

Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States

Special Seminar for Members of Port Authority Governing Boards and Commissions June 22-24, 2010 San Diego, California

Board Management Relations A Critical Factor in Your Port's Success

Mark L. McAndrews
Port Director

Charles Persons
President, Board of Commissioners

Port of Pascagoula

The Jackson County Port Authority is responsible for:

- Management and operations of the Port of Pascagoula public cargo facilities.
- Management of the Jackson County Industrial Water System.
- Management of the county's industrial parks and Singing River Island
- The local sponsor for the federal navigation project.













SINGING RIVER ISLAND

The Port of Pascagoula is an entity of the Jackson County Port Authority

Governed by a nine member Board of Commissioners (appointed):

Five commissioners are appointed by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors; four commissioners are appointed by the Governor of Mississippi

Authority and Duties of the Port Director Mississippi Code sections 59-1 and 59-9

Guiding principles.....

- ◆ The Port Director is not a Board Member
- ◆ The Board Members are not Port Directors
- Check your ego at the meeting room door and do what is best for the public

Successful governance performance requires a successful partnership between board and the chief executive. It is a reciprocal relationship.

While the board has reasonable expectations of the chief executive so too does the chief executive have reasonable expectations of the board.

What I expect of my Board of Commissioners

- Provide the Port Director with a clear understanding of the Board's expectations
- Recognize the distinction between policy setting and operations
- Work with fellow board members and the Port Director in a spirit of cooperation
- Regular attendance at meetings and port functions
- Base all decisions on what is best for the port, not on any special interests
- Ensure that the Port Director is the primary contact.
- Refer all complaints and suggestions to the Port Director
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality
- Prepare adequately for board meetings
- Address inappropriate behavior of fellow board members
- Handle the "politics"

The Jackson County Port Authority Board of Commissioners

Jackson County Port Authority Board of Commissioners Standing Committees

- Architectural Review
- Finance
- Jackson County Economic Development Foundation
- ◆ Personnel
- ◆ Pilot

What the Board expects of the Port Director

- Honesty in dealing with the Commissioners
- ◆ Be committed to the effective operation of the Port
- Keep all Commissioners informed of issues, needs and operations of the Port
- Be available to answer questions from Board members
- Accept that a consensus of the board may not always be possible
- Provide guidance to the board in the development of goals
- Involve board members appropriately in decision making
- Support the Board's policies and actions to staff and the public
- Find ways to make things happen

Board President or Chairman

My primary role is to ensure the board carries out its governance role in the most effective manner possible. It is the president's responsibility at meetings to make sure the board remains focused and that the meetings are run in an effective manner so that all points and opinions are heard.

Key Qualities of President or Chairman:

- ◆ Time to do the Job
- ◆ Solid Team Builder
- Comfortable with the process
- Good delegator
- ◆ Strategic
- ◆ Firm

Making it work successfully...

Responsibility

Mutual Respect

Accountability

Dependability

Honesty and Openness

Communication

 $C_{o_{m_{nit}}}$