

**MINUTES  
HARRISON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
October 25, 2023**

A regularly called meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the offices of the Harrison County Development Commission, Gulfport, Mississippi.

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

Commissioners absent: Warren Conway.

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

Consultant present: Legal counsel was absent.

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE – OPEN MEETING & CALL TO ORDER**

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, President Billy Thornton opened the meeting at 1:01 pm, called to order at this time, and acknowledged the public notice.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to adjust the agenda to add the **Release of Deed Restriction, Wharton Smith**, and it was seconded by Commissioner James Moody. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Balch & Bingham Law: David N. Duhé, Mark Alexander, Ricky Cox and Leo Manuel.

**MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Frankie Castiglia motioned to approve the **September 20, 2023, meeting minutes, September 26, 2023, special called meeting minutes**, and **October 3, 2023, special called meeting minutes**, and Commissioner Mark Schloegel seconded it. There was no discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

**VOTE ITEMS**

**Resolution Point Clear Dredge Project – JE Borries**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve after attorney review, and Commissioner James Moody 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: 10 Billy Thornton, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., James Moody, John Carter, and Windy Swetman III.

Nays: 0

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

**Resolution West Jackson Co Dredge No. 3(A)**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve after attorney review, and Commissioner James Moody 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: 10 Billy Thornton, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., James Moody, John Carter, and Windy Swetman III.

Nays: 0

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

**RFP Audit Services**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve, and Commissioner James Moody 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: 10 Billy Thornton, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., James Moody, John Carter, and Windy Swetman III.

Nays: 0

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

**HCDC Wetlands Permitting Proposal for 200 acres**

Executive Director Bill Lavers updated the status of a new proposal on the way. After discussion, all in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

**Resolution Release of Deed Restriction, Wharton Smith**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve after attorney review, and Commissioner James Moody 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: 10 Billy Thornton, Frankie Castiglia, Jimmy Levens, Mike Leonard, Brian Gollott, Mark Schloegel, Ollie Bailey Jr., James Moody, John Carter, and Windy Swetman III.

Nays: 0

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

**Finance**

Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to approve Exhibits H and I, and Commissioner Frankie Castiglia seconded it. No further discussion occurred, all Commissioners voted in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

**COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

**A. Marketing & Industrial** (Schloegel, Chairman)

Executive Director Bill Lavers gave updates on the GST-mapped wetlands.

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

Project Updates

Executive Director Bill Lavers gave the update for the trip to Washington, D.C., to work on the earmark and announced the receipt of a \$50,000.00 grant from Mississippi Power for site development. Project Mockingbird is in the works, and he will update the Commissioners as it progresses.

Brandi Hough gave an update on her trip to Seus, Japan with Mississippi State Delegation to represent Harrison County, Mississippi.

**VII. OLD & NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner John Carter motioned to close the meeting to consider the need to go into **executive session** for a personnel matter, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. All in favor of Aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Brian Gollott motioned to go into executive session for the need to discuss the employment or job performance of a person in a specific position, and Commissioner James Moody seconded it. All in favor of Aye and the motion carried. The executive session began at approximately 2:15 p.m. and ended at approximately 2:20 p.m. No action was taken.

**VIII. LEGAL**

NA


**ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES**

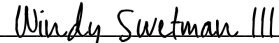
The next Marketing & Engineering meeting is **on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, @ 8:30 a.m.**

The next Board of Commissioners meeting is **on Wednesday, November 20, 2023, @ 1:00 p.m.**

**X. ADJOURN**

There was no further business to come before the Commission. Commissioner Jimmy Levens motioned to adjourn, and Commissioner John Carter seconded it. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:29 p.m.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Billy Thornton, President

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Windy Sweetman III, Secretary