

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2024

BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 16, 2024 at 9:00 A.M., the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Mississippi, meet pursuant to recess, there being the following members present, Carl McGee, Lee Gordon, Tommy Benson, Mala Brooks, and Jerry Redmond. The meeting was called to order by President Carl McGee. The opening prayer was by Chief Deputy Billy Barber. 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 THE AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS FOR DECEMBER 16, 2024 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND* ADDITIONS: CITY OF LELAND AND LELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT AS SUBRECIPIENT OF ARPA DOLLARS, NOVEMBER 4, 2024 MINUTES, IMS INVOICES, MEC INSURANCE, NEW LIVING WAY REQUEST TO VOID TAX SALE, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AS SUBRECIPIENT OF ARPA DOLLARS

(2) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING THE MINUTES DECEMBER 2, 2024 MEETING OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK TO SIGN SAME *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

JUSTIN BURCH, ECONOMIC ALLIANCE PRESENTED THE BOARD AN UPDATE OF PROJECTS

DEAN PRANGE, DIRECTOR OF COUNTY RELATIONS AND PATRICIA LEE, TAX COLLECTOR

(3) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING AMERICAN FINANCIAL CREDIT SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAXES FOR THE TAX OFFICE, PENDING REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT BY THE BOARD ATTORNEY *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

SHEILA COLLINS

(4) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING THE SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MULTIPLEX BUILDING, DECEMBER 28, 2024 BY SHEILA COLLINS FOR A HOLIDAY PARTY *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, BROOKS, BENSON, REDMOND, NAY-GORDON*

MALA BROOKS

(5) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE CITY OF LELAND FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT ('ARPA") FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$406,473.97 FOR HOUSING, PARKS, AND OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, PARK BENCHES, AND HVAC/VENTILATION TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(6) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND LELAND SCOOOL DISTRICT MISSISSIPPI FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT ("ARPA") FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$170,000 FOR A SOCCER DRONE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS TO ENCOURAGE OUTDOOR/INDOOR RECREATION AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(7) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 1 FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT ("ARPA") FUNDS THE AMOUNT OF \$234,000 FOR UPGRADE OF THE PAUL LOVE PARK, AND OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, PARK BENCHES, AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(8) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 2 FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT ("ARPA") FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$153,295.76 FOR UPGRADE OF PARKS, AND OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, PARK BENCHES, AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(9) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 3 FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (“ARPA”) FUNDS FOR UPGRADE FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000, AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(10) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 5 FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (“ARPA”) FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$178,937.69 FOR THE MULTIPLEX BATHROOMS, PARKS, AND OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, PARK BENCHES, AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, REDUCTION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(11) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING SUBMITTING IMS ENGINEERS INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$683,357.93 TO THE STATE AUDITOR’S OFFICE FOR REVIEW *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MCGEE, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON NAY-BROOKS, BENSON, REDMOND (MOTION FAILED)*

(12) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$683,357.93 FOR INVOICES SUBMITTED BY IMS ENGINEERS *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, THE VOTE: AYE- BROOKS, BENSON REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE, GORDON*

BE IT KNOWN: THE BOARD WILL ADVISE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON WHERE THE FUNDS WILL COME FROM. FOR PAYMENT OF THE INVOICES FROM IMS. THE INVOICES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE CHANCERY CLERK’S OFFICE FOR REVIEW

(13) IN RE: ORDER ADDING COUNTY ENGINEER, MARK HOOKER TO THE AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 16, 2024 *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MCGEE, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

COUNTY ENGINEER, MARK HOOKER, GAVE THE BOARD AN UPDATE ON PROJECTS AND STATED ‘ON STATE AID PROJECTS, WE SUBMITTED OUR BILL TO STSTE AID AND TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. ONCE THE MONEY WAS SENT FROM THE STATE TO THE COUNTY, THAT IS WHEN WE WERE PAID’.

