



## **Slate of Nominees**

### **GSGMS**

#### **Board of Directors and Board Development Committee**

**April 27th, 2024**

***In compliance with the council bylaws, the members of the Board of Directors are placed into a “class” when elected. The class indicates when their term expires. The year their service began is indicated, as well. Members are eligible for 2 consecutive 3-year terms.***

***Members fulfilling terms and therefore rolling off the Board of Directors in 2024 include Kearn Cherry, Connie Moran, Sarah Palmer, Dan Robinson, and Robin Robinson.***

***Dr. Ron Mumbower is unable to fulfill his term and requested to end his service on this date. Rosa Beckett is presented to fulfill his term from this date until 2026.***

***Members of the Class of 2024 who are eligible for a second 3-year term and are submitted for reelection are: Meredith Aldridge, Henry Michel, Cathy L. Northington and Pam Ware.***

***The following individuals comprise the slate of nominees to replace the five board members who have fulfilled their terms. They will be placed in the Class of 2027.***

#### ***Dr. Denise Cherry***

*Dr. Denise Cherry is an Orthodontist with A Million Smiles LLC in Biloxi, MS. Dr. Cherry completed her undergraduate degree at Alabama A&M University on a full tennis scholarship. She obtained her general dentistry degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She completed her residency at Howard University Orthodontic program.*

*Dr. Cherry is a Biloxi native and has returned to her hometown to serve the MS Gulf Coast. When she is not in the office, she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, reading, walking, trying new foods, and watching a good movie.*

#### ***Dr. Cindy Karlson***

*Dr. Cindy Karlson is a clinical pediatric psychologist at the Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorder Clinic at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She is the director of Pediatric Psychology and Vice-Chair for Research within the UMMC Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Karlson conducts neurocognitive evaluations and therapy for children with chronic medical conditions. Her research program focuses on chronic pain and sleep disturbance in children with chronic medical conditions.*

*Dr. Karlson is from Tallahassee, FL. She earned her B.S. from the University of Florida, and then earned her Master of Arts in 2007 and PhD in 2011 from the University of Kansas. She has been married for 20 years and has two children, Ainsley (age 14 years) and Noah (age 12 years). The Karlsons are a scouting family, with both parents and children involved in scouts.*

#### ***Josh Thrash***

*As founder and president of Thrash Commercial Contractors, Josh oversees the corporate strategy and vision of the company. He went to work for his father, Tommy Thrash, in 1998 and went on to found Thrash Commercial Contractors with business partner, Matt McWilliams, in 2001. Josh has been committed to improving the construction process at every level of the industry for over 20 years. His leadership has transformed Thrash into one of the most admired companies in Mississippi and a premier general*

contractor 5656 within the Southeast. Josh leads with incredible integrity and a commitment to reliability and quality. Josh approaches each project with a loyal relationship and a commitment to quality. He has always insisted that Thrash's company culture includes people that strive to be the best version of themselves and enjoy the time they spend at work. Josh's success has been rooted in his ability to deliver on his promises, improve every day, and build friendships that last.

Josh is an avid outdoorsman and lives in Pelahatchie, Mississippi with his wife Susan and three children Elizabeth, Reid, and Luke. He is an active member of The Church at Shiloh. Other affiliations include Young President Organization (YPO) and he is a Board of Directors member of the Rankin County Chamber.

### **Derick L. Vance**

Derick Vance, Vice President of Commercial Lending, is with Guaranty Bank in Ridgeland. Before joining Guaranty Bank, Derick served as a Commercial Banking Relationship Manager at Regions Bank for 12 years. He started his banking career as a Personal Banker and Small Business Specialist at JPMorgan Chase Bank & Company for 2 years in Alexandria, Louisiana. Prior to that, Vance worked as an Independent Petroleum Landman and Lease Agent for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation and Chesapeake Oil and Gas in Mississippi, Alabama, Oklahoma, and Louisiana from 2004-2009. Vance earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi, where he graduated with honors.

Vance currently serves on the Executive Committee Council and Board of Directors for the Mississippi Council for Economic Education. He also serves on the Board of Directors for The ARC of Mississippi. He is a former Rotarian member and Paul Harris Fellow of the Alexandria Rotary Club and a former Board of Directors Member of the United Way of Central Louisiana. Vance and his wife, Delila, have been married for 15 years and have a daughter named Caroline. They enjoy spending time with their 2 dogs, Molly and Hank, and are active members at Parkway Church of Madison, MS. Vance is an avid outdoorsman and wildlife conservationist. He is also a member of Houston, Mississippi Lodge No. 67, F&AM in his native hometown.

### **Cathy Watson, Ed.D.**

From a very early age, Cathy's parents instilled the value and importance of a good education, for it was something that could never be taken away. Their nurturing drove her to become a lifelong learner and quite the inquisitor. Naturally, a career in education was inevitable. After teaching middle, high school, and college-level Math in Florida and Mississippi, Cathy worked with school districts in MS as an Educational Consultant, coaching District and School-level administrators and teachers, helping to improve instructional strategies resulting in increased academic outcomes and student experiences. While in this role, it became evident that low school accountability grades are not indicative of the students' potential but rather indicative of the expectation gap and worked hard to change that reality.

