

MINUTES

April 21, 2025
Bay Springs, MS

Present were Eddie Helms, Sandy Stephens, Doug Rogers, Randy Corley, Jon R. Jones, William R. Ruffin, Sharon King, Jessica Lamar, Cindy Hendry, Randy Plowden, Sheriff Randy Johnson, Kevin Tally, Hudson Jenkins, and Carol Evans

9:00 – None

- 1.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Randy Corley, the board voted unanimously to approve claims as of April 21, 2025.
- 2.** Motion made by Sandy Stephens, seconded by Doug Rogers, the board voted unanimously to approve payrolls for April 2025.
- 3.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Bonita Huddleston to attend the 2025 Chancery Clerk's Convention to be held on July 15-18, 2025 in Hattiesburg, MS and payment in the amount of \$250.00 for registration.
- 4.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Christie Phillips to attend the Negotiations & Talk Tactics class for recertification on May 12-13, 2025 in Flowood, MS and payment in the amount of \$300.00 for registration made payable to Public Safety Academics and Consulting, LLC.
- 5.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Stacy Carr to attend the OAED 40-Hour class to be held on May 5-9, 2025 in Meridian, MS and payment in the amount of \$395.00 for registration made payable to Dispatching and Training Solutions, LLC.

- 6.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Katrice Campbell to attend the Certified Appraiser's School to be held on May 5-9 and May 12-16, 2025 in Starkville, MS and payment in the amount of \$475.00 for registration.
- 7.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Tamela Moore to attend the Collector Revenue 1 Class to be held on May 19-23, 2025 in Biloxi, MS and payment in the amount of \$350.00 for registration.
- 8.** Motion made by Sandy Stephens, seconded by Randy Corley, the board voted unanimously to approve payment in the amount of \$2,247.00 made payable to Central Mississippi Emergency Medical Services for 2024-2025 membership dues to be paid out of EMSOF funds.
- 9.** Motion made by Randy Corley, seconded by Jon R. Jones, the board voted unanimously to approve payment in the amount of \$150.00 made payable to MACBA for 2025 MS Association of County Board Attorney's membership dues for William R. Ruffin.
- 10.** Motion made by Eddie Helms, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to approve contract from Tri-State Consulting Services, Inc for Mapping and GIS Services effective June 1, 2025 and ending on June 15, 2029 for a total of \$112,000.00 to be billed monthly for 48 months.
- 11.** Motion made by Sandy Stephens, seconded by Randy Corley, the board voted unanimously to approve employment of Laban Grant Blakeney as Assistant Public Defender with an annual salary of \$10,000.00 plus retirement and benefits effective May 1, 2025 to replace Regnal Blackledge after tendering his resignation effective April 30, 2025 per signed order by Judge Stanley Sorey. **An order to set aside will be signed by Judge Sorey due to a conflict with Mr. Blakeney's appointment. This item will be rescinded once that order is received.**

- 12.** Motion made by Randy Corley, seconded by Jon R. Jones, the board voted unanimously to approve advertising county resources in the amount of \$125.00 made payable to SBA Booster Club for an existing sign renewal for SBA Saints Baseball and Softball for the 2025-2026 seasons.
- 13.** Motion made by Randy Corley, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve quote in the amount of \$6,750.00 from R&M refrigeration Heating & Air, LLC for the purchase of one (1) 4-Ton Rheem model HVAC system, labor, and installation for the Buster Hamm building in Beat 4 as lowest and best and as previously accepted by the purchase clerk.
- 14.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Jon R. Jones, the board voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of \$200.00 in petty cash, surrendered to Cindy Hendry, from Jacquelyne McCullum, from the Paulding District 1 offices of Solid Waste and Justice Court as of April 9, 2025 and receipt of \$200.00 in petty cash by Jamie McCullough to be used for the same as of April 17, 2025.
- 15.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Jon R. Jones, the board voted unanimously to approve petty cash reimbursement in the amount of \$168.00 made payable to Solid Waste, District 2, due to a cash deposit made in error on March 20, 2025.
- 16.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve advance payment in the amount of \$144,060.50 made payable to N.L. Carson Construction Company, Inc for stored materials per section 109.06.2 of the 2004 Mississippi Standard Specifications for State Aid Road and Bridge Construction for project no. ERBR-31(02), Bridge nos. 31-50 and 31-52. This payment will only need to be turned over to the contractor once the engineer on record signs off on said payment.
- 17.** Motion made by Sandy Stephens, seconded by Doug Rogers, the board voted unanimously to table approving application for Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Leaf River Energy Center, LLC for tax year 2025 and to revisit at the first board meeting in May to be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 in Paulding at 9:00 am and in Bay Springs, MS at 10:00 am.

- 18.** Motion made by Sandy Stephens, seconded by Doug Rogers, the board voted unanimously to approve postponing the first meeting in May from May 5th to May 6th, 2025 to begin at 9:00 am in Paulding and 10:00 am in Bay Springs, MS.
- 19.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve quote received from Park Right Striping, LLC in the amount of \$18,631.00 to stripe Edmund King Road to be paid out of Beat 3 funds and to bill the City of Bay Springs in the amount of \$9,315.50 for their portion, as previously accepted by the Purchase Clerk.
- 20.** Motion made by Eddie Helms, seconded by Doug Rogers, the board voted unanimously to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$2,814.27 from the Beat 1 fund to the SB2468 fund due to CR 219 being repaired with Beat 1 bond funds and Beat 1 funds prior to receipt of SB2468 funds that were to be used on CR 219 and \$204,827.95 from Beat 1 bond fund to SB2468 fund due to payments made in error from the SB2468 funds on invoices billed for repairs on CR 5286 and CR 277 that were not named in SB2468.
- 21.** Motion made by Jon R. Jones, seconded by Eddie Helms, the board voted unanimously to approve advertising county resources in the amount of \$165.00 for a quarter page ad with The Post to congratulate the graduating classes of 2025.
- 22.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to approve going into a closed session to discuss whether or not there is a need to go into executive session to discuss a litigation issue involving an insurance claim and the Stringer Fire Department.
- 23.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to approve going into executive session to discuss a litigation issue involving an insurance claim and the Stringer Fire Department.
- 24.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to approve closing executive session with no action.

- 25.** Motion made by Doug Rogers, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to approve travel and expenses for Patrick Edwards to attend the Human Trafficking Investigators class to be held on April 29- May 1, 2025 in Hernando, MS.
- 26.** Motion made by Randy Corley, seconded by Sandy Stephens, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

DISCUSSION:

- **ERBR-SAP-31(8)M Project is complete – Remaining funds in the amount of \$21,181.22 should be sent back to the ERBR fund unless we can spend it- Revisit at next board meeting**
- **Payments for project JSCBS-103-24 for Beat 1, CR 5286 and CR 277, were paid by SB2468 funds but should not have been. Reimburse from Beat 1 bond funds. Total payments were \$345,589.39. Is ALL of this in fact to be paid by Beat 1? Item #20**
- **Vote for MASIT Board of Trustees**