

MINUTES
HARRISON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
January 24, 2023

A regularly called meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 8:19 am at the Harrison County Development Commission, Gulfport, Mississippi.

The Commissioners present were: Billy Thornton, Rip Daniels, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Windy Swetman, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., John Carter, Warren Conway, and James Moody.

Commissioners Absent: 0

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

Consultant's present: Legal Counsel Jim Simpson.

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

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

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, President Billy Thornton opened the meeting at 8:15 am, called to order at this time, and acknowledged the public notice.

II. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

Request to table the Summerfield Living Ad Valorem Tax Application.

Request to add an executive session to discuss potential litigation involving rail service.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

President Billy Thornton added an agenda item: Safety Briefing to regularly scheduled meetings.

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Tina Taylor from SMCPC presented the 2022 report for small businesses in south Mississippi on securing federal and state contracts from the contributions they receive.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve December 13, 2022, minutes for the regularly called meeting, and Commissioner Billy Thornton seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Frankie Castiglia motioned to approve December 19, 2022, minutes for the specially called meeting, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Resolution for SMCPD granting \$15,000.00 to help small businesses in south Mississippi secure federal and state contracts.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the Resolution, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. There was a discussion about how the contribution supports small businesses, and all favored said Aye, and the motion carried.

An announcement of appreciation and service was made to Commissioner Frankie Castiglia.

The Board of Commissioners recognized and commended Commissioner Frankie Castiglia for his service as a Commissioner since 1994 and the longest-serving President from 2019 thru 2022.

Resolution for the Option Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement with Gulf South Technology Center.

After discussion, Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the Option Agreement, and Commissioner Windy Swetman seconded it. There was no further discussion, a roll call took place, and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 12 - Billy Thornton, Rip Daniels, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Windy Swetman, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., John Carter, Warren Conway, and James Moody.

Nays: 0

There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Resolution and Addendum to the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Gulf Coast Farms to extend the closing date.

After discussion, Commissioner Windy Swetman motioned to approve the Resolution, and Commissioner Ollie Bailey seconded it. There was no further discussion, a roll call took place, and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 12 - Billy Thornton, Rip Daniels, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Windy Swetman, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., John Carter, Warren Conway, and James Moody.

Nays: 0

There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Resolution for a 1-year Option Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement to Alpha Eagle Technologies.

After discussion, Commissioner Windy Swetman motioned to approve the Resolution, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia seconded it. There was no further discussion, a roll call took place, and the motion passed with the affirmative vote of the Commissioners as follows:

Yeas: 12 - Billy Thornton, Rip Daniels, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Windy Swetman, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., John Carter, Warren Conway, and James Moody.

Nays: 0

There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

CD Renewal Bid Award.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the highest bid to Hancock Whitney Bank, and Commissioner Windy Swetman seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Dredge Contract with Breakwater Marine for Point.

Commissioner Frankie Castiglia motioned to approve the contract, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Dredge Contract with Breakwater Marine for Belle Fontaine.

Commissioner Windy Swetman motioned to approve the contract, and Commissioner Jimmy Levens seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Bid award for the Lift Station 3 Valve Rehabilitation Project.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the lowest bid from DNA Underground LLC, and Commissioner Windy Swetman seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Bid award for the BBID & LBIP Water Meter Replacement Project.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the lowest bid from Central Pipe and Supply, and Commissioner Mike Leonard seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Resolution Agent Designation & LOI for Generator Mitigation Grant.

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve the application, and Commissioner Mike Frankie Castiglia seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried. No Resolution is required.

Finance

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve exhibits O and P, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. No further discussion occurred, all Commissioners voted in favor, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

A. Marketing & Industrial (Schloegel, Chairman)

Commissioner Ollie Bailey motioned to approve the inventory disposal list, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia seconded it. No further discussion occurred, all Commissioners voted in favor, and the motion passed.

B. Administrative, Engineering & Maintenance (Levens, Chairman)

VI. DIRECTORS REPORT

The HCDC is working to obtain a GADC award (Great American Defense Communities) to get national recognition and highlight our community, the people, and military assets.

Commissioner Mike Leonard and Bill Lavers attended the installation and Commander meeting, where the governor signed a proclamation for child day and military child month.

Buc-ee's is wrapping up the bid process on traffic control; they intend to start in 45 to 60 days.

MDA has requested a 50,000-square-foot hanger that does not exist. The HCDC is working on funding and other airport projects.

As a nominee for the Top CEO of Mississippi Award, Bill Lavers will attend the press release event in Jackson, Mississippi. Bill stated if he wins, this award does not belong to him; it belongs to everyone who works to achieve success.

Bill Lavers, SMPDD, the Port of Gulfport, and Gateway American will be meeting with three embassies in Washington, DC, in February about more fruit and vegetable production coming into the port of Gulfport, MS.

Executive Session

Commissioner Frankie Castiglia motioned to close the meeting to go into executive session for potential litigation regarding rail, and Commissioner Ollie Bailey seconded it. No further discussion occurred, all Commissioners voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Frankie Castiglia motioned to go into executive session, and Commissioner Brian Gollott seconded it. No further discussion occurred, all Commissioners voted in favor, and the motion passed.

President Billy Thornton recused himself. The executive session began at 9:31 am and ended at 9:52 am. There was no action taken.

VII. OLD & NEW BUSINESS

President Billy Thornton suggested rescheduling our regularly called meetings each month. The board agreed to move the time of the Board of Commissioners meeting from 8:15 am to 1 pm and the Engineering and Marketing committee meeting from 8:15 am to 8:30 am extending the time to one and a half hours. No further discussion occurred, and all Commissioners voted in favor.

VIII. LEGAL

NA


IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES

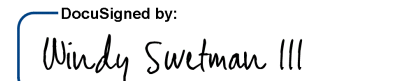
The Next Marketing & Engineering meeting is on **February 1, 2023, @ 8:30 am.**

The Next Board of Commission Meeting is on **February 17, 2023, @ 1:00 pm.**

X. ADJOURN

There was no further business to come before the Commission. Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to adjourn, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am on January 24, 2023.


Billy Thornton, President

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Windy Swetman III, Secretary