

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2023

BOARD MEETING

Monday, August 21, 2023 at 9:00 A. M., the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Mississippi, met pursuant to recess, there being all members present. The meeting was called to order by President Carl McGee. The opening prayer was by Supervisor Tommy Benson. All present said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the meeting was officially opened by the Deputy Sheriff.

(1) IN RE: ORDER TO CONSIDER AND ACCEPT AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS FOR AUGUST 21, 2023 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND

- *Added: Home Grant*

(2) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2023 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN SAME MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND

JUSTIN BURCH, WASHINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE DIRECTOR UPDATED THE BOARD ON VARIOUS PROJECTS

SHIRLEY REDMOND, PLANNING DEPARTMENT PRESENTED A USE AND OCCUPANCY PERMIT REQUEST

(3) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING USE AND OCCUPANCY PERMIT FOR BLACK BAYOU WATER ASSOCIATION TO CONSTRUCT A FORTY (40) FT. 2” CASING BORE TO HOUSE 1” WATER LINE ALONG OR ACROSS SLIGO DAIRY ROAD 1950 FT. EAST OF T AND D ROAD MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND

WILLIE HASS APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARD TO EXPRESS CONCERNS REGARDING A DITCH IN FRONT OF ST. PETER EAST CHURCH IN LELAND, MS

KARL GOODMAN, AUDITOR, BRIDGERS & GOODMAN, BAIRD & CLARKE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, PLLC DISCUSSED THE 2022 AUDIT REPORT AND DOCUMENTS NEEDED FROM THE GREENVILLE PORT COMMISSION AND THE DELTA HEALTH SYSTEM

ANDREW SMITH, ARPA CONSULTANT PRESENTED HIS REPORT

(4) IN RE: ORDER REJECTING THE ONE AND ONLY BID OF TIMBO CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$190,000.00 FOR KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE HOLLANDALE MULTIPLEX BUILDING AND AUTHORIZE THE RE-ADVERTISEMENT OF THE KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE MULTIPLEX BUILDING MOTION BY

***SUPERVISOR REDMOND, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-
MCGEE, BENSON, BROOKS, ABSTAIN-GORDON, REDMOND***

**(5) IN RE: ORDER APPROPRIATING \$100,000.00 TO THE ELK'S LODGE FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS RELATED VENTILATION, SANITATION, ACCESSIBILITY TO ACCOMMODATE EXHIBITS, TOURS, AND OTHER PUBLIC ACTIVITIES, E.G. VOTING, EXHIBITS AND OTHER TOURISM RELATED EVENTS TO BE FUNDED BY \$50,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 4, \$25,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 2 AND \$25,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 5
*MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE, GORDON***

**(6) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING THE SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 TO THE ELK'S LODGE FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS RELATED VENTILATION, SANITATION, ACCESSIBILITY TO ACCOMMODATE EXHIBITS, TOURS, AND OTHER PUBLIC ACTIVITIES, E.G. VOTING, EXHIBITS AND OTHER TOURISM RELATED EVENTS, ENDING VERIFICATION OF THEIR STATUS
*MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE, GORDON***

**(7) IN RE: ORDER APPROPRIATING \$100,000.00 TO THE MISSISSIPPI ACTION FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION (MACE) FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL BLUES FESTIVAL FOR EXPENSES THAT DIRECTLY IMPACT TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO BE FUNDED BY \$50,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 4, \$25,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 2 AND \$25,000.00 FROM DISTRICT 5
*MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE, GORDON***

**(8) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING THE SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 TO THE MISSISSIPPI ACTION FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION (MACE) FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL BLUES FESTIVAL FOR EXPENSES THAT DIRECTLY IMPACT TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
*MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE, GORDON ** MOTION WITHDRAWN UNTIL THE ATTORNEY CAN REVIEW TO DETERMINE LEGALITY.***

**(9) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING ANDREW SMITH, ARPA CONSULTANT, TO PREPARE A REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO IDENTIFYING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER TO ASSIST THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WITH ESTABLISHING A COUNTYWIDE RECREATION DEPARTMENT OR RECREATION COMMISSION; PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BOARD'S CONSIDERATION; DEVELOP A PROPOSED BUDGET BASED ON FINDINGS, EXISTING CONDITIONS AND OTHER VARIABLES DEEMED APPROPRIATE AS RELATED THE SPORTSPLEX
*MOTION***

BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

BE IT KNOWN: THE BOARD ATTORNEY RECOMMENDS THE BOARD MOVE FORWARD WITH ESTABLISHING A PARK COMMISSION AND EACH BOARD MEMBER SELECT A MEMBER

(10) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING THE PREPARATION OF A QUARTERLY COUNTY NEWSLETTER TO SERVE AS A TOOL FOR DELIVERING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY REGARDING COUNTY NEWS, EVENTS SPECIAL TOPICS, ETC. MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(11) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS TO DEVELOP AND PRINT A QUARTERLY COUNTY NEWSLETTER TO SERVE AS A TOOL FOR DELIVERING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY REGARDING COUNTY NEWS, EVENTS SPECIAL TOPICS, ETC. MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(12) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR SUBMITTAL OF VARIOUS APPLICATIONS FOR FEDERAL FUNDING THROUGH PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(13) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR THE 2023 HOME HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION GRANT PROGRAM; ADVERTISING FOR APPLICATION PREPARATION SERVICES; ADVERTISING FOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND PUBLISHING THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

