of the County's EOC would be used for that as well. The Board talked about some land that will be donated adjacent to the Agri Center and possibly buying more to build the EOC there.

Clean Water:

Supervisor Gardner asked if the fire hydrants along Fogg Road would fall under this classification. Supervisor Caldwell said they have their engineering done, so that will help them.

Supervisor Gardner noted the Board has already committed \$3 million to HLCISD.

Supervisor Caldwell said hooking up Magnolia Hills to sewer and getting rid of the sewage lagoon should qualify.

Supervisor Medlin stated he has tried to get Lewisburg to go into Ingram's Mill and this might help with that. Mrs. Lynchard stated they need to get something together and submit it to the state legislature.

Rough estimate of ARPA Funds to send to the State for matching:

\$35.9 million – Total County is receiving
Take off:
\$ 4.8 million - Lost Revenue for Roads
\$ 5.2 million – projected lost revenue for 2021
\$10.0 million for Broadband
\$ 5.0 million for sewer – \$3 million HLCISD & \$2 million Armory/Mobile Home Park
\$ 1.0 million for Emergency Services tower on west side of County

- \$ 2.5 million for EOC
- \$.5 million for EOC Safe Room
- \$ 2.0 million for water improvement
- \$.5 million for Days Water (fire hydrants along Fogg Rd on their planned expansion)
- \$.5 million for Lewisburg Water (to bring in Ingram's Mill area)

Mrs. Lynchard presented a list of matching ARPA Funds to send to the State with the above suggestions.

Supervisor Gardner stated Chief Olson will send an estimate on the EOC and Tower. Supervisor Caldwell is going to talk with Mr. Saucier about purchasing and donation of land and Days Water. Supervisor Medlin will talk with Lewisburg Water. Supervisor Lee will talk to the City of Hernando. Mrs. Lynchard will talk to HLCISD and get info from Waggoner. Supervisor Caldwell said all the projects need to submit engineering and state the need for the project and not just turn in numbers. She said she will ask Mr. Laughter to help with the cost of closing the lagoon.

Supervisor Lee Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the list to send to the State regarding ARPA money and matching state funds.

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>

Parks:

Mrs. Lynchard stated there is \$7.2 billion for the Transportation Alternative Program. Supervisor Caldwell stated there is a big chunk of money for parks. She stated the County is already planning on Johnson Creek and she talked to Mr. Laughter about starting to apply for that for Johnson Creek and the Agri Center. Mrs. Lynchard stated they will need a task order with Waggoner to figure out the delineation. Mr. Simpson stated the task order identifies the most feasible route. He said they will need to determine the route and figure out what is logical for the County to submit.

Supervisor Denison asked about the Overlook at Delta View and looking into that project as well. Supervisor Caldwell said you cannot do a project on something you don't own. Supervisor Denison said he will look into that.

Mrs. Lynchard stated they need somebody to develop a budget for these projects to submit. She said not totally engineered, just a drawing. She said Lt. Gov. Hosemann said they were not paying for engineering. Supervisor Caldwell stated the House side has not said that.

Road Projects:

Mrs. Lynchard stated, based on budgeted funds, there should be enough freed up from the EOC and Swinnea project monies to cover the shortfall on Star Landing.

Supervisor Medlin asked if MDOT has said anything about the intersections on Hwy 305. Supervisor Caldwell said they have and the committee also discussed it. She stated they have a list of grant for transportation and they need to apply for them quickly.

Supervisor Caldwell said it will be up to the County to install a signal at Bethel and 305. She said the legislators are putting a bulk of money into ERBR, and not to MDOT which does not help the County.

Mr. Tracy Huffman stated the \$640 million for projects are highway projects and short of MDOT saying they want to competitively put them out, they are their funds. He said the County cannot seek those funds short of MDOT saying you can.

Mr. Huffman stated there are discretionary funds in the infrastructure funding that are more for large projects. He said he is trying to think of how to break 55, 51, and 305 into these. Supervisor Caldwell said they talked during the Transportation Committee about setting up a meeting with MDOT to show them the County's projects and see what we can apply for as well as what we can do locally to help move their project along. Mrs. Lynchard asked if it is accurate to say that project that might be ARPA projects are not this. Mr. Huffman stated most project have to be complete within a 5-year window. He said the issue is getting a project ready to go because you don't want to submit until you are pretty far along with engineering and initiated some right of way. He said otherwise you are probably not competitive. Mr. Huffman stated if you can get ARPA money to move the project that is farther along, it would be good. He said he thinks it would be good to leverage federal money to federal money; but not for the County's match.

2022 Road Plan Draft:

- Supervisor Medlin will meet with Olive Branch on January 11th about Polk Lane
- Move Fogg Road near Conger to 16 year plan
- Move Swinnea Road – Bankston to Pleasant Hill to 4 year plan – Mr. Huffman stated it exists, just needs to be widened

Supervisor Denison asked the status of intersection of Green T and 51. Supervisor Caldwell stated the engineers are working with Mayor Johnson designing a roundabout or a light. She stated the Mayor wants a roundabout. The Board said they would prefer a light because of the volume of truck traffic.

- Nail Road – 2022 – Talked about 3-lane, not 5-lane
- Nesbit sidewalk project – want to apply for that from Winningham through the Town of Nesbit
- Connecting from Agri Center to Robertson Road – possibly an extra lane

TIP Sheet:

- Reminder of what cities and county are applying for
- Spreadsheet shows where projects are and how much has been spent on each one

Mr. Nowak stated MDOT sent their forms on acquisition; but he does not think the Board can use them. He said they asked MDOT to approve the forms the County has always used, and MDOT has previously approved, and requested permission to prepare a letter to MDOT requesting form approval and have Mrs. Lynchard sign.

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to authorize the Board Attorney to send in the forms to MDOT as requested, and for Ms. Lynchard to sign the letter on the County's behalf.

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>

Mr. Nowak also stated he spoke with the Shrine Club's representative and they are asking for a reevaluation of their land value. The County had previously reached a compensation agreement with the Shrine Club's attorney, but stated the appraisals are probably out of date at this point. Mr. Nowak stated he would not do anything until MDOT issues a notice to proceed. Supervisor Caldwell said they need to get that and then get approval from the MPO.

See Exhibit M.1.

2. Request from Tate County for Work & Support on County Line Road Near Pigeon Roost

Mrs. Lynchard stated Tate County said their side of the road is in bad shape. Supervisor Caldwell said it might be good to trade some tar and gravel work on some roads at the lakes in Eudora for pavement. She stated they can talk next week while in Jackson. Mrs. Lynchard stated Tate County is asking the legislators for an allocation of money to improve their section on County Line Road and they wanted to know if DeSoto County wanted to go in on it. Supervisor Caldwell said she would like to discuss trading the work.

3. Payment of Administrative Leave

Supervisor Medlin said he would like to consider this item in Executive Session as Potential Litigation.

N. EXECUTIVE

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

Supervisor Mark Gardner made the motion and Supervisor Lee Caldwell seconded the motion to recess the Board meeting until Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 9 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 7th day of February, 2022, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Michael Lee, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors