



CMPDD Board Elects New Officers

At their June meeting, the CMPDD Board of Directors elected Madison County businessman James P. Archer as President for a two year term. Also elected to offices were Yazoo County Supervisor Cobie Collins as Vice-President, and Jackson City Councilman Quentin Whitwell as Secretary-Treasurer. Pelahatchie Mayor Knox Ross will become Immediate Past President and continue to serve on both the Steering Committee and the Board of Directors. Mayor Ross was also recently elected as Chairman of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, which guides transportation planning and funding in the metropolitan area. This was the second time that Mayor Ross has served as President of the Board.



In his first act as President, Mr. Archer thanked Mayor Ross for his continued and valuable leadership and presented him with a clock from the Board of Directors to thank him for "the extra time" he had given the Board as their President. President Archer noted Mayor's Ross new leadership role on the Metropolitan Planning Organization and thanked him for his dedication

Left: New Board President James Archer (r.) presents Knox Ross with a clock in appreciation for "the extra time" he has served as Board President.

to the District and his continued involvement and participation.

Mr. Archer is a resident of the City of Madison and a Madison County appointee to the CMPDD Board. He is the

retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Jackson Newell Paper Company in Jackson and donates his time to a great many organizations, such as the Willowood Development Center, the Community Nursing Home, the Jackson Central Lions Club. He and his wife Dean are active members of First Baptist Church of Jackson, the parents of two boys and the grandparents of five.



CMPDD Receives International GIS Award

CMPDD has been awarded the prestigious Special Achievement in Geographic Information System (SAG) award from the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), a global flagship Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software provider. The award is given to user sites around the world to recognize outstanding work with GIS technology. CMPDD was selected from more than 100,000 other users and is one of approximately 150 recipients.

This SAG award, which recognizes vision, outstanding work, and innovative use of GIS technology, was given to CMPDD in recognition of the GIS Data Center feature on its website. "Last year, CMPDD updated our website and incorporated some very innovative technology advances in the process," said CMPDD Chief Executive Officer (*continued on back page*)

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Activities

Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding will be available to the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) through the new transportation bill, MAP-21. In preparation for CMPDD accepting applications later this year for the STP funding, District staff have been meeting with an Intermodal Technical Subcommittee to discuss the current application evaluation process. The Intermodal Subcommittee, which was appointed by the MPO, consists of two committee members each, either municipal or county officials, from Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties, as well as MDOT and Federal Highway representatives. The Subcommittee has been meeting weekly the last few months to discuss and examine how the STP funding process is handled

by other MPO's from across the nation. As a result of this process, the Subcommittee has prepared a Project Submittal Guidelines document that will be presented to the full Intermodal Technical Committee in August for consideration. The proposed guidelines outlined in the document expand upon the existing project selection process to include new evaluation factors such as project readiness, livability factors, pavement management system index ratings, and congestion management index ratings. After consideration by the full Intermodal Technical Committee, the Subcommittee's recommendation will be forwarded to the MPO for final consideration.

In addition, CMPDD personnel have been working with local officials to update the functional classification

system for the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA). The functional classification system consists of all major arterial, minor arterial, collector, and local streets in the JUA. This network of interconnected roadways and streets serves the urbanized area by providing either traffic mobility and/or land access. Each category serves a different purpose. For example, arterials are used primarily for long trips, providing the quickest route with the least amount of interruption, and have a higher traffic volume. The primary function of local streets is to provide routes for land access. Travel speeds along local streets are lower and traffic volumes are typically low. Once CMPDD finishes meeting with each local entity, the proposed changes will be presented to the MPO for consideration later this year.

District Provides Statewide Training on Sign Retroreflectivity

CMPDD Transportation Senior Analyst Scott Burge recently served as an instructor for statewide training on Sign Retroreflectivity sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Burge worked with the LTAP coordinators to develop the training schedule and prepare the training workshop materials for each of the three (3) training sessions which took place across the state in McComb, Yazoo City and Tupelo. These training sessions provided information to course participants on the federal requirements and deadlines concerning sign retroreflectivity and the methods that can be used to determine if a sign meets minimum federal sign retroreflectivity standards. Additionally, training was provided that showed how to use sign inventory software for sign data collection and tracking and how to use a sign retroreflectometer, a device used to determine if a sign meets minimum retroreflectivity levels.

