

Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

CMPDD Elects New Officers

At their June meeting, the CMPDD Board of Directors elected Yazoo County Supervisor Cobie Collins to serve as President for a two year term. Also elected to offices were Flora Mayor Les Childress as Vice President and Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw as Secretary-Treasurer. Former President James Archer now becomes Immediate Past President and continues to serve on both the Steering Committee and the Board of Directors.

On behalf of the Board, CMPDD CEO Mike Monk thanked Mr. Archer for his active participation and tireless dedication to the District. He also expressed his personal appreciation to Mr. Archer for his support and guidance during his first year as CEO. Mr. Archer thanked the Board for the opportunity of leading them which he considered both a pleasure and an honor.



District CEO, Mike Monk (right), presenting Immediate Past President James Archer with a plaque of appreciation from the Board.

CMPDD Recognizes Distinguished Service Honoree

Ms. Eula Viola Brown Polk, born in 1912 and a longtime resident of the City of Terry, was recognized as CMPDD's Distinguished Service honoree at a recent ceremony sponsored by Central Mississippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging in observance of Older Americans Month. The theme for this year was "Blaze a Trail!"

Ms. Polk completed her education at Terry Grove School, Pilgrim Rest School, and was a graduate of Lanier High School. Ms. Polk was hired by the Suiser family as a domestic worker and she enjoyed working for the Suiser family for over fifty (50) years as a caregiver for their two children and grandchildren. Ms. Polk and her husband raised two sons of their own, and she assisted raising both neighborhood children and the grandchildren of her deceased siblings.

For the past 95 years of her 104 year life, Ms. Polk has served as a dedicated and active member of Little Bethel CME Church in Terry, Mississippi. As such she has served



in many capacities: Sunday School Teacher, Stewardess, Missionary President, District Treasurer, and District Conference Delegate. Ms. Polk's dedication and perseverance lead her to remain in various leadership capacities until the age of 101. Because of her involvement and community service she has received many awards which include: Honorary Doctorate in May 2012 from the Humanitarian Foundation Theological Seminary, Award of Recognition in Community Outreach Ministry, Award of Excellence in Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in National Laity Day, served as Grand Marshal for the Terry Annual Christmas Parade and Award of Recognition for 100th Birthday. In the words of Ms. Polk, "life has its ups and downs, but if you are going to make it you have to let God do the leading and you follow."

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging solicited and received nominations from local service providers and organizations within

(see *Honoree* on p.2)

Central Mississippi Mayors Association Awards First Scholarship

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) recently awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Reed Thames of Madison. Reed is the son of David and Susan Thames and the first recipient of the scholarship based on academic achievement and community service. The scholarship was presented at Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) by CMMA Chairperson Pam Clark, Mayor of Florence. Fifteen of the association's thirty-four members took part in the presentation by giving Reed encouraging words of wisdom, advice, affirmation, and support.

Reed will use the scholarship and the Mayors' valuable advice to achieve continued success obtaining a Bachelor of Science Nursing degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson. Prior to being accepted to UMMC School of Nursing, Reed was a President's List recipient at Holmes Community College and Southwest Community College where he was a scholar athlete, in the Honors Institute, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Reed graduated with Special Distinction from Germantown High School in 2014. He was a Mentor, a Fellowship of Christian Athletes Leader, All District in football and baseball, in the Beta Club, and recipient of both the Genetics and Citizenship Awards. Reed works as hard as a certified personal trainer, volunteer, and waiter at Amerigo Restaurant



Mayors and guests pictured at the Scholarship Presentation: (left to right) Les Childress, Flora; Diane Delaware, Yazoo City; Henry Banks, Hazlehurst; Todd Booth, Mendenhall; Susan Thames, Mother of Recipient; Kenneth Broome, Utica; Reed Thames, Recipient; Marcus Wallace, Edwards; Jimmy Clyde, Magee; Pam Clark, Florence; Isla Tullos, Raymond; Linda Harris, Beauregard; Sally Garland, Crystal Springs; Russ Espiritu, Puckett; Joseph Kendrick, Terry; Lekisha Hogan, Eden; Alton Shaw, Wesson.

in Ridgeland as he does at being an exemplary student.

