

For Immediate Release

Date: December 6, 2010

Contact: Karen St. Cyr, Port of Greater Baton Rouge, (225) 342-1660

PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE
ELECTS COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR 2011

Baton Rouge, La. – The board of commissioners for the Port of Greater Baton Rouge recently elected officers for 2011. Officers elected include Larry Johnson, West Baton Rouge, president; Jerald Juneau, East Baton Rouge, vice president; Tim Hardy, East Baton Rouge, treasurer, and Blaine Sheets, Ascension, secretary.

Johnson has served as a port commissioner representing West Baton Rouge Parish since 1992 and also served three previous terms as president of the port commission: in 1996, 2002 and 2006. He is a general contractor and a former councilman of the West Baton Rouge Parish Council. Mr. Johnson is an active community member. He is chair of the proposed LA 1/ I-10 Connector Route in West Baton Rouge Parish and has been involved in obtaining funding for a number of port capital improvements.

During his presidency, Johnson plans to promote the assets of the port and place emphasis in 2011 on strategic planning for future port growth. “The port is an asset to this entire region and has tremendous potential to create jobs and investment throughout the port’s jurisdiction,” he said.

Jerald Juneau, vice president, is the former deputy secretary-treasurer for the Louisiana Teachers Retirement system. He is also a retired United States Army Colonel. Governor Jindal appointed Juneau to the commission on September 29, 2008.

Timothy W. Hardy, secretary, is the managing partner at Lemle Kelleher, LLP and joined the firm in 1994. From 1982 to 1988, he served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Louisiana Department of Justice in the Environmental Enforcement Section. In 1988, he was appointed by former Governor Buddy Roemer to serve as Assistant Secretary for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Prior to attending law school, he held several technical positions in industry. In 2007, he served as vice chairman of Governor Bobby Jindal’s Environmental Transition Advisory Council. He also currently serves as an adjunct professor teaching Environmental Law at the Southern University Law Center.

Blaine Sheets, treasurer, was appointed to the commission by Governor Jindal in 2008. He is president of Specialized Industrial Maintenance and is a former member of the Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District.

The port’s governing body is a 15-member commission appointed by the Governor. The port commission's responsibilities are to establish policy and provide oversight into the port's development. Port commissioners are selected from the four parishes served by the port.

The Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission oversees 85 miles of the Mississippi River. This port is ranked 14th in the United States in total tonnage, handling over 51,809,486 million short tons of cargo annually while providing access to mid-America through the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the upper Mississippi River system.

For more information on the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, visit www.portgbr.com.