On December 21, 2007, the published final rule in the Federal Register Vol. 72, #45, which went into effect on January 22, 2008, stated that "Public



agencies or officials having jurisdiction shall use an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain sign retro-reflectivity at or above the minimum levels in Table 2A-3." The supporting statement said: "Compliance... is achieved by having a method in place and using the method to maintain the minimum levels established in Table 2A-3. Provided that... a method is being used, an agency would be in compliance... even if there are some individual signs that do not meet the... levels at a particular point in time." Additionally, compliance dates were set in order to meet the minimum requirements required by the final rule. The original compliance dates were set for January 2012, 2015, and 2018. The first compliance date required that an assessment or

management method be in place prior to the January 2012 deadline. The second and third dates were set to insure that signs not meeting the minimum retroreflectivity standards, as described in the final rule, were replaced. The January 2015 date was set to replace all regulatory, warning, and all ground mounted guide signs (except street name signs) that fail to meet the minimum standards. The January 2018 date was to replace street name and overhead guide signs not meeting the standards.

However, since the original deadlines were released, amendments have been made to the final rule revising the initial compliance dates. The January 2012 deadline to have an assessment or management method in place was revised and the new compliance date is June 2014. The 2015 & 2018 compliance dates for replacing regulatory, warning, street name, and guide signs that didn't meet the minimum retroreflectivity standards have been eliminated. Though the compliance dates have been eliminated, it is still recommended that local governments inventory and replace all signage not meeting minimum standards in a timely manner.

PRVWSD Master Plan

CMPDD is developing a Master Plan for the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD). The PRVWSD Master Plan will include all elements commonly found in a comprehensive plan, as well as integrate elements of local comprehensive plans in the study area, to better facilitate planning and land use controls in the entire area.

Since initiating work on the Plan in February, the District prepared a digital Geographic Information System (GIS) base map, using ArcGIS software, of the entire PRVWSD area, which includes portions of Hinds, Leake, Madison, Rankin, and Scott Counties. CMPDD has also completed the land use inventory and photographed all structures in the entire PRVWSD area.

As part of the public outreach element of the plan, the District developed an online survey that was launched on April 1. District staff presented the information gathered from



the survey, as well as a report of work related to the Master Plan, at a public hearing held on May 13.

District GIS staff are collecting data and digitizing building footprints for the development of the web-based GIS Mapping Application and Viewer and District planners are preparing a Public Facilities Plan, Regional Economic Impact Analysis, and Transportation Plan. Population and employment estimates and projections, as well as the Land Use Plan, are currently under development.

(Above): On May 13, the District and PRVWSD held the first public hearing on the Master Plan. They presented information gathered from an online survey and reported on the progress of the Plan to a large crowd of area residents.



Supervisors and District staff visited on the deck after the MAS meeting.

CMPDD Hosts MAS Regional Meeting

The District hosted the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) Regional Meeting on May 15, 2013. The meeting was held to provide a legislative update to supervisors and to elect members to various committees of the Association. The meeting was attended by Supervisors and County Administrators from the District's seven county area, State officials, Legislators, MAS staff and Board members, and District staff.

Planning News Briefs

TOWN OF RAYMOND

The District has completed a draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Raymond. The draft of the 25-year Plan is being reviewed by town officials, and once their review is finished, a public hearing will be held for constituents to provide input. After the hearing, any changes will be made and the Plan will be adopted.

CITY OF RICHLAND

The District has completed a first draft of a revised and updated Zoning Ordinance for the City of Richland, which is under review by City officials. Once the review is completed, any proposed changes will be made. The District will also prepare a digital zoning map for the City. Later, a public hearing will be held, and a final draft of the Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map will be prepared and adopted by the Mayor and Board.



The University of Mississippi Medical Center has opened the initial section of East University Drive, which was funded in part through an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works grant in the amount of \$1.5 million. The roadway's new intersection with Lakeland Drive is fully operational and has eased congestion on UMMC's campus.

The second phase of the project, which will extend the three-lane section to Woodrow Wilson Drive, is set to be bid in August. Construction will begin in October and is slated to be complete by May 2014. The project also includes the relocation and expansion of vital infrastructure along the roadway to allow for future growth on campus.

Also, the District is compiling the responses to the annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) survey, which is an EDA funding requirement. The survey responses will be used to update the 2013-2018 CEDS that was adopted in September 2012 and will also help guide CMPDD in the development of its 2014 Work Program.



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application Submitted for UMMC

CMPDD assisted the University of Mississippi Medical Center in the submission of an application to the Mississippi Development Authority for Katrina Supplemental CDBG Economic Development funds. UMMC has requested the funds to construct a new building to house the School of Medicine, and the CDBG funds will be specifically used to fund site and infrastructure work necessary to support the new building. UMMC will invest approximately \$51 million in the new building and it will result in the creation of 200 new jobs on campus.