This is the first of many scholarships CMMA plans to award senior high school students or undergraduates entering college to help cover tuition, books, or fees. Applications are available around November 1st of each year through Mayors in the CMMA area (Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren and Yazoo Counties).

District's AICP Planners Attend Training

In April, CMPDD's three staff members of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) attended the American Planning Association's National Planning Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. More than 4,300 practitioners from around the United States attended the conference, which had more 160 sessions on topics ranging from housing to creative zoning. Hundreds of vendors were on hand to provide live demonstrations and hands-on training of the latest technology available to planners, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), web-based public input systems, and 3D modeling software.

Of significant interest to the CMPDD planners were sessions related to regulating signs following the U.S. Supreme Court decision, "Reed vs. Gilbert." This court

decision will require all local governments to revisit their sign ordinances to ensure that they do not regulate based on content. Legal experts, as well as planners, presented new approaches to developing content neutral sign ordinances. Additionally, the planners participated in sessions regarding new urbanism and craft design for small towns, Fair Housing Act enforcement, creating a community authored plan, and using GIS to model development.

As a result of attending the conference, the planners also have access to dozens more sessions that are of interest to the local governments in Central Mississippi. The AICP Planners at CMPDD are available to assist local governments in any planning matter.

Honoree *(continued from p.1)*

the Aging Network. Ms. Polk was selected from a slate of nominees by the members of CMPDD's Aging Advisory Committee. Several Aging Network Representatives attended the recognition ceremony which included: Mr. Larry Anderson, CMPDD Human Services Division Director, Mrs. Shirley Rainey, Program Administration,

MDHS/Division of Aging and Adult Services, Ms. Tamika Forkner, Older Adults Nutrition Director, MDHS/Division of Aging and Adult Services, Ms. Vera Butler, Vice-President of Community Services, Hinds County Human Resource Agency, Mrs. Jennifer Fulcher, B2I Assistant Project Director, Mississippi Division of Medicaid,

CMPDD staff, and local service providers. Presentations were made by Ms. Sheena Lewis, representing the Office of Mayor Tony Yarber, and Dr. Chelsea Crittle, of CMPDD, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging and Valley Management Services.

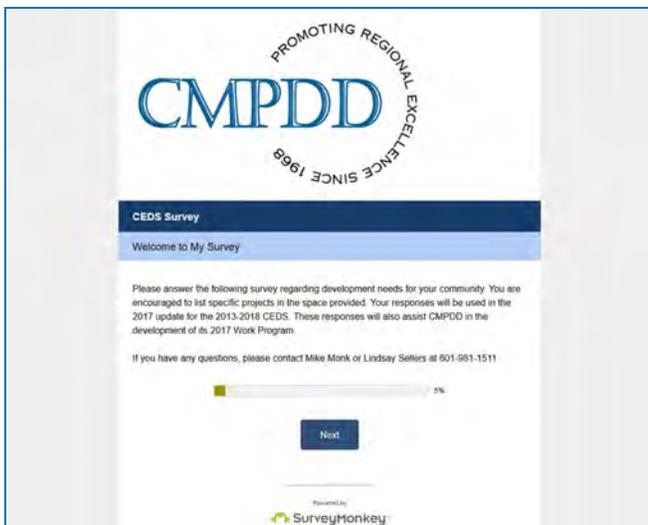
MAS/MML Summer Conferences

CMPDD staff attended the summer conferences of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML), both of which were held in Biloxi. In addition to speaking with many of the District's local officials, CMPDD staff assisted MML with their conference registration desk, as well as the MAPDD exhibit booth. During the MML Conference, CMPDD Principle Planner David Wade and Community & Economic Development Planner Gray Ouzts presented "Engaging the Public & Using Your Plan as an Economic Development Tool" to conference attendees. The session focused on the use of today's technology to develop Comprehensive Plans that can be a valuable economic development tool through the use of online surveys, GIS map viewers, and Story Maps.

CMPDD's CEO, Michael Monk along with staff also had the opportunity to conduct a session for elected municipal officials to discuss the many services provided by CMPDD. The session was attended by mayors and alderpersons and was a great opportunity to learn about not only services and programs long offered by the District but also new services being developed.

