

MINUTES
HARRISON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
February 9, 2021

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Harrison County Development Commission was called to order at 8:29 am on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at Harrison County Development Commission, Gulfport, Mississippi.

The Commissioners present were: President Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Brian Gollott, John "Shorty" Sneed, Mark Schloegel, Windy Swetman, and Jennifer Burke. Via phone conference, Rip Daniels, Mike Leonard, and Warren Conway.

Commissioners Absent: Sharon Bentz.

The staff members present were: Executive Director Bill Lavers, Gia Blackwell, Lori Frazier, Brandi Hough, Marcia Crawford, and Michelle McGraw as recording secretary.

Consultants present: Legal Counsel Jim Simpson.

The media was notified of this meeting via the Sun Herald and our <http://mscoast.org> website.

I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE – OPEN MEETING & CALL TO ORDER

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, President Frankie Castiglia opened the meeting and called to order at this time, and acknowledged the public notice was given.

II. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

NA

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Tina Taylor of SMPCPC, Rob Stenson, Dan Hensarling of Dan Hensarling, Inc. Contractors, and Duane Wilson of Chemours.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

The motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Levens to approve the minutes for January 12, 2021, of the regularly called meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Windy Swetman. There was no discussion, all in favor of Ayes and the motion carried.

V. *Vote Items*

Resolution for Beck Lewis Purchase of 5 acres BBID for \$200,000.00

The motion was made by Commissioner Jennifer Burke to approve and adopt the resolution to purchase. It was seconded by Commissioner Rip Daniels.

There was no further discussion, a roll call was taken and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 10 - President Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Brian Gollott, Mike Leonard, Mark Schloegel, Windy Swetman, Rip Daniels, Jennifer Burke, John "Shorty" Sneed, and Warren Conway.

Nays: 0

Resolution for Wharton Smith, Inc. Purchase offer of 1-acre BBID \$109,870.00

The motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Levens to approve and adopt the resolution to purchase. It was seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Burke.

There was no further discussion, a roll call was taken and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 10 - President Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Brian Gollott, Mike Leonard, Mark Schloegel, Windy Swetman, Rip Daniels, Jennifer Burke, John "Shorty" Sneed, and Warren Conway.

Nays: 0

Resolution for Chemours Freeport Tax Exemption Application

The motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Levens to approve and adopt the resolution for the free port tax exemption. It was seconded by Commissioner John "Shorty" Sneed.

There was no further discussion, a roll call was taken and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 10 - President Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Brian Gollott, Mike Leonard and Mark Schloegel, Windy Swetman, Rip Daniels, Jennifer Burke, via phone conference, John "Shorty" Sneed and Warren Conway.

Nays: 0

Resolution for Soprema Freeport Tax Exemption Application

The motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Levens to approve and adopt the resolution for the free port tax exemption. It was seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Burke.

There was no further discussion, a roll call was taken and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 9 - President Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Brian Gollott, Mike Leonard and Mark Schloegel, Windy Swetman, Jennifer Burke, via phone conference, John "Shorty" Sneed and Warren Conway.

Nays: 0

Rip Daniels was no longer present.

The motion was made by Commissioner John "Shorty" Sneed to determine the need to go into executive session for real estate negotiations. It was seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Burke. There was no discussion, all in favor of Ayed and the motion carried.

Executive Session began at 9:05 am and ended at 9:50 am. No action was taken at this time.

The motion was made by Commissioner Jennifer Burke to table Exhibits B, C, and F, and it was seconded by Commissioner Windy Swetman. There was no discussion, all in favor of Ayed and the motion carried.

- **Finance**

Commissioner Jennifer Burke made a motion to approve Exhibit I & J; it was seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Levens. No further discussion took place, all in favor of Ayed and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

A. Marketing & Industrial

- Cooperative Energy Grant - We received a \$5,000.00 grant in support of the Seaforce Program.
- Mississippi Power Grant - We received a \$5,000.00 grant in support of the Seaforce Program.

Executive Director Bill Lavers stated we are now at \$30,000.00 towards supporting the Seaforce Program and working on starting a Manufacturing Academy. This will involve the support of the schools and local manufacturing companies to recognize talent in our teens and help teach our kids about manufacturing careers.

Project Castor – House Bill 1325 is in Committee, and it didn't die out as feared. This will divert the sales tax revenue to do the interchange improvements at Menge Ave.

We are upgrading Long Beach Industrial Park, enhanced sign, and making improvements.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

B. Administrative, Engineering & Maintenance

- MS Power Seaforce – this was given previously in the RFP for Rail.

Bid Updates

Motion was made by Jimmy Levens to accept W. C. Fore Trucking, Inc. bid for the ditch clearing and it was seconded by John "Shorty" Sneed. No further discussion took place, all in favor of Ayed and the motion carried.

VI. Directors Report

Bill Lavers gave his report.

Marcia Crawford gave her report.

No discussion took place.

VII. Old/New Business

NA

VIII. Legal

IX. Announcements/Notices

Next Board of Commission Meeting: March 9, 2021 @ 8:15 a.m.

- **Next Engineering and Marketing Committee Meeting Feb. 24, 2021, 4:00 p. m.**

X. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Jimmy Levens made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Burke. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. on February 9th, 2021.



Frankie Castiglia Jr., President



John Sneed, Secretary