She continues to work with districts in MS, LA, and OK to find solutions to support teachers and students focused on impacting increased educational outcomes, and she also owns a real estate company. Cathy earned her Doctor of Education in Administrator Leadership for Teaching and Learning and strives to impact positive social change. When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three sons (most likely on a sports field of some kind), reading, and relaxing at home with her Maltipoo.

**The Following individual is presented on the slate of nominees to replace Dr. Ron Mumbower's unfulfilled term. This term will end in 2026.**

### **Rosa M. Beckett**

Rosa M. Beckett was appointed the new CEO of the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) in May 2023. Beckett brings over 30 years of leadership experience to her new position, including over 22 years of executive experience in airports and transportation. Since locating to Jackson, Mississippi, Ms. Beckett has been active in the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership, Greater Jackson Alliance, East Metro Corridor Commission, West Rankin Utility Authority Board of Directors, and the Mississippi Airports Association. She was recently selected to participate in the 2024 Leadership Mississippi Program. She received the right hand of fellowship as a member of College Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson Mississippi under Pastor Chauncy Jordon in February 2024.

Ms. Beckett earned her Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Human Resources Management (MHRM) from the University of North Florida Coggin College of Business. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications. Ms. Beckett is an avid football fan, enjoys traveling, and is the mother of two daughters, Summer Rose and Jasmine Skyy Beckett.

The Board of Directors classes are as follows:

<b>Class of 2023</b>	<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>	<b>Class of 2027</b>
Laura Hearn* Lauren McGraw* <del>Dr. Ron</del> Mumbower* Rosa Beckett Barbara Travis*	Connie Moran Sarah Palmer Dan Robinson Kearn Cherry Robin Robinson  Meredith Aldridge Henry Michel Cathy L. Northington Pam Ware	Charlotte Seals Jennifer Hall Cindy Hollingsworth Betty Mallet  Mary Hill Tina Lakey	Kimberla Little Dr. Robert Lockett  Laura Hearn Lauren McGraw <del>Ron</del> <del>Mumbower</del> Rosa Beckett Barbara Travis	Dr. Denise Cherry Dr. Cindy Karlson Josh Thrash Dr. Catherine Watson Derick Vance

*\*eligible for 3 year 2<sup>nd</sup> term*

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

*One Board Development Committee Member, Kearn Cherry, will fulfill her term therefore rolling off the Board of Directors in 2024. A nominee is presented to replace the one BDC member who has fulfilled her term. One member of the Class of 2024 is eligible for a second 3-year term for reelection.*

*Pam Ware, Board of Directors member is presented to fill the vacant position on the Board Development Committee. The term for the Board Development Committee is 2024-2027.*

*The member of the Class of 2024 who is eligible for a second 3-year term and is submitted for reelection to the BDC is: Charlotte Seals (2024-2027).*

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*EXCERPTS FROM GSGMS Bylaws for the Girls, adopted 08.11.18 are offered below regarding the Board Development Committee and Board of Directors terms of office. The bylaws document in its entirety may be viewed on the council website.*

**ARTICLE VII – BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Section 1. Membership and Relationship to Board**

*The Board Development Committee shall be composed of seven committee members, three of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors and four of whom shall not be members of the Board of Directors. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, one of the three members from the Board of Directors elected to serve on the Board Development Committee may be the immediate past Chair of the Board Development Committee even though no longer elected to the Board of Directors. Between meetings of the Council, the Board Development Committee shall work with and report to the Board of Directors. The number of elected Board of Director members on the Board Development Committee may not exceed the number of non-Board of Director members.*

## *Section 2. Election, Term, and Vacancies*

- A. The Committee members shall be elected by the Council in accordance with Article VIII of these Bylaws for a term of three years or until their successors are elected and assume office, and may serve for up to two full terms, or until their successors are elected and assume office.*
- B. The Board Development Committee shall be organized into three classes as nearly equal as possible in number, with each class consisting of one current member of the Board of Directors whose term of service on the Board of Directors will not expire before the conclusion of their term of office on the Board Development Committee.*
- C. Terms of office shall begin at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected.*

## **ARTICLE IX – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### *Section 2. Composition and Term of Office*

*The Board of Directors shall be composed of up to twenty-one members.*

*The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for terms of three years, arranged in three equal classes with the term of one class expiring at each Annual Meeting of the Council; however, a Director shall continue to serve until his or her successor is elected and qualified, despite the expiration of that Director's term, and Directors are eligible to serve for up to two consecutive full terms or until their successors are elected and assume office.*

*Directors elected by the Members to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors shall hold office for a term expiring at the Annual Meeting at which the term of the class to which they shall have been elected expires. No individual shall serve more than two consecutive full terms as a Director and must not serve for one year before being eligible to serve again as a Director. A Director who has served more than half of a term shall be considered to have served a full term for purposes of eligibility for re-election.*

### **Respectfully Submitted by Board Development Committee**

#### **Members include:**

Charlotte Seals – Chair

Monica Harrigill

Kearn Cherry

Erica Weber-Jones

John Hardy

Joseph Sclafani

Dr. Tracy Daniel- Hardy

