

## Developments

*The Newsletter of  
The Simpson County  
Development Foundation*

176 West Court Street  
P. O. Box 127  
Mendenhall, MS 39114

601.847.2375  
Office

[scdf@bellsouth.net](mailto:scdf@bellsouth.net)  
Email  
[www.simpsoncounty.biz](http://www.simpsoncounty.biz)  
Website

### 2019-2020 Officers

**Brien Hubbard**  
President

**Josh Duckworth**  
President-Elect

**Lacye Evans**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Stan Bulger**  
Vice-President  
Community Development

**Brandon Hubbard**  
Vice-President  
Economic Development

**Mayor Dale Berry**  
**Mayor Todd Booth**  
Vice-Presidents  
Government Relations

**Shannon Welch**  
Vice-President  
Stakeholder Development

**Donnie Caughman**  
Executive Director

**Richard Rankin**  
Office Manager

## Foundation holds 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting

On Thursday, April 19, 2019, the Fortieth Annual Membership Meeting of the Simpson County Development Foundation convened at 11:30 a.m. on the campus of Boswell Regional Center. The Rev. Rudy Jackson, Chaplain, BRC, gave the invocation. Luncheon was prepared on site by Chris Williams and served buffet-style.



The Annual Meeting included the announcement of Simpson County's certification as an ACT Work Ready Community.

**President Malory Yelverton** extended a welcome to the annual meeting and recognized elected officials, the trustees of the Simpson County Economic Development District, and past presidents of the SCDF.

In her opening remarks, President Yelverton outlined the successes and accomplishments of the past year, and she encouraged continuing the positive developments in the

economy and community of Simpson County.

### Recognitions and Presentations

Executive Director Donnie Caughman recognized the visiting members of our congressional delegation and state government – **Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, Congressman Michael Guest, and Lt. Governor Tate Reeves** – each of whom briefly addressed the annual meeting.

**Lt. Gov. Reeves**

**Sen. Hyde-Smith**



Caughman noted the development of the **Five Year Strategic Plan**, and briefly outlined the goals of the plan.

Continued on page 2 – Annual Meeting

## SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI - STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2019 – 2024

### GOALS

- Grow wholesale and retail trade by 1-2% annually over the next 5 years.
- Achieve the average growth aligned with Jackson MSA in the annual rate of job growth.
- Establish a business retention and expansion (BRE) process that supports existing companies.
- Create a talented workforce as a means of attracting new business growth.
- Promote a rich culture and a high quality of life.

Each of these goals has a set of specific, measurable objectives. **The entire plan is accessible through our website at [www.simpsoncounty.biz](http://www.simpsoncounty.biz).** This strategic plan is owned by Simpson County Development Foundation and was developed in partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi Trent Lott National Center for Economic Development and Entrepreneurship, Dr. Shannon Campbell, Director.



## Annual Meeting [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]



Mr. Caughman then introduced the **Featured Speaker, Dr. Jane Hulon, president of Copiah-Lincoln Community College.** Dr. Hulon described her goals and actions for the continuing educational and economic development of the Co-Lin region.

Following Dr. Hulon's remarks, Mr. Caughman introduced **Courtney Nalker, Program Coordinator for Boswell Regional Center Supported Employment**, who described the value of the program as a workforce resource for the county.

President Malory Yelverton introduced three of the high school students who participated in the **ASPIRE Student Career Mentoring project.** Each of them briefly described the value of the program to him/her, and they encouraged the continuing of the program. *[Ed. Note: We reported in detail on the ASPIRE program in the November 2018 newsletter.]*

### Ally of the Year

**Copiah-Lincoln Community College – Workforce Development was named Ally of the Year.** Shannon Welch presented the award to Dr. Hulon, VP Jackie Martin, Workforce Center Director Angela Berch, and Program Coordinator Kenny Goza.

