

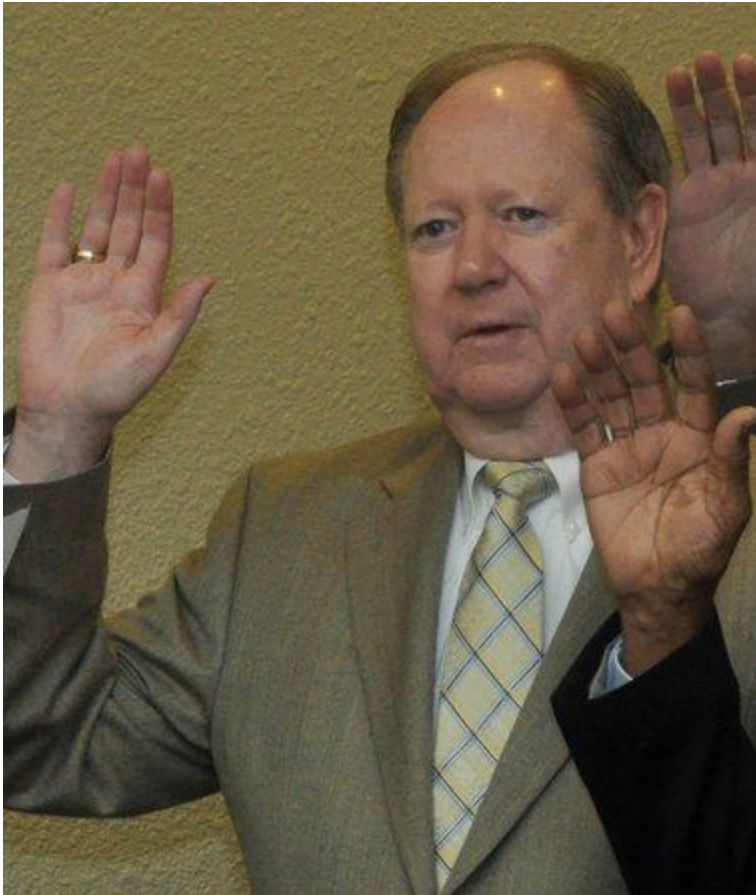


Port of Pascagoula board welcomes two new commissioners

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By **April M. Havens, The Mississippi Press**



Marshall Smith is sworn in to serve his first term on the Jackson County Port Authority's Board of Commissioners. (APRIL HAVENS/Press-Register)

PASCAGOULA, Mississippi -- **Jackson County Port Authority** leaders on Tuesday welcomed two new members to the Board of Commissioners as they were sworn into office.

John Arledge and Marshall Smith have been appointed as commissioners for the next four years.

Arledge, an Ingalls Shipbuilding retiree, replaces Jim Hoskins as a governor's appointee.

He previously served one term on the port board by appointment of Gov. Kirk Fordice and is serving his current term by appointment of Gov. Phil Bryant.

A graduate of Mississippi State University, Arledge is president of Arledge Consulting, a firm specializing in government contracting.

He served three years in the Army as a captain in Army Intelligence and is currently on the board of directors for First State Bank in Waynesboro.

Smith, owner of Gulf Sales & Supply, is serving his first term on the port board and replaces Warren Gautier as Jackson County Supervisor Mike Mangum's appointee.

He is chairman of the board of the Bacot/McCarty Foundation and is a member of the

Advisory Board of The First.

Also a graduate of Mississippi State University, Smith has served as president, vice president and director of the Pascagoula Rotary Club and currently serves as assistant district governor for the East Coast territory.

The port board is made up of nine commissioners: four governor appointees and five county supervisor appointees.

On the 2012-2016 board are governor appointees Arledge, James Colmer Jr., Wallace Easley and William "Benny" Lassitter. County supervisor appointees are Charles Persons (District 1), Carolyn Moore (District 2), Smith (District 3), Ronald Robinson (District 4) and Greg Williams (District 5).

Also at Tuesday's meeting, commissioners:

- Adopted a declaration of restrictive covenants at the Sunplex Industrial Park, which apply only to the non-developable preservation areas surrounding the businesses. The preservation area is protected from excavating, dredging, damming, clearing, burning, new structures and roads, pesticides and off-road vehicles, among other activities.
- Awarded a \$901,375 contract to Twin L Construction Inc. for the removal of approximately 30,000 cubic yards of accumulated sands and silts from the intake and return channels at the Black Creek cooling water facility.
- Agreed to advertise for bid on construction of a new maintenance building at the industrial water plant.
- Approved a request to the Jackson County road department to pave and make repairs to the industrial water plant road.

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John Arledge is sworn in to serve his second non-consecutive term on the Jackson County Port Authority's Board of Commissioners. (APRIL HAVENS/Press-Register)