

Investiture held for elected county officials

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The main courtroom in the George County Courthouse was filled to standing room only as county elected officials were sworn into new four-year terms on Monday morning.

The ceremony lasted a little more than an hour and was a little different than past investiture ceremonies. This one included everything from a presentation of the American and State of Mississippi flags by a color guard from the 287th Engineering Company of the National Guard, to patriotic songs and a delegation of veterans from American Legion post 53.

Chancery Court Judge Mark Maples gave some opening remarks in which he asked the newly elected to do only two things- do their best and be honest. He then did an excellent job individually introducing each of the 14 people being sworn in. He recognized their families in the audience and the make a few biographical remarks about each one, highlighting prior public service achievements. It was a personal touch that took a bit of time, but added some familiarity to the group for those that might not know or deal with them on a regular basis.

Those taking the oath of office included Frankie Massey, Supervisor, Beat 1; Kelly Wright, Supervisor, Beat 2; Larry McDonald, Supervisor, Beat 3; Larry Havard, Supervisor, Beat 4; Henry Cochran, Supervisor, Beat 5; Cammie Brannan Byrd, Chancery Clerk; Keith Havard, Sheriff; Chad Welford, Circuit Clerk; DeeAnn Murrah, Coroner; Vince Carlisle, Tax Assessor; Glen Ecroyd, Constable, Dist.1; Jerry Havard, Constable, Dist.2; Mike Bullock, Justice Court Judge, Martin Seib, Justice Court Judge.

Joey Griffin, County Prosecutor, was not present.

Pastor Paul Brashier, Rocky Creek Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Katri Welford sang the Armed Forces Medley in honor of the George County veterans present. Priscilla Ludgood sang the National Anthem and Chris Smith sang “God Bless America.”

Grantham Howell Post 53 Chaplin Jimmy Vice made a few brief remarks and then offered the benediction.