CEDS Survey Underway

The District has mailed its annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) survey to community leaders. The District asks each individual that received a survey to take the time to complete and return it, as the responses will be compiled and used for the 2017 update of the 2013–2018 CEDs that was adopted in September, 2012. Moreover, the responses will help guide CMPDD in the development of its 2016-2017 Work Program. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Survey is also available for virtual submission at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CEDS2017>.



Community Improvement Revolving Loan Program (CAP) Applications Approved

CMPDD recently assisted Copiah County with the preparation and submission of a CAP loan application which was approved in the amount of \$164,468 to partially fund the purchase of a fire truck. Also, the District assisted the City of Mendenhall with the preparation and submission of a CAP loan which was approved in the amount of \$80,000 to purchase one fast attack brush fire brush bed unit.

The Local Government CAP was enacted by the State Legislature and is designed for making loans to counties or municipalities to finance capital improvements in Mississippi. Counties and municipalities are encouraged to use these loans in connection with state and federal programs, and the funds for loans are derived from the issuance of state bonds. Eligible projects include the following:

- Construction or repair of water and sewer facilities
- Construction or repair of drainage systems for industrial development
- Improvements in fire protection
- Construction of new buildings for economic development
- Renovation or repair of existing buildings for economic development purposes
- Purchase of buildings for economic development purposes
- Construction of any county or municipally-owned health care facilities, excluding any county health departments
- Construction, purchase, renovation or repair of any building to be utilized as an auditorium or convention center
- Construction of multipurpose facilities for tourism development
- Construction or repair of access roads for industrial development
- Construction or repair of railroad spurs for industrial development
- Construction, repair and renovation of parks, swimming pools and recreational and athletic facilities
- Remediation of brownfield agreement sites in accordance with Sections 49-35-1 through 47-35-25.

The cumulative maximum loan amount for any eligible local unit of government during a calendar year is \$1,000,000 for tax-exempt and taxable loans. The minimum loan amount allowed per project is \$30,000. The maximum CAP loan indebtedness allowed per applicant is \$2,500,000 outstanding principal balance. For more information or to apply for a CAP loan, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Update

Over the last few months, CMPDD has prepared and submitted for approval Hazard Mitigation Plans for the Cities of Jackson and Vicksburg, and Yazoo County. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires local jurisdictions to maintain an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to maintain grant eligibility for certain pre- and post-disaster grant programs available through the MS Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition, plans are required to be reviewed and updated every five-years to account for any changes that might have occurred that could increase or decrease a communities risk to a particular hazard.

Predicting where the next disaster will occur, and how severe its impact will be on a community is difficult. Given the right conditions natural disasters such as tornadoes and flash floods can occur at anytime and anyplace. Their human and financial consequences can be significant. Mitigation

planning is intended to assist communities in determining their risks to natural disasters and developing an action plan to address the known risks by lessening the impact of natural disasters when they do take place. In the coming months, CMPDD will be working with several local jurisdictions to update their existing Hazard Mitigation Plans before they expire including: The Cities of Clinton, Flora, Hazlehurst, and Richland and the counties of Madison and Rankin.

Earlier this year, revised Mitigation Plans were developed and approved for the Cities of Brandon, Florence, Georgetown, Ridgeland, Pelahatchie, Wesson, and Copiah County. For more information concerning the mitigation planning process that is underway or to find out how you can be involved in the process contact Lesley Callender at 601-981-1511 or visit the District’s mitigation website page at <http://www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/>.

CMPDD Submits CDBG Public Facilities Applications

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 assisted local governments with the preparation of CDBG Public Facility Applications. The District submitted six (6) applications to the Mississippi Development Authority for review and they are listed below:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Village of Beauregard	Unserved Sewer	\$449,991.80	N/A
Town of Braxton	Water System Improvements	450,000.00	\$309,671.86
City of Canton	Water System Improvements	600,000.00	600,000.00
Village of Eden	Unserved Sewer	450,000.00	N/A
Town of Edwards	Unserved Sewer and Sewer Improvements	450,000.00	N/A
Village of Sartatia	New Well	450,000.00	N/A



The City of Brandon broke ground in April on the Luckney Road CDBG Public Facilities sewer project, which will provide sanitary sewer to 66 unserved homes. In addition to the \$600,000 in CDBG funds, the City provided over 730,000 in matching funds. Pictured left are local elected officials from the City of Brandon and Rankin County and Walter Redd, CMPDD Board and Steering Committee member.