CMPDD Submits CDBG Public Facilities Applications For 2013

The CDBG Public Facility Program provides grant funds to local units of government for a variety of public improvement projects (e.g., water or sewer facilities, storm drainage, public buildings, street reconstruction, etc.) that benefit low and moderate income families and areas. Special priority is given to water and sanitary sewer projects that eliminate existing health and safety hazards.

Over the past several months the District has been assisting local governments with the preparation of CDBG Public Facility Applications. The District submitted the following four (4) applications to the Mississippi Development Authority for review.

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of D'Lo	Sanitary Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	N/A
Copiah County	Water System Improvements	40,450	\$ 80,000
City of Mendenhall	Water System Improvements	173,870	N/A
Town of Utica	Sanitary Sewer Improvements	450,000	391,456

District Staff Member Certified as DRA Project Specialist

In partnership with the National Association of Development Organizations, the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) hosted its first Professional Development Academy for staff of local development districts in DRA's eight-state region. The Academy provided project management training through the Management Concepts course, as well as orientation on Authority programs, policies, procedures, and goals for the coming project funding cycles. CMPDD staff member, Mitzi Stubbs completed the Academy and is now certified as a DRA Project Specialist, and the District has been designated as a Certified Strategic Partner with DRA.

DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress, which serves a 240 county/parish area in an eight-state region. In Mississippi, 45 counties (including all 7 CMPDD counties) are eligible for funding under DRA. The purpose of DRA is to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development partnerships that will have a positive impact on the region's economy.

Priority for funding is given to four types of projects: (1) Basic Public Infrastructure; (2) Transportation Infrastructure; (3) Business Development; and (4) Job Training and Employment-related Education. DRA funds may also be used to leverage other federal and state programs. Under federal law, 75 percent of funds are targeted to distressed counties and pockets of poverty, and 50 percent of dollars are earmarked for transportation and basic public infrastructure. For additional information, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.



Mike Marshall, Alt. Federal Co-Chairman of DRA, presents Mitzi Stubbs, CMPDD Community & Economic Development Coordinator, with her Certificate as a DRA Project Specialist.

SMLPC Grant Program Applications Submitted

The Mississippi Small Municipal and Limited Population County Grant Program (SMLPC) is designed for making grants to small municipalities and limited population counties or natural gas districts to finance projects to promote economic growth in the state. Grants are available to municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less, and counties with a population of 30,000 or less. Eligible projects financed with SMLPC must be publicly owned and include, but not limited to the following items: drainage systems; utilities such as water supply systems and gas supply systems; sewer systems

(pipe treatment); transportation facilities directly affecting the site, including roads, bridges, rail lines, or pipelines; marine structures; land purchases and improvements; airfield and airport improvements; acquisition and improvements of buildings. The maximum grant award is \$150,000.

If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning the SMLPC grant program, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

CMPDD assisted in the preparation and submitted the following eleven (11) SMLPC applications:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>SMLPC Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Crystal Springs	Re-roofing the Library	\$130,613	\$ 14,500
Town of D'Lo	Water Meter Auto-Readers and Support Equipment	130,050	-0-
Town of Flora	Water System Improvements	150,000	-0-
City of Florence	City Hall Expansion	150,000	427,800
City of Hazlehurst	Lake Hazle Dam Repair	150,000	15,000
City of Magee	Frontage Road Extension	150,000	354,000
City of Mendenhall	Street & Downtown Improvements	150,000	11,975
Town of Pelahatchie	Regulation Track and Soccer Facility	150,000	-0-
City of Raymond	Sidewalk and Crosswalk Improvements	150,000	-0-
Simpson County	Road Improvements	150,000	48,000
Town of Wesson	Downtown Street Improvements	149,100	-0-

Budget Cuts Close Two WIN Centers

CMPDD serves as the fiscal agent and administrative entity for Southcentral Mississippi Works (SMW), a local workforce investment area under the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Like many federally funded programs, the Workforce Investment Act has seen progressive reductions in funding over the past several years. The Southcentral Mississippi Works area received \$15 million dollars annually in federal funds at its height, but next year will receive only \$5 million. As a result, WIN Job Centers in the cities of Hazlehurst and Yazoo City are being closed. This is a direct result of the reduction in funds.

