

LIVINGSTON PARISH
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



—2016—

LIVINGSTON
PARISH BUSINESS
PUBLIC
POLICY
GUIDE

“The mission of the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce is to support and facilitate economic impact by providing an environment that encourages business and community working together within our region.”

Chamber’s focus and values:

- ◆ Member Representation & Advocacy
- ◆ Partnerships & Collaborations
- ◆ Cooperative Objectives
- ◆ Strategic Plans & Results
- ◆ Desirable Community & Quality of Life
- ◆ Attentiveness from lawmakers and policymakers on Livingston Business Issues

Vision Statement

To be recognized as the leading advocate for business offering resources and opportunities that only a chamber can provide, to develop leaders and promote the community with a positive spirit.

Image

A results-oriented, area-wide, membership organization which is acknowledged as the leader in the business community, providing value to its members. In addition, the Chamber will be viewed as an organization of unquestioned integrity, as a good corporate citizen in its own right, and as an advocate for the free enterprise system.

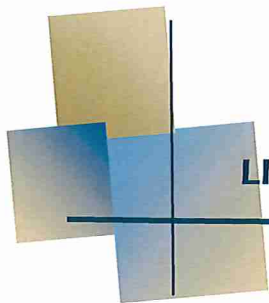


TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from Leadership	4
Legislative Affairs Division Guiding Principles	5
Government Affairs Committee	6
Chamber Business Agenda	7
Chamber Executive Committee and Board Directors	8
Federal and State Officials	9
Parish & City Officials	10
Spring & Fall 2016 Election Dates	11
2016 & Beyond Election Information	12

A Message From Leadership

A strong working relationship between government entities and the business community in Livingston Parish is essential to the growth and economic prosperity of the parish. The Chamber Governmental Affairs Committee works diligently with local, state, and federal elected officials to ensure that the concerns of the business community in Livingston Parish are carefully considered when weighing legislation and decisions that could impact business growth, job creation, taxes, commerce, and regulatory statutes.

The Chamber Governmental Affairs Committee is comprised of local business owners and executives who strive to be both a liaison and a resource center for the Chamber Members and the government officials who represent us. As business leaders, the committee members offer firsthand knowledge and insight into the daily needs and demands of business owners and work toward the common goal of a stronger, more prosperous business community.

Candy Forbes
Committee Chair
Denham Springs Housing

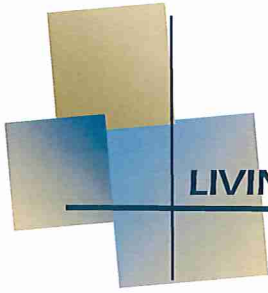
John Blount
Committee Co-Chair
Blount General Contractors, LLC

Brian Abels
Chamber Chairman of the Board
Boyer, Hebert, Abels, & Angelle

April Wehrs
President/CEO
Livingston Parish Chamber

Legislative Affairs Division Guiding Principles

- Government should seek input from the business community in regards to regulations which burden business before approving.
- Government should first “do no harm” to the Livingston Parish area’s economy.
- City and Parish government should focus on priorities that will foster a favorable business climate and grow Livingston Parish commerce, industry and jobs.
- Government should streamline government processes whenever and wherever possible.
- When Parish and Municipal government agencies contract out work, they should use local businesses and vendors when possible and practical.
- Competitiveness with local, state, regional and global areas should be a consideration when considering regulations or actions..
- Businesses should be good corporate citizens.
- Consideration of creating a problem when solving a problem should be a factor in decision making.



LIVINGSTON PARISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Governmental Affairs Committee

John Blount

President

Blount General Contractors

Ronnie Foshee

Regional VP

First Guaranty Bank

Brian Abels

Attorney/Partner

Boyer, Hebert, Abels, Angelle

Kimberly Sanders, MBA

CPA/Partner

LA Champagne, LLP

Chad Bacas, P.E. MBA

Denham Springs Operations Leader

Forte & Tablada, Inc.

Regina Scott

AVP Informatics

North Oaks Health System

Curtis Nickels

Agent

Farm Bureau Insurance

Shannon Bernard

Regional VP

Primerica

Wayne Dugas

Director of Dealer Sales

Lard Oil Company

Shelby Carnahan

Owner, CPA

Carnahan Andrews CPA,

Karen Crayton

CEO

AMG Specialty Hospital

Jimmy Durbin

Attorney

Former Mayor

Robert Morgan

Attorney

Morgan Law Associates, LLC

John Holmes

President/Owner

Holmes Building Materials

Rock Ete

Manager

Sumit Credits

Craig Schimpf

Customer Service Manager

Entergy

Candy Forbes

President, Sales Manager

Denham Springs Housing

Deric Murphy, P.E., L.S.I

President

Quality Engineering & Surveying

Chamber Business Agenda

Transportation / Infrastructure / Roads

The Chamber aligns with local elected officials and priorities include Hwy 447, Hwy 190, continued efforts to widen I-12 to the state line. The Chamber also encourages and supports the opportunity to provide roads and connect all communities to shopping and other opportunities in Livingston Parish.

Education / Community College

The Chamber is a promoter and supporter of the education system and the economic impact it brings to Livingston Parish. The Chamber has actively supported the local school system and the community college effort in Livingston Parish. The Chamber has weighed in and provided diverse business feedback on the community and business needs associated with the college effort.

Internet Sales Tax

The Chamber supports collection enforcement of internet sales tax to ensure local businesses are not at a competitive disadvantage.

Energy Jobs

Energy companies have created some of the best jobs in the state. The Chamber agrees we must continue that path with leaders who will protect energy jobs.

Insurance Premiums to Business

Premiums are crippling small business including premiums for health insurance, general liability, workers compensation, and flood insurance. The burdens and costs to small business are astounding, and the Chamber strongly advocates for solutions, including underlying issues, to this immense problem.

