



MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF CONTRACTORS

2018 Annual Report

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Message from the Executive Director

Each year MSBOC makes it a priority to reflect on accomplishments and challenges of the past and identify trends and issues that warrant attention in the year ahead. I am pleased to report that many efforts relative to MSBOC's strategic plan resulted in a positive impact to the agency. The agency worked diligently to meet the demands of contractor licensing as well as protecting the public by investigating complaints and ensuring contractor compliance. All areas of MSBOC operations were evaluated including Licensing, Enforcement, Education/Public Relations and Disaster Response. Some highlights from each respective area are listed below:

Licensure: License applications and renewals rose during fiscal year 2018. The agency issued/renewed 6,787 commercial certificates of responsibility while 384 additional classifications of work were added to existing commercial licenses. This represents a 4% increase in commercial licenses issued plus 122 additional classifications of licensure added to existing licenses. The agency also issued or renewed 2956 licenses to contractors performing residential construction or residential remodeling, which was a 6% increase from fiscal year 2017 and marks the first increase in residential licensure in 4 years.

Enforcement: Statewide investigations rose 9% during FY 2018 resulting in a dramatic increase in the number of complaints filed as well as the collection of fines and penalties from violators. The agency's seven investigators visited 7,600 construction sites during FY 2018. The increased visits resulted in the collection of \$676,439.39 in fines and civil penalties, which is nearly two, and half times the amount collected in FY 2017.

Education and Public Relations: MSBOC utilized funds received from licensure and penalties to distribute \$2,432,000 to provide construction education and craft training to ensure a quality workforce for Mississippi's future. The increase in funding resulted in an increase in the number of students enrolled in construction education programs throughout the state. In addition, 246 correctional students enrolled in construction certification programs. The Mississippi Housing Institute received \$68,000 collected from residential renewal fees to support qualified residential building programs and education.

Disaster Response: Utilizing proactive measures taken during the previous fiscal years, MSBOC's Disaster Response Team was prepared for and immediately dispatched to areas of the state affected by severe weather and tornadoes to assist consumers and contractors with the rebuilding process. In addition to assisting with the rebuilding process, the agency's hands-on response in affected areas helped protect the public by deterring fraudulent contractors from perpetrating scams that commonly occur after a disaster.

2018 was an exciting and productive year for MSBOC. We look forward to meeting the goals of next year and continuing our quest to serve as a model public agency.

Stephanie Sills Lee
Executive Director

Overview

The responsibility for licensing and regulating Mississippi's construction industry belongs to the Mississippi State Board of Contractors. The agency was created by the Legislature in 1952 to protect the public from irresponsible contractors and is funded solely by fees and penalties associated with licensure. There are more than 10,000 licensed contractors in the state, with multiple licensing classifications.

Board members are responsible for setting policy for the licensing standards for construction contractors. In order to assure Mississippi citizens of competent contractors, the Board requires contractors to meet minimum qualifications and ensures they adhere to all legal requirements and applicable regulations. The Board also promulgates rules and regulations necessary for implementing and enforcing the licensing statutes.

In addition to educating consumers about contractors and construction law, MSBOC activities include administering examinations to test prospective licensees, issuing licenses, investigating complaints against licensed and unlicensed contractor, issuing citations, suspending or revoking licenses, and seeking administrative, criminal and civil sanctions against violators.

Board Composition

The Mississippi State Board of Contractors is comprised of ten (10) members appointed to staggered terms by the Governor. Two (2) road contractors; two (2) building contractors; two (2) residential builders; one (1) plumbing or heating and air conditioning contractor; one (1) electrical contractor; one (1) water and sewer contractor and one (1) roofing contractor shall compose the board. Each member shall be a resident of the State of Mississippi and must have been actually engaged in the contracting business for a period of not less than ten (10) years before appointment.

The following are members of the board:

Tony Carroll, Chairman – Amory, MS – Building Contractor

Hunter L. Fordice, Vice Chairman - Vicksburg, MS – Road Contractor

Thomas H. Kline, Chairman – Fulton, MS – Mechanical Contractor (Plumbing, Heat & Air)

Madison H. Smith – Tupelo, MS – Electrical Contractor

O. L. Sims – Hattiesburg, MS – Water and Sewer Contractor

David Smith – Ridgeland, MS – Residential Contractor

Greg Smith – Gulfport, MS – Residential Contractor

John Laws - Madison, MS – Building Contractor

Tyler Norman, Meridian, MS – Roofing Contractor

Vacant – Road Contractor

Residential Standing Committee

The Residential Standing Committee is subordinate to the State Board of Contractors. The standing committee shall be composed of two (2) residential builders who serve as members of the State board of Contractors and three (3) additional residential builders.

