

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
JANUARY 31ST, 2023

COUNTY OF LOWNDES
MINUTE BOOK 389

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a regular meeting of The Board of Supervisors of Lowndes County, Mississippi, held at the Lowndes County Courthouse, Columbus, Mississippi, Tuesday, the 31ST day of January 2023, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Harry Sanders	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, Trip Hairston, 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
Approve January 17th, 2023
Board Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes January 17th, 2023 board minutes; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein)

III
Chancery Court Judge Joe Studdard

A. Court Administrator Hire

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve Lowndes County's share of the salary for two (2) new Deputy Chancery Court Administrators for the 14th Chancery Court District effective immediately. Lowndes County's cost will be approximately \$17,900 annually or 34.783% of said position's salary; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit C attached hereto and incorporated herein)

IV.
Lowndes County CFO
Lloyd Price

A. County Claims Docket – Period ending January 31, 2023

Motion by Supervisor Smith to spread on the minutes County Claims Docket period ending January 31, 2023; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit D attached hereto and incorporated herein)

B. Financials for December 2022

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes the December 2022 Financials; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit E attached hereto and incorporated herein)

V.
Lowndes County Chancery Clerk
Cindy Goode

A. Surety Bonds

Motion by Supervisor Smith to spread on the minutes surety bonds for Shawndel K. Pace as Reserve Deputy Sheriff, Samuel Allison as Purchasing Agent, Samuel Allison as Superintendent, George B. Fleming as Board Member Lowndes County Schools, Jacqueline Gray as Board Member Lowndes County Schools, Paul Wesley Barrett as Board Member Lowndes County Schools, Jane Kilgore as Board Member Lowndes County Schools, and Robert Barksdale as Board Member Lowndes County Schools; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit F attached hereto and incorporated herein.)

VI.
Lowndes County Administrator
Jay Fisher

- A. Announce Board Vacancies East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) Board of Trustees (1) Columbus-Lowndes Public Library Board (1) Port Authority Board (2)

Motion by Supervisor Smith authorizing County Administrator to advertise for board vacancies ending 31 March 2023, for East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) Board of Trustees held by Keith Gaskin; Columbus-Lowndes Public Library Board held by Frances Beard Glenn; and Port Authority Board William Corder District 1 and Charles Miller District 2; Second by Holliman. Vote 5-0.

- B. Resolution honoring Ms. Rosie Lee Harris

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to pass a Resolution honoring a Lowndes County Citizen as one of the oldest business ladies; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

- C. Resolution honoring Mr. Bradford Freeman

Motion by Supervisor Holliman pass a Resolution in support of Senate Bill 2002 naming a portion of Highway 45 North in Lowndes County, Mississippi "PFC Bradford C. Freeman Memorial Highway"; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

- D. Approval of Amended Lease for DA Office Space

Motion by Supervisor Hairston to approve and spread on the minutes the Amendment to Lease for DA Office Space; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit G attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- E. Contract for Grant Writer for USDA Recreation Grant

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes the Contract for Grant Writing Services between City of Columbus and Lowndes County Ms. Board of Supervisors; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit H attached hereto and incorporated herein)

- F. Recommendation on Bids for Bank Depository

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes County Administrator's recommendation of awarding bid for bank depository to Cadence Bank for four (4) years term at 3.63 % variable rate, effective 1 March 2023 and authorize Board Attorney to prepare Board Order for the transition; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit I attached hereto and incorporated herein)

G. Acceptance of Settlement Check

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to accept the settlement check in the amount of \$32,158.52 as settlement from the Opioid Class Action Lawsuit; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit J attached hereto and incorporated herein)

VII.

**Lowndes County Sheriff
Eddie Hawkins**

A. Jail Tour

Motion by Supervisor Hairston to spread on the minutes Board of Supervisors was given a tour of the Lowndes County Jail by Sheriff Eddie Hawkins 30 January 2023; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

B. New Hire – Detention Officer (Transport 1 and Detention Officers 2)

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes the hire of Shawndel K. Pace as Transport Detention Officer, effective 1 February 2023, rate of pay \$15.00 per hour; Michah Joel Hayward as Detention Officer, effective 6 February 2023, rate of pay \$15.00 per hour; and Quentario Deontez Long as Detention Officer, effective 25 January 2023, rate of pay \$15.00 per hour; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit K attached hereto and incorporated herein)

C. FY24 MDEQ Solid Waste Assistance Grant Agreement

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve the FY24 MDEQ Solid Waste Assistance Grant Agreement; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit L attached hereto and incorporated herein)

D. FY22 Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Grant Monies Received

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve FY22 Homeland Security Grant Monies received \$48,000 for purchase of radios; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit M attached hereto and incorporated herein)

VIII.

**Lowndes County Road Manager
Mike Aldridge**

A. 2023-2027 Road Plan Approval

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve 2023-2027 Road Plan; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit N attached hereto and incorporated herein)

Supervisor Jeff Smith – Internet Sales Allocation. No action taken.

IX.

**Bob Calvert
Lowndes County Engineer**

A. Utility Permit Origis Energy – Gilmer Wilburn Road

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to approve and spread on the minutes Origis Energy Utility Permit for underground bore of MV/DC cables along and across Gilmer Wilburn Road; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit O attached hereto and incorporated herein)

B. Utility Permit Franklin Telephone – Charleigh Ford Drive

Motion by Supervisor Smith to approve and spread on the minutes Franklin Telephone Company Utility Permit for fiber optic cable along or across Charleigh D. Ford Jr.; Second by Supervisor Brooks. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit P attached hereto and incorporated herein)

C. Engineering Consent Letter

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to approve and spread on the minutes Engineering Consent Letter regarding agreements between Board of Supervisors and Calvert-Spradling Engineers, Inc. and appointments of Robert L. Calvert as Engineer of record by Board of Supervisors of Lowndes County; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit Q attached hereto and incorporated herein)

D. Geotechnical Investigation Sportsplex – Joey Henderson JBHM Architecture

Motion by Supervisor Hairston to accept the proposal for geotechnical investigation for estimated cost of \$8,310.50 for field exploration, laboratory testing and engineering services of soil at Sportsplex; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0. (Exhibit R attached hereto and incorporated herein)

E. Truck Parking area (Manufacture's Drive & Industrial Park)

Motion by Supervisor Smith to accept the recommendation of County Engineer for qualifications from contractors for truck parking area; Second by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0.

Executive Session

Request for closed determination by Supervisor Hairston to discuss a pending lawsuit and acquisition of property.

Motion by Supervisor Holliman to go into Executive Session; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to come out of Executive Session; Second by Supervisor Smith. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Supervisor Brooks to adjourn until Monday, February 6th, 2023; seconded by Supervisor Holliman. Vote 5-0.



TRIP HAIRSTON, Board President

Cindy E. Goode, Chancery Clerk