Programs under WIA are the main resource for unemployed and underemployed individuals to receive the training they need to become employable. Unemployed individuals, workers who have been laid off as a result of a business closure or cutback, and workers in low skill

minimum wage jobs often need occupational training to get, keep, and advance in a sustainable job. The Workforce Investment Act is intended to train such workers in skills needed by area employers. The WIA Individual Training Account (ITA) program enrolls individuals into specific occupational training programs, often at local community colleges, to help them get the skills and credentials needed to become employable. The On-the-Job (OJT) program places people into jobs with an employer who is willing to train them in the skills necessary to become proficient in the job. With proper training, many unemployed individuals become productive contributors helping build the local economy and showing a return on the training investment.

Last year, Southcentral Mississippi Works (SMW) trained and placed over 1,300 people into employment with over 85% remaining in those jobs a year later. *(cont. on p. 7)*

CMDC BULLETIN

Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC) has elected its officers for the next one year term beginning on July 1, 2013, as follows: Ms. Wanda Cowart, President; Mr. Jerry Hall, Vice-President; and Mayor MacArthur Straughter, Secretary-Treasurer. Ms. Cowart is a banker with Trustmark National Bank in Jackson.



Ms. Wanda Cowart

CMDC is certified by the U. S. Small Business Administration and works in cooperation with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small businesses. Fixed rate low interest financing for small businesses saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. Also, this type financing removes the problem of variable rate financing on long term assets. Most economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These inevitable interest rate increases will not negatively impact the

cash flow of those businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the U. S. Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program.

Ms. Cowart announced that the current interest rates on business loans under the U. S. Small Business Administration's CMDC remain very low. The interest rates are as follows:

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (May 2013)	3.61%
20 (May 2013)	4.53%

In addition, the District manages a Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP) that is administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), which recognizes the District as a "Qualified Entity" to originate and service loans under the MBELP. The interest rate on loans made through this program cannot exceed two percentage points above or below the Federal Reserve discount rate, which is 0.75% at the present time. Therefore, a minority owned business can obtain a business loan at a fixed rate of 2.75% per annum for a term up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds.

CMPDD specializes in structuring loans for minority owned businesses (MBE/WBE) and businesses involved in exporting. Small business owners, bankers, commercial loan officers, real estate developers, contractors, and others interested in locking up extremely low fixed interest rates on business loans are encouraged to call Larry Anderson or Dwayne Perkins at 601-981-1625.

Left: Sunset Landing Marina in Pass Christian was financed in part with a CMDC/SBA loan for \$906,584. Scheduled to open soon, it will create 15 new jobs.



WIN Center Closings (cont. from p. 6)

Many of these individuals were taken off unemployment or other social support systems and began earning an average of over \$24,000 a year. Additionally, SMW helped nearly 500 youth to either gain employment or continue their education and over 400 earned a diploma, degree, or certificate while in the program.

Economic developers generally agree that when businesses look for a new site or consider an expansion, the availability of an adequately trained workforce is their primary concern. Without a properly skilled workforce, the local economy cannot produce the growth needed to sustain or advance the area. Southcentral Mississippi Works, despite continuing funding reductions, is committed to continuing to provide access to the skill training needed to grow the local economy.

CMPDD Hosts Ombudsman Community Education Workshop



Sara Murphy addressing the workshop

On June 20, the District hosted an Ombudsman Program Community Education Workshop on “Alzheimer’s and Elder Abuse” for aging professionals from across Central Mississippi. The workshop was held at the CMPDD office and featured Sara Murphy, Program Coordinator with the Alzheimer’s Association, and Chelsea Crittle, CMPDD Director of Aging Programs.

Ms. Murphy’s presentation focused on educating the community

how to identify the early detection signs, symptoms and treatments of Alzheimer’s. She also provided handouts to attendees to share with prospective clients and caregivers. Ms. Murphy utilized an interactive power-point presentation to educate the participants about the Alzheimer’s Assn. nationwide websites. She highlighted the websites message boards, which allow caregivers to dialogue 24 hours a day with other caregivers in similar situations. These

discussions have been proven to be beneficial in helping reduce caregiver stress and preventing premature institutionalization. Workshop participants were invited to attend the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in Boston, MA on July 13-18, 2013.

Ms. Crittle’s presentation focused on the Vulnerable Adults Act of 1986, and the characteristics of the abused and the abusers. She provided participants with brochures highlighting the definition of the different categories of elder abuse, and the warning signs of the abused and neglected. She also showed a dynamic video produced by Terra Nova Films titled “He Wouldn’t Turn Me Loose, the Abuse Case of 96 year old Miss Mary.” Finally, Ms. Crittle concluded the workshop with a lively discussion period, which offered answers to a great many questions and scenarios specific to elder abuse. For additional information concerning this program, please contact Tara Jones at 601-981-1516.

