

MINUTES OF THE
MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CONTINUATION OF RECESSED BOARD MEETING
FROM DECEMBER 20, 2001
HELD AND CONDUCTED ON THE 7TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2002, 12:00 NOON
2ND FLOOR HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

The meeting of the Madison County Economic Development Authority was reconvened on the 7th day of January, 2002, 12:00 noon in the 1855 Courthouse in the City of Canton, Mississippi.

Members Present: Chip Estes, Thomas Johnson, Billy Thames, and John Wallace. Also present were Jerry Acy, Bob Montgomery and Joy Foy.

Guest: Bill Banks, Karl Banks, Paul Griffin, David Richardson, Marc Sharpe, Wallace Collins, George Touart and Toby Trowbridge.

After lunch, Chairman Estes announced that the members who were present constituted a quorum and declared the meeting duly reconvened.

Chairman Estes explained that this meeting was planned to identify and prioritize matters to address with the State Legislators on behalf of Madison County.

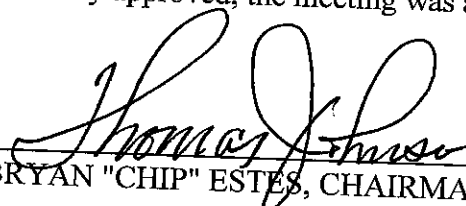
Local option sales tax was discussed. The group agreed that a sale tax issue should be a local issue handled by each municipality individually.


The Mississippi Railroad Revitalization program was considered to assist in re-locating rail lines from downtown areas. This legislation would allow the railroads to borrow money to defray the relocation cost. The consensus was that railroad's current borrowing power would minimize the benefits of this type legislation and the discussion was dropped as a non-issue.

After discussion on a state wide local and private bill that would allow bond financing for a development along with an assessment on the development to pay off incurred bond debt, it was agreed that Mr. Montgomery would draft a resolution to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. If the state wide bill fails, the resolution would be used to lobby the legislators in adopting a local and private bill for Madison County as a whole.

Mr. Acy told of a request from Leake County and other counties east of Madison County asking for MCEDA's support in including the widening of Highway 16 from Carthage to Canton on the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Vision Plan. Two Thirds of the twenty six miles of that portion of Highway 16 is in Madison County. Mr. Montgomery suggested that MCEDA support the Vision 21 plan and secondarily support the Leake County group provided it does not impeded the Vision 21 Plan. Discussion ended with the agreement that federal dollars would also be a way to fund this road project.

After a motion made, duly seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.


BRYAN "CHIP" ESTES, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: 
STEVE DAVENPORT, SECRETARY-TREASURER