



**Agenda of the
Forrest County Board of Supervisors**

Date: Monday, February 2, 2026

- **Call to Order**

- **Public Forum (5 minutes)**
 1. Mark A. Jordan – DAV Hattiesburg Chapter

- **Approve January 2026 Minutes**
- **Approve or Amend Agenda**

Approve Consent Agenda Items A-M

Motion: Stringer 2nd: Mordica Vote: Yes

A. Continue in effect the Board President's March 13, 2020, Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency in connection with COVID-19 Pandemic pursuant to Miss Code Section 33-15-17(d).

B. Monthly Department Reports- January - 2026

1. The Chancery report, as submitted by Lance Reid, Chancery Clerk.
2. The Justice Court report, as submitted by Faye Moffett, Justice Court Clerk.
3. The Coroner report, as submitted by Lisa Klem, Forrest County Coroner
4. The Maintenance report, as submitted by Dan Lee, Maintenance Supervisor.
5. The Election Commissioner's report, as submitted by James Harvison, Lucretia Jenkins, Johneice Dupree, Faye Noble, and Douglas "Butch" Benedict, Election Commissioners.
6. **The Circuit Court report, as submitted by Gwen Wilkes, Circuit Clerk.**

C. Acknowledgements

1. Acknowledge County Offices to be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026, in observance of the birthday of George Washington, as per Mississippi Code Section 3-3-7 of 1972, and reschedule the Forrest County Board of Supervisors meeting date set for Tuesday, February 17, 2026 due to the holiday closing.
2. Acknowledge payment to DISH NETWORK, LLC in the amount of \$450.19 for the Jail, Check No. 75075, Invoice No. 335007568.
3. Acknowledge Schedule A from Jeff Martin Auctioneers received. (See Attached)
4. Acknowledge and approve the extension to the Pre Disaster Monitoring Agreement between Forrest County and Debris Tech for one (1) additional year from 1/23/2026 through 3/13/2027 per attached addendum.
5. Acknowledge and approve the extension to the Pre Disaster Debris Removal Agreement between Forrest County and Looks Great Services for one (1) additional year from 3/14/2026 through 3/13/2027 per attached addendum.
6. Acknowledge payment to HOSTWAY SERVICES, INC in the amount of \$788.08, Invoice No. 16748047, Check No. 75103.
7. Acknowledge and approve permission to remove the attached list of Inventory as submitted, by Deann Clay, Inventory Clerk.
8. Acknowledge and approve permission to apply for the 2026 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant.
9. Acknowledge and authorize the Board President to sign an Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Assistance request to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the following sites: 8 Brooklyn Cemetery Road, 59 JC Bryant Road and 74 JC Bryant Road from the extreme rainfall event on January 9, 2026.
10. Acknowledge and approve payment in the amount of \$2,152.00 for the one (1) year renewal of maintenance/support on the Cybernetics VTL backup device used for recovery in the event of hardware failure or data corruption.
11. Acknowledge and approve the one (1) year renewal of the Splashtop application. It is used daily to remote into users' computers saving both and gas to view and correct issues. The amount of the subscription is \$1,2687.82 beginning February 24, 2026 through February 23, 2027.

12. Acknowledge receipt of request from Public Defender, Candance Rickman, to enter into or renew MOA with U.S.M. School of Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Security for enrolled students to work with Forrest County Public Defender's Office in conjunction with faculty. No cost to county and no waiver of §11-46-1, et seq., Mississippi Tort Claims Act. (See Attached)

D. 16th Section Leases

1. Acknowledge 16th Section Residential Lease between Hattiesburg Municipal School District and Kolby Willis, PPIN 21303, with an annual rent of \$220.00. Authorize Board President to execute.
2. Acknowledge 16th Section Residential Lease Cancellation between Hattiesburg Public School District and Hollie D. Glass, Lots 11 & 12, and part Lot 10, Parcel 2-038C-16-240.00(0.42 acres, m/l) and Parcel 2-038C-16-239.00 (0.12 acres, m/l). Authorize Board President to execute.
3. Acknowledge Cancellation of 16th Section Lease of Hattiesburg Public School District, PPIN 21346 at the request of A1 Terry Rawls, Janice Rawls McDonald, Wyzetta D. Rawls, Craig Rawls, and Donna Rawls Fortner. Authorize Board President to execute.