CMPDD Aging Advisory Committee Visits Local Adult Day Care

On May 14, CMPDD’s Aging Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting at Baptist Adult Day Health Services located at 6250 Old Canton Road in Jackson. This field trip gave the committee members the opportunity to visit one of the District’s aging service providers and see firsthand how clients and their caregivers are able to utilize and access aging services. The committee members were welcomed by Baptist’s staff, Ms. Victoria Langford, Baptist ADC Administrator and Ms. Renee Williams, Nurse/Administrative Assistant who conducted the tour and gave an extensive overview of the services provided to the client’s and their families.

Ms. Langford stated that the goal of the agency is to assist seniors in maintaining independence and dignity, while caregivers enjoy the peace of mind which comes from knowing their loved ones are receiving the appropriate level of care. The facility provides nursing care, recreational activities, and nutritious meals for clients. Baptist Adult Health Services operates an additional facility in Clinton and, based upon their needs, families are given the choice of which location to utilize. The Hinds County Human Resource Agency provided round-trip transportation to the facility for the committee members and CMPDD staff. For additional information concerning this program, please contact Chelsea Crittle at 601-981-1516.



CMPDD’s Aging Advisory Committee at the entrance to the Baptist Adult Day Health Services building.

Right (left-right): Chelsea Crittle, Dir. of Aging Programs at CMPDD; Renee Williams, Baptist ADA nurse/administrative asst.; and Victoria Langford, Baptist ADA Administrator



2013 MAPDD Annual Conference A Success

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) held its annual conference in Biloxi at the Beau Rivage Hotel April 23-26. The conference was attended by over 550 participants from across the State and featured speakers such as Dr. David Dzielak, Executive Director of the Mississippi Division of Medicaid; Joe McKinney, Executive Director of the National Association of Development Organizations; and Lynn Fitch, Mississippi State Treasurer. Numerous concurrent sessions were held throughout the conference featuring topics such as addressing common land use problems, methods for financing public facilities, storm water management, meeting rural transportation needs, business loan development, caring for the elderly, as well as several sessions approved for continuing education credit for licensed social workers.

Be sure to mark your calendar now to be part of next year's conference, which will be held April 29 – May 2, 2014 at the Beau Rivage.

Shown right and below are some of the conference meetings and activities, including the pre-conference Valley Golden Gator Classic Golf Tournament and crawfish boil sponsored by Valley Services.



NADO Executive Director Joe McKinney addressed the Wednesday Luncheon.



MS State Treasurer Lynn Fitch was a featured conference speaker.



MS Medicaid Director Dr. David Dzielak opened the conference on Wednesday morning.



If the name and address of the recipient needs to be updated, please contact our office at 601-981-1511.

CMPDD Receives International GIS Award (continued from front page)

Clarke Holmes. “We’re honored to receive this award in recognition of how we’ve focused a great deal of time and resources into making sure we have a world-class system based in Central Mississippi.”

The District made a business commitment and a significant investment in upgrading required hardware and software in late 2011 with implementation occurring in February 2012. These investments, coupled with the expansion of the GIS Department through additional programming staff,

resulted in CMPDD developing and launching customized web-based applications using virtual servers and ArcGIS Server technology. These applications, accessible through a web portal on the CMPDD website, use state-of-the-art HTML and JavaScript programming language to serve up 15 different interactive mapping applications containing a host of information for public viewing. These web applications allow accessibility to numerous State and local data layers, including demographics, political boundaries, flood zones, physical geography (physiography, hydrology, soil types, etc.), transportation, public facilities, subdivisions, zoning, parcels, deeds, and plats among other layers. In addition, these services have search and identify functionality allowing users to query datasets.

With these tablet compatible internet based GIS viewing tools, users are able to pick and choose the base map and data layer(s) from a menu of available information. It is anticipated that additional layers and functionality will be added to each viewer as deemed desirable and economically feasible to meet the various needs of users.



This CMPDD website page shows a sampling of the GIS maps.

CMPDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Archer, President
Supervisor Cobie Collins, Vice-President
Councilman Quentin Whitwell, Secretary-Treasurer
Mayor Knox Ross, Immediate Past President

F. Clarke Holmes
Chief Executive Officer

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