

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

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### REGENOLD ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF HIGHWAY COMMISSION

**LITTLE ROCK (11-28)** John Ed Regenold of Armorel was elected Chairman of the five-person Arkansas State Highway Commission at the Commission's meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>. He has served the past two years as Vice Chairman.

Regenold replaces R. Madison Murphy of El Dorado, who relinquished the Chairmanship at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The move is a Commission tradition that allows for the new Chairman to be in place early to help prepare for the upcoming legislative session. Murphy will continue to serve on the Commission until January of 2013.

Commissioner John Burkhalter of Little Rock was elected Vice Chairman.

"I'm honored to be given this opportunity," said Regenold. "But I know that Madison leaves big shoes to fill. His leadership--and just plain hard work--has helped put us on a path to having one of the best highway systems in the country. In the last 13 months, voters have approved bond programs that will help fund more than \$2.5 billion worth of highway improvements in the years to come. I'm not sure we would've received the tremendous support for those programs without Chairman Murphy's vision and determination."

Regenold, a native of northeast Arkansas and Chairman of the Armorel Planting Company, was appointed to the Commission in 2005 by Governor Mike Huckabee. His term will expire in 2015.

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During his career, Regenold has served on the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, the St. Francis Levee Board, and as a commissioner for the District 17 Drainage District. Regenold is the former Chairman of the Mississippi County Hospital System Board and a member of the Arkansas Northeastern College Foundation. He and his wife, Martha Dale, have four children and nine grandchildren.

Burkhalter, President of Burkhalter Industries, was appointed to the Highway Commission by Governor Mike Beebe in 2011. His term will expire in January 2017. Burkhalter is a former Chairman of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

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