E. Tax Assessor

1. Approve Petition for Reduction of Assessment for PPIN 3882, as submitted by Tax Assessor, Mary Ann Palmer. (Erroneous Assessment)
2. Approve Petition for Reduction of Assessment for PPINs 18253, 18840, 18841(Clerical Errors), 28056 (Erroneous Assessment), 614 (Clerical Error), 15552 (10%), and 8765 (Incorrect Acreage), as submitted by Tax Assessor, Mary Ann Palmer.
3. Approve Petition for Reduction of Assessment for PPIN 8891, as submitted by Tax Assessor, Mary Ann Palmer. (Clerical Error)
4. Approve Petition for Reduction of Assessment for PPIN 7726, as submitted by Tax Assessor, Mary Ann Palmer. (Double Assessment)
5. Approve Cancellation of PPIN 27406 for the year 2023 taxes. This property was under the State of Mississippi and was sold as of 7/30/2024. The 2023 taxes sold to the State of Mississippi and no refund is needed.

F. Tax Collector

1. Approve and authorize the Cancellation of PPIN 47521 for Tax Year 2023 and 2024. The land owner is 100% disabled veteran and is exempt from property taxes. Authorize the Chancery Clerk to refund \$703.33 to the land owner from the general fund and direct the Forrest County Tax Collector to void the 2025 taxes.

G. Travel

1. Authorize and approve Lisa Klem to attend 2026 Coroner's Association Winter Conference from February 11th -13, 2026. Conference fee is \$250 payable to MSCMEA treasurer and Hotel cost of \$266.56 plus all travel related expenses allowed by law to be reimbursed after conference.
2. Authorize and approve Supervisor Woullard to attend the 40th Annual NOBCO Economic Development Conference in Maui, HI from May 6-11, 2026

H. Sponsorships/Advertisements

1. Consider the purchase of a sponsorship/advertisement to 35th Annual Black History Scholarship Program Booklet to advertise county resources as per Mississippi Code §17-3-1 and §17-3-3. All proceeds from this scholarship event will be used to assist students from the Hattiesburg area to continue their education at Jackson State University.
2. Consider the purchase of a sponsorship/advertisement to HPS Choir Booster to advertise county resources as per Mississippi Code §17-3-1 and §17-3-3. Aids in the advancement of the Hattiesburg Public School Choral Arts Department under the direction of Gary McCullum.

I. Coroner's Office

1. Authorize the burial/cremation of the unclaimed body of Gary Davis, pursuant to Order, and letter from Coroner Lisa Klem, and pay Serenity Funeral Home in the amount of \$500.00.

2. Authorize the burial/cremation of the unclaimed body of Karen Melton, pursuant to Order, and letter from Coroner Lisa Klem, and pay C A Johnson Funeral Home in the amount of \$500.00.

J. Payables

1. Approve and authorize payment in the total amount of \$29.50 to the MS Department of Revenue for tag renewals for the DA's Office on the 2020 GMC SIERRA, VIN 3GTU9AEF4LG114996 and the 2021 CHEVROLET SILVERADO, VIN 1GCUYDED9MZ432553.
2. Approve and authorize payment to the MS Department of Revenue for Under Cover Tag renewal for the FCSO, VIN No. 0NKE10697 in the amount of \$14.75.
3. Authorize and approve payment to Samantha Phillips, Communications Director for the Facebook Ad Center in the total amount of \$200.00 to advertise the County's Facebook page.
4. Authorize and approve reimbursement to Twin Forks Rising in the amount of \$4,000.00 for work performed at 605 S. Tipton St., Hattiesburg.
5. Authorize and approve payment in the amount of \$115.01 to Veterinary Associates of Hattiesburg for emergency Vet services for FCSO Service Dog, Xen.

K. Capital Outlay Expenditures

1. Approve Capital Outlay Expenditures:
 - a. **Lewis Printing** – BOS to purchase five (5) bookshelves in the amount of \$1,199.00 each and two (2) lateral file cabinets in the amount of \$1,159.00 each to go in new Chancery Building offices.
 - b. **Lewis Printing** – Rec 4 to purchase a commercial swing-set (with 4 swings) in the amount of \$4,245.00 for the McLaurin Community Center and a commercial swing-set (with 6 swings) in the amount of \$4,299.00 for the Danny Hinton Community Center.

L. Personnel Action

New Hire:

1. **Merritt Ramblin (Adult Detention)**
 - Full-time with benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026
2. **Tanakia R. Manning (Adult Detention)**
 - Part-time without benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026
3. **Jay+den Gagnon (Adult Detention)**
 - Full-time with benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026
4. **De’Nedrick Maxwell (Juvenile Detention)**
 - Full-time with benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026
5. **Sheryl Patterson (Deputy/FCSO)**
 - Full-time with benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026

Separation of Service:

1. **Jeff Johnson (Operator/County Wide)**
 - Retired
 - Effective Date: 2/19/2026
2. **Steven Shoemaker (Maintenance)**
 - Performance
 - Effective Date: 1/15/2026
3. **Cameron Echols (Adult Detention)**
 - Voluntary Resignation
 - Effective Date: 1/23/2026
4. **Jacie Byrd (FCSO)**
 - Voluntary Resignation
 - Effective Date: 1/27/2026
5. **Wendy Carmichael (Admin. Asst/FCSO)**
 - Retired
 - Effective Date: 1/31/2026

