New Commissioners Appointed

Karen Crowson of Benton and Jim Newell of Little Rock were appointed by Governor Mike Beebe to serve three-year terms on the Arkansas Real Estate Commission.

KAREN CROWSON has been active in real estate sales since first licensed in 1987. In 2003, she opened the Crye-Leike Bryant office and then the Crye-Leike Benton office in 2004. She is currently Designated Executive Broker for the Crye-Leike Benton office. Karen holds the ABR and GRI designations from the National Association of REALTORS.

Karen has served on the state level with the Arkansas REALTORS Association as past President in 2006, on the Board of Directors, and chaired and served on numerous committees. Karen was also recently appointed as member of the Individual Sewage Disposal Advisory Committee.

On the national level Karen is currently serving as a National Association of Realtors Director and a member of the Professional Standards Committee.

Karen has been active in her community and served as President of the Benton/Bryant REALTORS Association and was selected by the Association as its Realtor of the Year twice. She is actively involved with First Baptist Church of Benton, Benton Area Chamber of Commerce, Habitat for Humanity and Saline Homebuilders Association. Karen also previously served as a Director and then

Jim Newell

He graduated from Little Rock University (UALR) in 1963. He and his wife Sandra have been active in university fund raising and other activities. They have endowed two (2) permanent scholarships at UALR. Jim’s scholarship benefits insurance and finance students and Sandra’s scholarship is the College of Education.

Jim and Sandra have two children and three grandchildren. Their son Chris is president of The Newell Agency and has worked with his father since graduating from college in 1987. Their daughter Paige is in project management at Acxiom.

New Chairman and Vice Chairman

The Commission at its April 2007 meeting elected Roy Rainey, Principal Broker of Rainey Realty, Inc., Little Rock as Chairman, and Cliff Goodin, Executive Broker, Cliff Goodin and Associates, Russellville as Vice Chairman. Other members of the Commission are Sylvester L. Smith III of North Little Rock, and new Commissioners Karen Crowson and Jim Newell.