

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

August 2nd, 2021

COUNTY OF LOWNDES

MINUTE BOOK 374

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a regular meeting of The Board of Supervisors of Lowndes County, Mississippi, held at the Lowndes County Courthouse, Columbus, Mississippi, Monday, the 2nd day of August 2021, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Harry Sanders	via GoToMeeting	Supervisor, District 1
Trip Hairston		Supervisor, District 2, President
John Holliman		Supervisor, District 3
Jeff Smith		Supervisor, District 4
Leroy Brooks		Supervisor, District 5
Tim Hudson Esq.		County Board Attorney
Eddie Hawkins		Sheriff
Cindy E. Goode		Chancery Clerk
Jay Fisher		County Administrator
County Staff Members		
Members of News Media		
County Citizens		

The following proceedings were had:

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

- I. Call to Order, Eddie Hawkins, Sheriff
- II. Presiding, Trip Hairston, Board President
- III. Invocation, John Holliman, Supervisor, District 3
- IV. Pledge Of Allegiance, Cindy E. Goode, Chancery Clerk

I

Adopt Agenda

A. Agenda Review

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to adopt agenda as amended with changes; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein.)

II
Board Minutes

- A. Approve July 15th, 2021 Board Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve July 15th, 2021 board minutes of the Board of Supervisors; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein)

III
Keith Gaskin
City of Columbus Mayor

Introduction

IV
Lloyd Price
Lowndes County CFO

- A. County Claims Docket – Period ending July 31st, 2021

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to spread on the minutes the County Claims Docket period ending July 31st, 2021; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit C attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- B. Surplus Property

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes the surplus property list and declare said items surplus; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit D attached hereto and incorporated herein)

V.
Salem Gibson
YMCA

- A. Community Garden

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to establish a partnership with The Hive Farm & Garden for the benefit of health and welfare of youth and citizens of Lowndes County. Lowndes County agrees to allow placement of no more than 8 raised garden beds on the lot across from Franklin Academy for a period of one year; Second by Supervisor Hairston. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit E attached hereto and incorporated herein)

VI.
Greg Merchant
Lowndes County Coroner

A. Cremation of human remains

Motion by Supervisor Holliman based on a finding that deceased had no assets available to pay for cremation, the Board approves Coroner's request for cremation; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

VII.
Neal Austin
Lowndes County Fire Coordinator

A. Naming District 5 Station – South Frontage Road

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to name District 5 Station located on South Frontage Road in honor of Billy Swedenburg, deceased; Second by Supervisor Hairston. Vote 5-0

VIII.
Steve Edds
Butler Snow, LLP Bond Attorney

A. 2014 Bond Refunding

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to adopt and spread on the minutes the Resolution authorizing and directing the issuance of not to exceed \$6,990,000 Lowndes County, Mississippi Taxable (Convertible to Tax-Exempt) General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C for the purpose of advance refunding and defeasing a portion of the County's outstanding \$9,165,000 (Original Principal Amount) Lowndes County, Mississippi General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2014, dated September 30, 2014; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit F attached hereto and incorporated herein)

IX.
George Crawford
Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.
Project Analyst

A. Approval of Environmental Letters to concerned Indian Tribes
Concerning the Proposed Emergency Route in the Golden Triangle
Industrial Park

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to authorize Board President to sign Environmental letters to concerned Indian Tribes regarding the proposed emergency route in the Golden Triangle Industrial Park; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit G attached hereto and incorporated herein)

X.
Greg Andrews
Lowndes County Tax Assessor/Collector

A. Resolution to split offices

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to adopt and spread on the minutes a Resolution to split the Office of Tax Assessor Collector into two offices "Tax Assessor" and "Tax Collector" in accordance with Mississippi Code 27-1-11, the split to take effect in the succeeding term of office; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit H attached hereto and incorporated herein)

B. Tax Appeals

Motion by Supervisor Smith to spread on the minutes the tax appeals from Caledonia Energy Partners, LLC., Country Air Apartments and Belk Stores; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit I attached hereto and incorporated herein)

C. Production of Books – Ms. Code 27-35-97

Motion by Supervisor Hairston to amend the Agenda to consider the Tax Assessor/Collector's proposal; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Supervisor Hairston, pursuant to Mississippi Code 27-35-97, to require Caledonia Energy Partners, LLC to submit their audited books to the Board in their capacity as the hearing authority for property tax objections; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit J attached hereto and incorporated herein)

XI.
Jay Fisher
Lowndes County Administrator

A. EMA Sheltering Support Plan

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minute the EMA Sheltering Support Plan; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit K attached hereto and incorporated herein)

B. Soccer Complex Electronic Sign

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minute the Amendment to Land Lease Agreement with Busby Outdoor, LLC.; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit L attached hereto and incorporated herein)

C. Juvenile Detention new hire

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve the hire of Anthony Hairston as Juvenile Detention officer beginning 6 August 2021 with a rate of \$13.00 per hour; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0.

D. Justice Court Credit Card Processing Contract

Motion by Supervisor Smith to spread on the minutes Justice Court's change of their credit card processing contract from Gila to Court Solutions due to compatibility; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0.