Comment Period Begins for the TIP

One of the responsibilities of the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in carrying out the Federally-mandated transportation planning process is to prepare and maintain a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document. The TIP is a financially constrained four-year program for addressing short-term transportation priorities that are consistent with the *Jackson Urbanized Area's Long-Range Transportation Plan*. The TIP allocates the limited Federal transportation resources available among the various capital and operating needs of the area, based upon the priorities developed by the MPO. The TIP is required to be updated at least every four years, and MPO staff recently completed the development of the draft *Jackson Urbanized Area's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Fiscal Years 2017 through 2020*. In accordance with the MPO's Public Participation Plan, the MPO will be conducting a series of public involvement activities to gather feedback regarding the draft 2017-2020 TIP document. Public involvement activities include:

- A **45-day Public Comment Period** which begins **June 17, 2016** and concludes **August 3, 2016** during a public hearing.
- Prior to the public hearing, **three (3) public meetings** will be held. MPO staff will be present to discuss the draft TIP document and receive your comments during each of the “come and go” public meetings. The **public meetings will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the following locations:**
 - Hinds County: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 - CMPDD's main office, 1170 Lakeland Drive Jackson, MS
 - Madison County: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 -Madison County Administrative Building, first floor Conference Room, 125 W. North Street Canton, MS
 - Rankin County: Thursday, July 28, 2016 - Rankin County Courthouse Annex, Board Room, 211 E. Government Street Brandon, MS
- Finally, a **public hearing** will be held in conjunction with a meeting of the Intermodal Technical Committee on **Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.** at CMPDD's main office.

Prior to the public meetings, copies of the draft plan are available for review Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at CMPDD, 1170 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS or online any time at www.cmpdd.org/public-notice. During the time period comments may be submitted to the MPO by:

- Emailing MPO staff at mpo@cmpdd.org
- Clicking on the Transportation Comments Link provided on the Public Notice and Input page of CMPDD's website – www.cmpdd.org ;
- Completing a comment card provided at one of the public meetings; or by
- Mailing written comments to CMPDD MPO Staff, 1170 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS 39216.

Planning Update

Town of Braxton

The District has begun work on the first Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Braxton. District staff conducted an existing land use survey of Braxton and developed a base map from it. Later, the District will use this initial map to develop a future land use map for the Town.

City of Port Gibson

The District has signed a contract with the City of Port Gibson to prepare a Comprehensive Plan. The project will begin in July and will take approximately a year to complete. Once completed, the plan will enable the City

to engage in city projects for which a plan is required.

The purpose of the Plan is to serve as a general and long-range policy guide to decision-making for the City. It includes all of the geographical areas and service functions that make up the City's physical development. The Plan is a long-range document which looks beyond the City's immediate situation and problems to a horizon date 20 to 25 years into the future. The City also wants a near future or five-year plan as part of the overall document.

Initially, the District will gather a variety of information about the City

before formulating the Plan. At some point in the process, the public will be asked to provide comments about the City's vision for its future.

Town of Summit

The District has completed work on updates of the Town of Summit's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The Summit Planning Commission held public hearings on both documents in June and listened to comments from the attendees. Afterwards, the Planning Commission recommended a few changes and approval of both documents to the Mayor and Councilmen.

Local Workforce Development Plan Submitted

The State of Mississippi was the first state to submit a workforce development plan under the recently passed *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act*. The state's plan has been substantially approved by the Department of Labor and other federal agencies. Southcentral Mississippi Works, one of four local workforce areas in the state, is administered by CMPDD and has now submitted a local workforce development plan to the state.

The local plan describes how required partner programs will work together to coordinate their services to better serve those seeking the skills needed to obtain a job. The plan also discusses how the local area will address the workforce needs of area businesses.