Change:

1. **Elizabeth Lucas (Adult Detention)**
 - Rate Change
 - Effective Date: 1/12/2026
2. **Marcol Smith (Adult Detention)**
 - Rate Change
 - Effective Date : 1/12/2026
3. **Hope Deann Bailey (Justice Court)**
 - Transfer to Tax Assessor
 - Full-time with benefits
 - Effective Date: 2/6/2026
4. **Steve Hill (Maintenance)**
 - Rate Change
 - Effective Date: 2/9/2026
5. **William Loveless (Maintenance)**
 - Rate Change
 - Effective Date: 2/9/2026
6. **Sangra Smith (Maintenance)**
 - Rate Change
 - Effective Date: 2/9/2026
7. **Laurinda Person (Admin. Asst./FCSO)**
 - From Jail side to Administration
 - Replacing Wendy Carmichael
 - Effective Date: 1/26/2026
8. **Amanda Barrentine (Tax Assessor)**
 - From Offc. Mngr. to Dep Clerk
 - Rate Change/Part-time
 - Effective Date: 1/30/2026

Other:

1. **Keleisha Young (County/Youth Court)**
 - Change from Semi Monthly to Biweekly
 - Effective Date: 1/16/2026
2. **Kendall Evans (Coroner)**
 - Shift Change without benefits
 - Effective Date: 1/5/2026

3. **Lonnie Cole Morrow (FCSO)**

- Intermittent FMLA
- Effective Date: 12/22/2025

M. Claims Docket

1. Approve Claims Docket, as presented.

End Of Consent Agenda

N. Discussion Matters

1. Acknowledge and approve proposal on the auction of surplus equipment by JMWOOD AUCTION COMPANY on March 17-21,2026; Authorize County Wide employees to transport dump trucks to Montgomery, AL. (See attached)
2. Acknowledgement and approve quote from GCB Coatings, LLC from Circuit Court Wash Exterior of building in the amount of \$53,950.00. (See attached quote)
3. Acknowledge quotes from Jansen Painting and Kevin Crosby Painting for the Barron Town Community Center. (See attached quotes)
4. Acknowledge Bids were opened for Commercial Doors at the Multi-Purpose Center.
5. Discuss Local Governments Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Program (CAP LOAN) for Volunteer Fire Departments.

O. Additional Matters

1. Acknowledge and approve the request to put \$15,000.00 in escrow with Lincoln Road Package, Inc, a wholesale liquor source, to provide liquor to The Center for events.
2. Acknowledge and approve the request of The Center to move forward with renovations to the restrooms located on concourse and barn areas, as well as Green Room renovations. The cost for materials to renovate will be \$185,000.00. Approve associated budget amendment and operating transfer.

3. Acknowledge and approve the request of The Center for the balance for Mustache the Band fee of \$5,250.00 to be paid on 2/5/2026, the night of the show.
4. Consider the purchase of a sponsorship/advertisement to Black Heritage Parade for a float to advertise county resources as per Mississippi Code §17-3-1 and §17-3-3.
5. Approve payment to TK Elevator in the amount of \$41,313.06 (55% upfront cost per Contract) for Circuit Courthouse
6. Approve MOU between the Forrest County Sheriff's Office and the Pike County Sheriff's Office; authorize Board President to sign.
7. Approve Tax Sale Cancellations for PPINS 18813, 27120, 27103; Approval for Tax Collector to void 2025 taxes on PPIN 18813 and Authorize Tax Collector to refund 2024 taxes. Approval for Tax Collector to void 2025 taxes on PPIN 18813
8. Approve cancellation of PPIN 15006 for 2023 taxes. Taxes sold to the State and no refund is due.
9. Acknowledge 2025-2026 DPS LEO Grant Award (Award #2025018); approve acceptance of Grant Award and authorize the Sheriff's Office to proceed with procurement and reimbursement
10. Approve Payroll Action Form for Maintenance Custodian LaDonna Watts.
11. Acknowledge Posting List of bridges from State Aid.
12. Authority for Carnes VFD to purchase Turn Out Gear in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.
13. Acknowledge bids were opened on January 29, 2026, for Fencing at the Brooklyn Ballfields.
14. Consider the Sponsorship request from DHA (Downtown Hattiesburg Association) for the Facade Grant
15. Consider the Sponsorship request from DHA (Downtown Hattiesburg Association) for the Annual Meeting in the amount of \$2500.00.
16. Recess to Tuesday, February 17, 2025

Recess until 10:00 am Tuesday February 17, 2026