E. LINK Board Appointments – no action taken.

F. Lowndes County Schools Tax Notice – no action taken

G. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to authorize County Administrator and Chief Financial Officer to solicit outside professional consultants for planning process regarding the approach of use of ARP funds with regard to law and State Auditors; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

H. COVID-19 Policy Discussion – no action taken.

XII.

Ronnie Burns

Lowndes County Road Department Manager

A. Board Reports

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to spread on the minutes Board Reports for July 2021 and work schedule for August 2021; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit M attached hereto and incorporated herein)

B. Personnel

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve the promotion of Joshua (Cole) Harrison from Crew Member to Class II Driver beginning 2 August 2021, rate of \$16.04 per hour; pay broken down as 26 July 2021 – 29 July 2021, 40 hours at rate of \$15.10 = \$604.00 and 2 August 2021 – 5 August 2021, 40 hours at rate of \$16.04 = \$641.60; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit N attached hereto and incorporated herein)

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve the hire of Drake Griffin as Crew Member beginning 3 August 2021, rate of \$14.60 per hour with 6 month probationary period; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit O attached hereto and incorporated herein)

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve the promotion of Ashley Long from Office Clerk to Office Manager beginning 2 August 2021, rate of \$17.75 per

hour; pay broken down as 26 July 2021 – 29 July 2021, 40 hours at rate of \$15.75 = \$630.00 and 2 August 2021 – 5 August 2021, 40 hours at rate of \$17.75 = \$710.00; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit P attached hereto and incorporated herein)

XIII.
Bob Calvert
Lowndes County Engineer

- A. AT&T Utility Permit (Trinity Road, Plum Grove Road, Johnnie B. Wilson Road, Old Macon Road, Whispering Pines Road, Godfrey Road, Walter Jones Road, John Smart Road, Will Hairston Road, Lott Field Road, and Jenny Penn Road)
- B. AT&T Utility Permit (Carson Road, Trinity Road, Old Macon Road, Blewett Road, Deal Road, W. Brewer Lane, W. Minnie Vaughn Road, Swallow Drive, Chat & Chew Road, and S. Barksdale Road)

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes AT&T Utility Permits along and across the above mention roads listed in items A & B; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit Q & R attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- C. Prairie Land Water Utility Permit Limerock Road

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes the Prairie Land Water Utility Permit for water service along or across Limerock Road; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit S attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- D. Caledonia Natural Gas Utility Permit Westbrook Road

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes the Caledonia Natural Gas Utility Permit for a ¾" road bore along or across Westbrook Road; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit T attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- E. Caledonia Water & Sewer Department Utility Permit

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes the Caledonia Water & Sewer Department Utility Permit for a ¾" water service line along and across Cal-Kolola Road; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit U attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- F. Change Order #2 Pavecon, LTD Soccer Complex Time Extension

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to grant an additional 36 days to the Change Order #2 Pavecon, LTD Soccer Complex project; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit V attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- G. Authority to advertise Concession Building Equine Center and receive bids on September 7, 2021

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to grant permission to advertise Concession Building Equine Center and receive bids 7 September 2021; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit W attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- H. Supplemental Agreement and Change Order Charleigh Ford Drive APL-0044-(36)B.

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes the Supplemental Agreement and Change Order regarding Charleigh Ford Drive APL-0044(36)B; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit X attached hereto and incorporated herein)

XIV.

Cindy E. Goode

Lowndes County Chancery Clerk

- A. Surety Bonds (Riders)

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes Surety Bond Riders for Kerrigan Hill effective bond term June 21, 2021-January 3, 2022; Tina Ballard Brown bond amount from \$75,000.00 to \$50,000.00; Tina Ballard Brown from Receiving Clerk to Assistant Receiving Clerk; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit Y attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- B. Homestead Exemption Objections

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes 5 Homestead disagreement objection forms and 13 Agree & Accept forms; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit Z attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- C. MOU – MAS with Board of Supervisors regarding ARP funds

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes MOU between Mississippi Association of Supervisors and Lowndes County Board of Supervisors with information and general assistance regarding federal funds available under the American Recovery Plan (ARP); Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit AA attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- D. Sheriff's Reports

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes the Sheriff's Report for the month of July 2021; Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit BB attached hereto and incorporated herein)

XV.
Eddie Hawkins
Lowndes County Sheriff

A. New Hires – 2 Detention Officers

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes the hire of Claude Michael Shackelford as Detention Officer beginning 9 August 2021, rate of \$13.42 per hour and Devin Michael Strong as Deputy Sheriff (Airport) beginning 26 July 2021, rate of \$17.50 per hour; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit CC attached hereto and incorporated herein)

XVI.
Board Members/Board Attorney

A. Supervisor Jeff Smith – parking lot Crawford/Concord Community Center.

Motion by Supervisor Smith to seek costs estimates for parking lot paving and repairs; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0.

B. Board Attorney Tim Hudson – Interlocal Agreement

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes the proposed Interlocal Agreement between City of Starkville and Lowndes County Board of Supervisors concerning Lowndes County Juvenile Detention Center; Second by Supervisor Hairston. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit DD attached hereto and incorporated herein)

Motion by Supervisor Hairston to recess until Monday, August 16th, 2021; seconded by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0.



Cindy E. Goode

Cindy E. Goode, Chancery Clerk

Tripp Hairston

TRIP HAIRSTON, Board President