The area's local workforce development board and local elected official board met on June 2 to approve the final plan. A copy of the final plan is available on the CMPDD website (www.cmpdd.org) under the Workforce heading.

To aid in the deployment of the new state system, CMPDD staff coordinated statewide training for over 750 staff from workforce and partner agencies. This training allowed staff from different agencies to gain an understanding of the total array of services available to help prepare workers for middle skill jobs. Governor Bryant addressed one of the training sessions and confirmed his commitment for a fully integrated, coordinated, and successful workforce system in Mississippi.

2016 MAPDD Conference

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) held its annual conference in Biloxi, Mississippi at the Beau Rivage Hotel on May 2-6 and it was attended by over 550 individuals from across the State. Speakers included Mississippi Development Authority Executive Director Glenn

McCullough, Executive Director and CEO of the Mississippi State Port Authority Johnathan Daniels, and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Jay Williams. Concurrent sessions were offered during the conference with topics ranging from diversity in end of life care, new developments

in digital mapping, and structuring successful economic development projects. Plans are already underway for next year's conference so mark your calendars for March 20-24, 2017 at the Beau Rivage to participate in MAPDD's next conference.



CMDC BULLETIN

Ms. Wanda Cowart, was recently re-elected by the Board of Directors of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC) to another one year term as President. Also, she announced the approval of one new loan under the Mississippi Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP). This loan was for Premier Tumble and Cheer, LLC for \$250,000 of a \$652,000 project under the MBELP. This loan will provide partial funding for use in purchasing and renovating a commercial building in Madison, Mississippi. In addition, some of the loan funds to purchase equipment and machinery for its exercise and fitness gymnasium. This business offers specialized training for the cheerleading and tumbling enthusiast. It will create one (1) new job and save four (4) jobs in the private sector.

CMDC is a commercial lender certified by the U. S. Small Business Administration and works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small businesses. CMDC provides fixed rate, low interest, long term financing for small businesses that saves them thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. This type financing removes the problem of variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable 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 from the CMDC remain very low. The interest rates are as follow:

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (May 2016)	4.19%
20 (May 2016)	4.23%



The award from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) which recognized CMDC as the Top Volume Certified Development Company in the State of Mississippi for Fiscal Year 2015

CMDC also serves as the Loan Review Board for the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District's (CMPDD's) managed Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP). The interest rate on loans made to minority business owners through this program is 3.00% per annum for a term up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds.

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.

Providers of Aging Services Being Sought

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) will be accepting proposals from interested agencies and organizations who wish to receive a contract to provide services for older adults, beginning October 1, 2016. Proposals are being accepted for the following services:

- Transportation
- Information and Referral
- Outreach
- In-Home Respite
- Adult Day Care Respite
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Congregate Meals
- Legal Assistance

Service areas include Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo counties; however, applicants may propose to provide services in all or individual counties.

Proposal packets will be available at CMPDD, 1170 Lakeland Drive, in Jackson, beginning Tuesday, August 2, 2016, and the deadline for submitting proposals will be Monday, August 15, 2016, at 4:30 p.m. CST. For more information, contact Chelsea Crittle at 601-981-1516 or by email at ccrittle@cmpdd.org.

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Multicraft Wins 2015 NADO Innovation Award



CMPDD's Mike Monk and Mitzi Stubbs with Pelahatchie Mayor Knox Ross presenting the management of Multicraft International with an Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations. The award recognizes the Town, the company, and CMPDD for their efforts in coordinating various funding sources to allow for expansion of the corporation.

CMPDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cobie Collins,
President

Les Childress,
Vice-President

Alton Shaw,
Secretary-Treasurer

James Archer,
Immediate Past President

Michael Monk,
Chief Executive Officer

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WANTED: RNs and Licensed Social Workers- Case Managers seeking to make a difference!

Central Mississippi Home and Community Based Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program seeks Registered Nurses and Licensed Social Workers-Case Managers to work Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.). Make a difference in your community by providing healthcare support services to those in need of assistance. We provide excellent benefits, additional incentive compensation and generous leave policy. Send resume's to tburrell@cmpdd.org.



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