

Holdenville Daily News

Holdenville mayor Jack Barrett named a new member to the Holdenville Hospital Board, which was approved by the Holdenville City Council on Tuesday. Gary Mask, one of the owners of Visual Lease Company, has been selected to serve on the Holdenville Hospital Board, which oversees the actions of the Holdenville Hospital Authority.

Mask will sit on the five-member Hospital Board made up of Chairperson Harold Heath, Richard Carr, Scot Treadwell and James Welch.

The mayor said the Holdenville businessman's willingness to serve on the Hospital Board was an example of Mask's commitment to service in the community.

"It is always good to see people who are willing to offer their service to the community," said the Holdenville mayor. "His positive attitude and foresight for the 21st century will be beneficial to the hospital and he will offer a strong commitment of service to the community."

Mask will step in as a member of the Hospital Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting. He was selected to replace long-time member Ralph Sanders, who announced that he will step down from his position on the Board earlier this month. He praised the resigning board member for his commitment to serving the community with the Hospital Board during the rebuilding process. "Mr. Sanders was important to the Hospital Board as the community was recovering from the devastating loss of our hospital," said the Mayor. "His tireless efforts along with those of the rest of the board members were key to the success of rebuilding the facility and returning quality medical service to the community."

Mask said he takes his new role with the Holdenville Hospital Board very seriously. He said he is aware of the importance of the Holdenville General Hospital and its impact on the community.

"The hospital is one of the most important assets in our community," said Mask. "It is imperative that we are able to offer quality emergency health care to our entire community. The Holdenville General Hospital is an intricate part of our infrastructure."

Mask said much of the prosperity a community is able to achieve is based on the quality of health care available to its residents. Serving as a member of the Hospital Board, Mask said he feels he can help contribute to the quality of life for people in Holdenville.

"I want to be a part of helping to build and increase the prosperity of our community," said Mask. "How could we expect our community to grow and prosper without offering a quality hospital facility and health care?"

A 12 year resident of Holdenville, Mask is one of the owners and founders of Visual Lease Inc. which is a computerized mapping service based in the community. He is married to Hughes County Assessor Kathi Mask, who has served as an elected official in Hughes County for approximately 14 years.

Mask said serving the people of Holdenville and Hughes County has become priority in his life and he accepts the position on the Hospital Board with a promise of commitment.

"You see signs and advertisements every day around here that say 'I believe in Holdenville' and that is more than just a catch-phrase to me," said Mask. "I do believe in Holdenville and I also believe the only way we can make that slogan work is by offering our services to continue helping to build our community. I am looking forward to learning my duties and responsibilities with the Hospital Board and learning what contributions I can make to help it grow and prosper."