Minimum Wage

Business owners advise that minimum wage should be determined by market forces.

Healthcare

The Chamber recognizes the need for quality and accessible affordable healthcare in our community.

Jobs and Career Development

The Chamber leads on education partnerships with the business community to develop a qualified workforce, career ready students, and access to information on open positions at local business.

Taxes & Regulatory Issues

The burden of taxes and regulatory compliance on business are impeding growth and diverting resources. Business resources in this regard have been stretched to the point of breaking. The business community seeks a diplomatic approach and solution to this problem.

Chamber Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Chairman of the Board

Brian Abels
Boyer, Hebert, Abels, & Angelle

Treasurer

Kim Sanders
L.A. Champagne & Co., LLP

Incoming Chair

Chad Bacas
Forte & Tablada

Vice Chair

Candy Forbes
Denham Springs Housing

Outgoing Chair

Wayne Dugas
Lard Oil Company

Vice Chair

John Blount
Blount General Contractors, LLC

President / CEO

April Wehrs
Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors

Amie Barton
Regions Bank

Margot May
Livingston Business Journal

Shannon Bernard
Primerica/Shannon Bernard

Sherry Mely
Iberia Bank

Mike Cotton
Office Depot

Deric Murphy
Quality Engineering & Surveying, LLC

Ronnie Foshee
First Guaranty Bank

Craig Schimpf
Entergy

John Holmes
Holmes Building Material

Regina Scott
North Oaks Health System

Jill Wyble
Our Lady of the Lake RMC



LIVINGSTON PARISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Federal Officials

Bill Cassidy
U.S. Senator
3115 Dalrymple Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-6938
(202) 224-5824

Garret Graves
U.S. Representative, Louisiana—
6th Congressional District
29261 Frost Rd.
Livingston, LA 70754
(225) 686-4413

David Vitter
U.S. Senator
858 Convention St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 383-0331

State Officials

John Bel Edwards
Louisiana Governor
P.O. Box 1115
Amite, LA 70422
225-435-9808

“Billy” Nungesser
Lieutenant Governor
P.O. Box 7264
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
504-433-1200

Dale Erdey
State Senator— 13th District
P. O. Box 400
Livingston, LA 70754
(225) 938-7406
erdeyd@legis.la.gov

Eddie Lambert
State Senator— 18th District
P.O. Box 88
Gonzales, LA 70707
225-715-4974

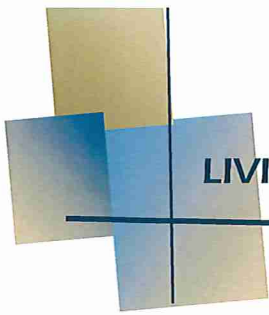
Mack “Bodi” White, Jr.
State Senator— 6th District
808 O’Neal Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
(225) 272-1324
whitem@legis.la.gov

Valerie Hodges
State Representative— 64th District
35055 La. Hwy. 16 Suite 2A
Denham Springs, LA 70706
(225)791-2199
hodgesv@legis.la.gov

J. Rogers Pope
State Representative—71st District
P.O. Box 555 Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225)667-3588
poper@legis.la.gov

Clay Schexnayder
State Representative— 81st District
6473 Hwy. 44 Ste.205
Gonzales, LA 70737
225-675-3600

Sherman O. Mack
State Representative— 95th District
29270 Henry White Rd.
Albany, LA 70711
225-567-9060



LIVINGSTON PARISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Parish Officials

Layton Ricks
Parish President

"Jeff" Ard
Council Member, District 1

Tracy J. Girlinghouse
Council Member, District 7

Scott M. Perriloux
District Attorney

"Garry Frog" Talbert
Council Member, District 2

"Tab" Lobell
Council Member, District 8

Jason Ard
Sheriff

Maurice "Scooter" Keen
Council Member, District 3

Shane Mack
Council Member, District 9

Thomas Sullivan, Jr.
Clerk of Court

John Wascom
Council Member, District 4

Jeffrey Taylor
Assessor

R.C. "Bubba" Harris
Council Member, District 5

Ron Coe
Coroner

"Jeff" Averett
Council Member, District 6

Municipalities

Mayor Gerard Landry
City of Denham Springs

Mayor Thomas "Tommy" Abels
Town of Springfield

Mayor Rick Ramsey
City of Walker

Mayor David Carter
Village of Port Vincent

Mayor Gene Glascock
Town of Albany

Mayor Toni Guitrau
Village of French Settlement

Mayor Derral Jones
Town of Livingston

Mayor Craig McGehee
Town of Killian

Election Dates

SPRING 2016

December 2 - 4, 2015 — Qualifying Ends @ 4:30pm Dec. 4

March 5, 2016 — Presidential Preference & Municipal Primary
Early Voting: February 20 - 27

April 9, 2016 — Municipal General Election
Early Voting: March 26 – April 2

FALL 2016

July 20-22— Presidential/Congressional Qualifying Deadline

November 8, 2016 — Primary / Presidential / Congressional Election
Early Voting: October 25—November 1

December 10, 2016 — General Election/Congressional Election
Early Voting: November 26—December 3

Additional Election Information 2016 & Beyond

Expires **December 31, 2016**: Mayor of Walker, French Settlement, Port Vincent, Livingston

Expires **December 31, 2016**: Walker, Livingston, French Settlement, Port Vincent Aldermen

Expires **December 31, 2016**: Walker Chief of Police

Expires **December 31, 2018**: School Board Terms

Expires **December 31, 2020**: Justice of the Peace Terms

Expires **February 29, 2016 & April 2, 2016**: DCSS, RSCC, PECs

NOTES
