

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Department of Engineering/Road Management
Dan Gaillet, P.E., County Engineer/ Road Manager

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Office (601) 855-5670 FAX (601) 859-5857

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 2016

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dan Gaillet, P.E.,
County Engineer/Road Manager *DG*

RE: Sulphur Springs Lake Mitigation

As part of the permitting process for the Sulphur Springs Lake Project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requires the County to mitigate the environmental impacts. The County has been working with Headwaters, Inc. in meeting the USACE's requirements in planting 7.05 acres of trees and verifying the trees' continued growth over the next five years.

Headwaters' cost estimates are not to exceed \$4,650.00 to perform this work. Therefore, it is requested that the Board approve the mitigation project to meet the USACE's deadline of March 15, 2016.

SHEILA JONES
District One

TREY BAXTER
District Two

GERALD STEEN
District Three

DAVID BISHOP
District Four

PAUL GRIFFIN
District Five



March 1, 2016

Mr. Danny Lee
Madison County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 680
Canton, Mississippi 39046

**Re: Sulphur Springs Lake Stream Mitigation Coordination
Budget Proposal**

Dear Mr. Lee:

As we discussed, we completed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) wetlands permitting for Madison County on the above referenced Sulphur Springs Lake Project. As discussed, the USACE Section 404 Wetlands Permit authorization required the stream mitigation be provided to cover the project impacts.

Given the costs of the stream mitigation credits at an approved bank, the County decided to work with Richard Skinner on the Minnie J. Bozeman Family, LP property along Bozeman Road to provide the stream mitigation. As such, the family agreed to place a mitigation covenant on their property specifically along two sections of intermittent stream upon which the riparian buffer would be enhanced. The mitigation covenant covers approximately 7.05 acres of the Bozeman Family property.

The proposed mitigation plan included that Madison County would plant the approximately 7.05 acres of mitigation along the two stream segments with bottomland hardwood seedlings to enhance the riparian area long the two stream segments through time. The streams currently transect what was historically an open field area that the Bozeman Family planted in loblolly pine trees. The proposed hardwood seedling planting was supposed to have taken place last winter during the normal tree planting period of December through March. However, there were no seedlings available to complete the tree planting. Given this, we advised the USACE that the tree planting would take place this tree planting season. Under the USACE regulations, that has to take place prior to March 15th.

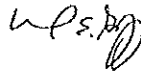
We contacted Mr. Wayne Beckwith with Beckwith Forestry Service, Inc. and got a price quote from him to complete the riparian stream buffer. We typically utilize Mr. Beckwith for these type projects given his experience on similar mitigation projects and the sensitivity of the compliance issues with the USACE oversight. Mr. Beckwith quoted us a price of \$200.00 per acre to complete the tree planting before March 15th. The total costs for the contract tree planting would then be \$1,410.00. We normally contract with Mr. Beckwith and would typically invoice the County as a part of our normal invoicing process.

In addition to the actual contract tree planting, we will need to GPS and flag the riparian buffer and also provide the contract tree planting administration to insure that the USACE compliance standards are met. I would propose that we complete that effort on an hourly basis. I am estimating that it will take two of my guys no more than one (1) day to complete the activities that we will need to complete. Given this, I am estimating a not to exceed budget for our services of 18.0 hours at \$80.00 per hour or a total of \$1,440.00.

As we also discussed, the Section 404 Wetlands Permit authorization and specifically the approved mitigation plan requires that an initial tree planting report be completed and submitted to the USACE. I have factored the time of completing the compliance report and coordination with the USACE in the man hours shown above. In addition and as we further discussed, the USACE requires that an annual compliance inspection be conducted and a compliance report be submitted to the USACE each year for a period of 5 years to insure that that the tree survival criteria is met. As we further discussed, we will be glad to provide the annual site monitoring, report documentation and the coordination with the USACE for the county. The costs associated with the completing the annual compliance monitoring will be \$360.00 are a total of \$1,800.00 over the required 5 year period. Given this, the total costs for the entire mitigation plan implementation and compliance coordination would be \$4,650.00.

I hope this provides you what you need at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Sincerely,



Michael Goff
President

Accepted By:

Madison County