### Simpson Leaders

Richard Rankin recognized and presented completion certificates to **2019 Simpson Leaders Class: Amanda Blakeney, Lacye Evans, Josh Hankins, Julian Harper, Joni Johnson, Terrence Norwood, and Megan Thornton.**

### Business Session

President Malory Yelverton called the business session to order, and the minutes of the last annual meeting and financial report were approved. The report of the nominating committee was presented and accepted by acclamation. The election results are as follows:

## Executive Committee 2019-2020

President.....Brien Hubbard  
 President-elect.....Josh Duckworth  
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Lacye Evans  
 VP-Government Relations.....Mayor Dale Berry  
 VP-Government Relations.....Mayor Todd Booth  
 VP-Economic Development.....Brandon Hubbard  
 VP-Community Development .....Stan Bulger  
 VP-Stakeholder Development.....Shannon Welch  
 Past President.....Malory Yelverton

## Board of Directors

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Leman Cockrell	Chris Dunn	Eric Adkins
Chris Craft	Lance Hamilton	Beverly Barnes
Witt Fortenberry	Tiffany Kinslow	Amanda Blakeney
Josh Pierce	Benny Palmer	Cemper Scott

*The Bylaws [Art. IV, § 4.1] provide for one Board Member each from the following groups to be appointed by their respective governing bodies or institutions.*

- Each Benefactor Member
- Each President's Circle Member
- Simpson County Board of Supervisors
- The Chairman of the SCEDD Trustees
- Municipalities of Braxton, D'Lo, Magee, Mendenhall
- The Presidents of the Magee and Mendenhall Area Chambers of Commerce
- The University of Southern Mississippi
- Copiah-Lincoln Community College



**President Yelverton passed the gavel to President-Elect Brien Hubbard.** Before adjourning the meeting, President Hubbard made closing remarks, stressing the implementation of the strategic plan and the maintenance and increase of membership.

Photo Courtesy of *Magee Courier/Simpson County News.*



Visit Our Website at  
[www.simpsoncounty.biz](http://www.simpsoncounty.biz)



## Simpson County Ag Appreciation Day



Hosted by:  
SCTC FFA/ MSU Extension Office

When:  
Friday, May 17, 2019

Where:  
Simpson County Tech Center

Time:  
4:00 to 7:00 pm

Included:  
Farm Safety and Petting Zoo

Selling:  
Ribeye Steak sandwiches with chips, drink and dessert.

## WELCOME to Our NEWEST MEMBERS

**TARRAH LOCKHART**  
Individual

**THE ROWE – Tiffany Kinslow**  
Business Sponsor

**TYSON FOODS, INC.**  
Patron

### SCDE MEETING SCHEDULE

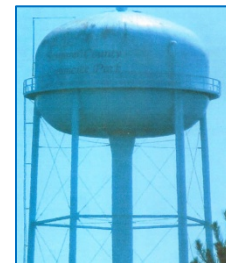
The by-laws state that regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held on the third Thursday of the following months: January, March, May, July, September, and November.

- **May 17, 2018** – Officers and Directors for FY 2019 Assume Duties\*
- **July 19, 2018** – 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of FY 2019\*
- **September 20, 2018**
- **November 15, 2018**
- **January 17, 2019**
- **March 21, 2019**
- **April 18, 2019** -- Annual Meeting
- **May 16, 2019** – Officers and Directors for FY 2020 Assume Duties

\*Officers and Directors assume duties at the first meeting following the Annual Meeting; however, our Fiscal Year is officially July 1 – June 30.

### SCEDD conveys water tank to City of Mendenhall

In 2002, a 250,000 gallon double ellipsoidal water tank and related water system were constructed in the Simpson County Commerce Park, Hwy 43, Mendenhall. Unused since its construction, it was found to be in good condition when professionally evaluated in 2016. Following consultation with all parties involved, including the Boggan Ridge Water System, and authorized by appropriate legislation, SCEDD has conveyed the tank and related system to the City of Mendenhall, conditional upon its being utilized by the city within certain time limits.



## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mendenhall Saturday, In May May 18<sup>TH</sup> Downtown Mendenhall



- Arts & Crafts • Car Show
- 5K Run/Walk • BBQ Cook Off
- Kid Zone • Food • Entertainment

For more information contact  
Mendenhall Area Chamber of Commerce  
at 601-847-1725