MARK SEARD, TAX ASSESSOR, PRESENTED A REQUEST TO VOID TAX SALE AND PETITIONS FOR REDUCTION AND INCREASE OF ASSESSMENTS

(14) IN RE: ORDER VOIDING 2023 TAX SALE OF THE 2022 TAXES FOR PARCEL 122000 PPIN 37313 ASSESSED TO ADVANTAGE CAPITAL ROC, LLC DUE TO AN ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENT; AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD TO SIGN PETITION FOR REDUCTION OF ASSESSMENT FOR ADVANTAGE CAPITAL ROC, LLC AND AUTHORIZE A REFUND TO TAX SALE BUYER, ANTHONY PROPERTIES OF MS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$773.02, DUE TO AN ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, REDMOND, ABSENT-BROOKS

(15) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD TO SIGN PETITION FOR REDUCTION OF ASSESSMENT OF THE REAL/PERSONAL PROPERTY ROLL FOR PARCELS 16427800000 AND 1642780081, ASSESSED TO KING FOOD MARKET, INC., AND NOTICE TO INCREASE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE REAL/PERSONAL PROPERTY ROLL FOR PARCEL 16427200000 ASSESSED TO KING FOOD MARKET, INC., MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, ABSENT-REDMOND

BE IT KNOWN: SUPERVISOR MALA BROOKS STATES THE BREICH STREET BRIDGE CAN BE OPENED WITH NO PROBLEM

CHELESA CARTER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PRESENTED HER BI-WEEKLY REPORT

(16) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING CLAIMS 234138 THRU 234299 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,066,500.67 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(17) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING TRAVEL FOR TAMELA HARDY, TYNECIA LEWIS, AND SONIA WASHINGTON OF THE 4TH CIRCUIT INTERVENTION COURT TO ATTEND THE LEVEL OF SERVICE/CASE MANAGEMENT INVENTORY TRAINING AUGUST 29-31, 2023 IN JACKSON, MS, ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,500.00 TO BE PAID FROM THEIR MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT GRANT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, THE VOTE: AYE- GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, ABSENT-REDMOND

(18) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00 TO BOSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERD FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2023 FOR DELTA HEALTH SYSTEM MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, ABSENT-REDMOND

(19) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE IMAGE SPECIALIST OF MS LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE 4TH CIRCUIT INTERVENTION COURT FOR A PERIOD OF 48 MONTHS, AT A COCOST OF \$153.00 PER MONTH MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, ABSENT-REDMOND

(20) IN RE: ORDER SETTING SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2023 FOR THE ANNUAL WASHINGTON COUNTY INSURANCE FAIR AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, ABSENT- REDMOND

(21) IN RE: ORDER SETTING PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M. FOR PROPERTY ASSESSED TO WILLIAM H. HUGHES III, ESTATE/LEONARD KULIA, ET AL (PARCEL# 581310000) IN SUCH A STATE OF UNCLEANLINESS AS TO CONSTITUTE A MENANCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(22) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,526.03 TO W.L. BURLE ENGINEERS, P.A. FOR THE ARPA/FOREST ACRES SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE PROJECT (09266-1-0123) MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(23) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING OTTER BAYOU DRAINAGE DISTRICT 2023-2024 ORDER FIXING TAX LEVY TO TWELVE PERCENT (12%) MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(24) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING THE JULY 2023 SETTLEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$364,068.86 FROM TAX COLLECTOR, PATRICIA LEE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(25) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING BONDS FOR HOLLANDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT: SHIRLEY J. WILLIAMS-SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, STACEY WILSON-WELLS-SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, SHONTELLE JOHNSON-BRIDGES-PRINCIPAL, MARIO WILLIS-PURCHASING AGENT, TIMOTHY FORD -BUSINESS MANAGER, FRANKIE HESTER-SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, MARY C. WISE-BOARD MEMBER, DOROTHY JERNIGAN-BOARD MEMBER MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, ABSENT-REDMOND

(26) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING COUNTY OFFICIALS REPORTS. MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(27) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING COPYING CERTAIN DOCUMENTS INTO THE MINUTES OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(28) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING LETTER FROM STATE AID CONFIRMING THE RE-ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS ON PROJECT NO. SAP-76(7) M SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M. MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

BILLY BARBER CHIEF DEPUTY

(29) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING TRAVEL FOR TWO (2) DEPUTIES TO ATTEND A CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE INVESTIGATION TRAINING IN HATTIESBURG, MS AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, AT ESTIMATED COST OF \$300.00 EACH MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

(30) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING THE SERVING OF ALOCHOLIC BEVERAGES BY FRED BURKLEY FOR WEDDING RECEPTION AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER, AUGUST 26, 2023 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- MCGEE, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY-GORDON

(31) IN RE: ORDER ADDING ATTORNEY’S REPORT TO THE AGENDA MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-GORDON, BENSON, MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND

BE IT KNOWN: ATTORNEY WILLIE GRIFFIN REPORTED TO THE BOARD THAT THE APPRAISER HAS COMPLETED THE WORK FOR THE COUNTY AND WOULD LIKE A SPECIAL CALL MEETING TO MEET WITH THE BOARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN.

(32) IN RE: ORDER TO RECESS MEETING UNTIL AUGUST 24, 2023 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE- MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND

CARL MCGEE, PRESIDENT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

ATTEST:
MARILYN HANSELL, CLERK