

JACKSON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



“To develop and maintain an economic climate, which creates and retains jobs and enhances the quality of life for all citizens of Jackson/Madison County and West Tennessee”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chamber welcomes first woman as chairman of its board of directors



Jackson, TN — First South Bank Chairman Ed Woodside encouraged the board of directors with the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce to stay involved during his last meeting as board chairman with the chamber on Tuesday, Jan. 18. Kathy Watts, a partner and certified public accountant with HORNE LLP, is the chamber’s new board chairman and the first woman to hold this position.

“I feel like it’s going to be a wonderful year with a lot of good goals ahead of us,” Watts said. The Brownsville resident is excited about being a part of the marketing and economic development process of the West Tennessee Megasite. “Maybe the fact that I work in Jackson and live in Haywood County will spark some kind of synergy.”

Watts will serve a one-year term as board chairman with the chamber. Woodside will remain on the board as a past chairman. Before passing the gavel onto Watts, Woodside thanked and recognized board members David Hunt (CEO of H&H Services, Inc.), Greg Milam (Owner and agent with State Farm Insurance) and Steve Raper (Senior Vice President of Water and Wastewater with Jackson Energy Authority) for their service.

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With the outgoing of Hunt, Milam and Raper, the chamber will welcome Joy Meriwether, owner of Vineyards Gifts, Inc. in Jackson, and Angela C. Youngberg, a partner with Rainey, Kizer, Reviere & Bell P.L.C., to the board at its next meeting scheduled for March. Other members include:

Bobby Arnold, President/CFO - West Tennessee Healthcare
Dr. Bruce Blanding, President – Jackson State Community College
Jeff Brasfield, Vice President – Brasfield Construction, Inc.
C. Vicki Burch, President – West Tennessee Business College
Charles H. Byrd, Senior Partner – Byrd & Byrd Attorneys at Law, PLLC
James Campbell III, Chief of Operations, H&M Company, Inc.
Dr. David S. Dockery, President – Union University
Mayor Jerry Gist – City of Jackson
Steve Grubbs, CEO – Regional Hospital of Jackson
Bill Hall, Owner – WSBF Warehousing/Mid South Warehousing
Mayor Jimmy Harris – Madison County Courthouse
Jeffery Head, Vice President of Commercial Lending – BancorpSouth
Roy W. Heatherly, Publisher – The Jackson Sun
Mayor James Hill – City of Three Way
Curtis F. Mansfield, President – FirstBank
Mayor James S. Maroney – City of Medon
R. Joel McAlexander, PE – McAlexander Engineering
Dr. Wesley McClure, President – Lane College
Nancy Nanney, Senior Vice President/CFO, Jackson Energy Authority
Ted Nelson, Chairman, ThermaMasters, LLC
Cynthia Pflaum, Owner – Highland Place Bed & Breakfast Inn
Michael Rohlwing, Plant Manager – Delta Faucet Company
Dr. Bill Seymour, President – Lambuth University
Dr. Nancy Zambito, Superintendent – Jackson/Madison County School System

About Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce:

The Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1905 – seven years prior to the United States Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber consists of a diverse and talented staff, an executive committee, dedicated volunteers, and more than 1,350 business members – all committed to growing the economy and quality of life for everyone in Madison County and the region. Governed by a board of directors, The Chamber is a nonprofit that concentrates its efforts on economic development, which consists of marketing the area to potential employers, developing and enhancing minority and new business

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partnerships, workforce development, job creation, and the overall promotion of Jackson-Madison County as a great place to work, live, play and do business.

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