MARK SEARD, TAX ASSESSOR

(14) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE PETITION FOR REDUCTION OF ASSESSMENT FOR PROPERTY ASSESSED TO CARIKER L. WEATHERS, PARCEL NO. 197710000 ON THE REAL ASSESSMENT ROLL *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BROOKS, BENSON, REDMOND*

(15) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING VOIDING THE 2024 TAX SALE OF THE 2023 TAXES AND CORRECTING THE 2024 TAX RECEIPT TO REFLECT EXEMPT STATUS FOR PROPERTY ASSESSED TO NEW LIVING WAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, PARCEL NO. 13824600120 PPIN NO. 9246 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

BID OPENING: 199.50 ACRES OF LAND IN INDUSTRIAL PARK

(16) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING THE ONE AND ONLY BID OF FREDRICK A. FORMIGONI, II IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,947.50 PER YEAR FOR AGRICULTURAL LEASE OF 199.50 ACRES OF LAND IN INDUSTRIAL PARK TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2028 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

CHELESA CARTER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PRESENTED HER BI-WEEKLY REPORT

(17) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING CLAIMS 251616 THROUGH 251759 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$493,487.16 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(18) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,200.00 TO HOOKER ENGINEERING FOR GEOTECHNICAL & WETLANDS FOR THE WINTERVILLE PRICILLA SA 76-304 ERBR PROJECT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(19) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,200.00 TO HOOKER ENGINEERING FOR GEOTECHNICAL & WETLANDS FOR THE WINTERVILLE PRICILLA SA 76-280 ERBR PROJECT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(20) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000.00 TO HOOKER ENGINEERING FOR GEOTECHNICAL & WETLANDS FOR THE WINTERVILLE PRICILLA SA 76-080 ERBR PROJECT 76(09) MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(21) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING LETTER OF MARGIE T. JOHNSON RESIGNATION FROM THE WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM AS BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTING THE CITY OF HOLLANDALE AND ACCEPTING RECOMMENDATION, ALONG WITH SUPERVISOR JERRY REDMOND, TO APPOINT ANGELA JOHNSON AS A REPLACEMENT TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF HOLLANDALE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(22) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING ARPA REIMBURSEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,000.00 TO MISSISSIPPI HOME CORPORATION FOR DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR SEVEN (7) HOMEOWNERS (\$7,000.00 EACH) MOTION BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND,

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

BERNADINE HOLMES, DEPUTY CHANCERY CLERK

(23) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENT CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$269,428.70 FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2024 FROM TAX COLLECTOR, PATRICIA LEE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

CHIEF BILLY BARBER

(24) IN RE: ORDER ACCEPTING THE MEAL LOG FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2024 TO DECEMBER 6, 2024 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(25) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING A STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,900.00 FROM E-FORCE TO UPGRADE THE DISPATCH CAD SYSTEM, AS REQUESTED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(26) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING USE OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER DECEMBER 19, 2024 BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

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

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

(29) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING MOVING FORWARD WITH DISCUSSION WITH ABILITY WORKS FOR TRASH CLEAN UP MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(30) IN RE: ORDER AUTHORIZING SUBMITTING THE GARBAGE TRUCK VEHICLE REPAIR CLAIM TO THE INSURANCE COMPANY MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, *THE VOTE: AYE- GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY- MCGEE*

(31) IN RE: ORDER APPROVING PAUPER'S BURIAL FOR MR. JOSEPH MCLAURIN, AS REQUESTED BY CORONER, METHEL JOHNSON MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(32) IN RE: ORDER GOING INTO CLOSED DETERMINATION TO CONSIDER GOING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE- MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND, GORDON, BENSON*

(33) IN RE: ORDER TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, THE VOTE: AYE- MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(34) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING THE BOARD ATTORNEY TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE INSURANCE FOR THE MEC FACILITY *MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, THE VOTE: AYE- MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(35) IN RE: ORDER TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION, WITH ACTION TAKEN MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BENSON, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(36) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING USE OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER DECEMBER 27, 2024 FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING EVENT, AT NO FEE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

(37) IN RE: ORDER ALLOWING THE SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER, DECEMBER 27, 2024 FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING EVENT MOTION BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR REDMOND, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, BROOKS, REDMOND, NAY-BENSON, GORDON*

(38) IN RE: ORDER TO ADJOURN MEETING UNTIL JANUARY 6, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GORDON, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BROOKS, *THE VOTE: AYE-MCGEE, GORDON, BENSON, BROOKS, REDMOND*

CARL MCGEE, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

MARILYN HANSELL, CLERK