The following are members of the Residential Standing Committee:

RESIDENTIAL STANDING COMMITTEE

Carl B. Hamilton, Chairman – Ocean Springs, MS

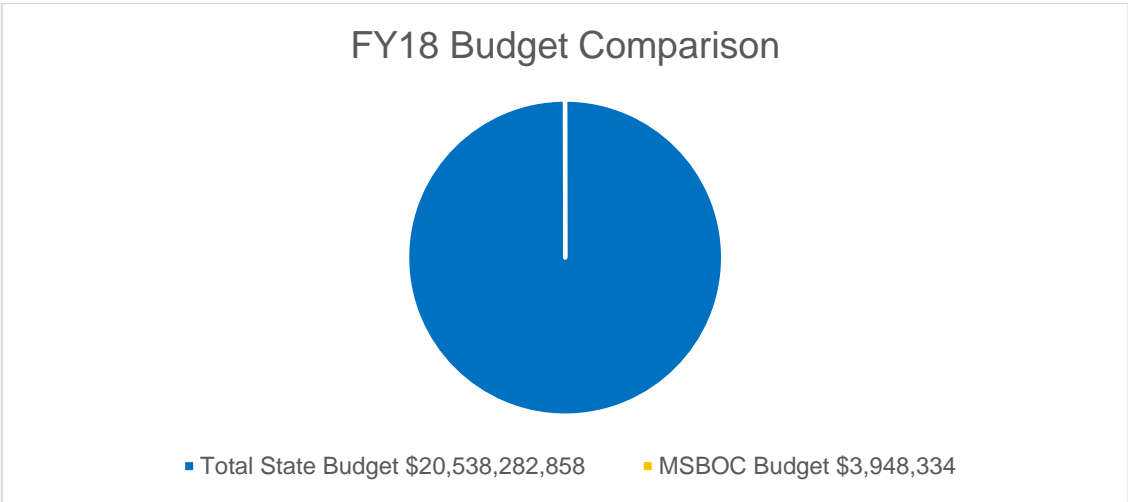
David Smith – Ridgeland, MS

Diane Neyland – Madison, MS

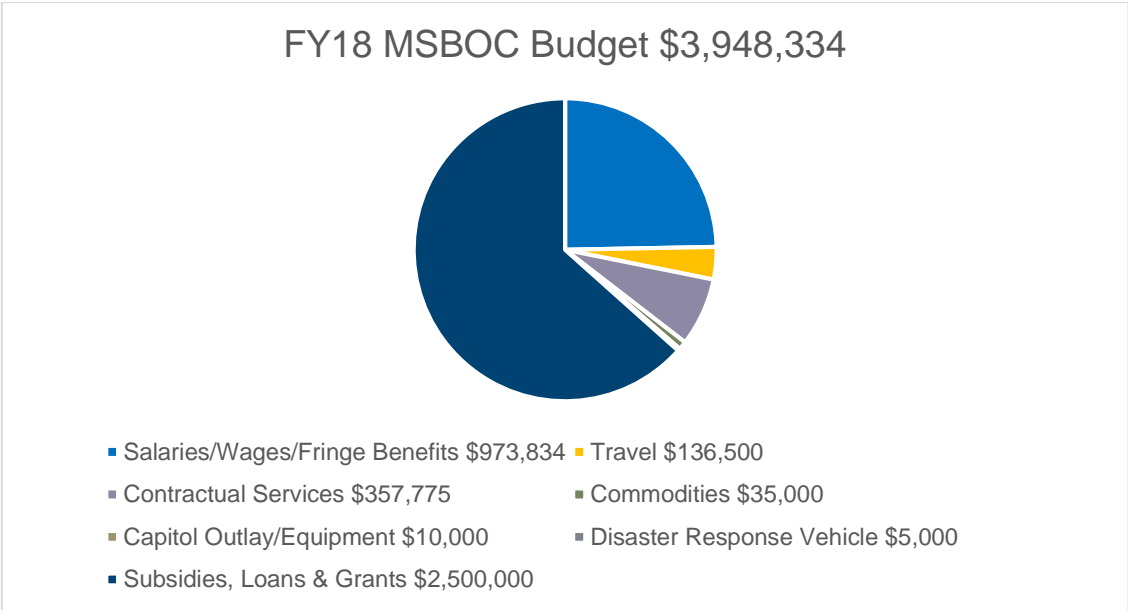
Greg Smith – Gulfport, MS

Kenneth Estes – Saltillo, MS

Budget



The Mississippi State Board of Contractors was appropriated \$3,948,334 for fiscal year 2018. This amounts to significantly less than one percent of the overall budget for the State of Mississippi. As a fiscally responsible agency, MSBOC recognizes that all funds, whether special fund or general fund, belong to the taxpayers of the State of Mississippi. However, as a special fund agency, MSBOC is required to operate within the limits of the funds generated by the licensure process. Excess funds, if any, remain with the agency to be used to support agency goals and purposes as allowed by statute. This provides incentive to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible.



Program Performance

	2017	2018
Number of New Commercial Licenses	686	634
Number of Commercial Licenses Renewed	6156	6152
Number of New Residential Licenses	285	309
Number of Residential Licenses Renewed	2720	2647
Number of Additional Classifications Granted	414	384
Number of Construction Sites Visited	7411	7600
Number of Contractors Required to Pay Civil Penalties	80	199
Revenue Generated from Licensure Fees	\$1,586,650	\$2,209,285
Revenue Generated from Other Fees	\$247,539	\$87,990
Civil Penalties Collected	\$272,772	\$677,765
Grants provided for Construction Education and Craft Training	\$1,436,400	\$2,500,000

Contact Information



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