

**APPROVED**

The Organizational Meeting of the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners was held on this date in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center with Brad Osborne presiding as Chairman.

**Members Present:** Commissioners Geoff Brace, Thomas Creighton, Percy Dougherty, Dan Hartzell, Amanda Holt, David Jones, Sr., Marty Nothstein, Brad Osborne, and Michael Schware.

**Others Present:** Valerie Hildebeitel, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Catharine Roseberry, Deputy Solicitor; and David Barilla, Clerk to the Board.

Commissioner Osborne called the meeting to order.

Under Citizens Input, Roxanne Michaels, Lehigh County resident, said she has worked for Lehigh County for 22 years. She said over the last four years she has seen no interaction with Commissioners and case workers. She said not seen any Commissioner request input from any Lehigh County worker. She suggested that Commissioners take the time to speak to employees and find out what they do and how they do it.

#### **Nomination and Election of Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners for 2016**

Commissioner Osborne asked for nominations for the election of the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Schware nominated Brad Osborne.

With no further nominations, Commissioner Osborne asked for a motion to close nominations. Nominations were closed upon the motion of Commissioners Dougherty and Holt and a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Osborne was elected Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners by a unanimous roll call vote.

#### **Nomination and Election of Vice Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners for 2016**

Commissioner Osborne asked for nominations for the election of the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Hartzell said when he covered the County years ago there was a tradition that the Chairperson of the Board and the Vice Chairperson were from different parties. He said it was not a rule but something that was followed willingly as a gesture of togetherness on the Board. He said in that spirit he will nominate Geoff Brace.

Commissioner Holt nominated Mike Schware.

With no further nominations, Commissioner Osborne asked for a motion to close nominations. Nominations were closed upon the motion of Commissioners Holt and Schware and a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Schware was elected Vice Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners by the following six to three vote:

Mike Schware:	Commissioners Creighton, Dougherty, Holt, Nothstein, Osborne, Schware
Geoff Brace:	Commissioners Brace, Hartzell, Jones

### **Schedule of Meetings for 2016**

Commissioner Holt made the following motion: that the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners meet twice each month during calendar year 2016 as required by the Lehigh County Home Rule Charter. The Board will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center with the following exceptions: the first meeting in October will be held on Thursday, October 13; the second meeting in November will be held on Tuesday, November 22; and the second meeting in December will be held on Wednesday, December 21.

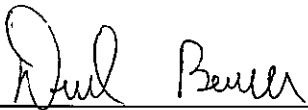
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dougherty and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Under Commissioner Announcements, Commissioner Osborne thanked the Commissioners for the privilege of serving as Chair in 2015. He said he views the position as one of service. He said he appreciates the confidence of his colleagues to have him serve as Chairperson again this year.

Commissioner Dougherty suggested that Commissioner Osborne take up Commissioner Jones' suggestion of a retreat to set goals for 2016 or meet with each Commissioner regarding our goals for the year.

Commissioner Dougherty said he believes that the leadership meetings between the Administration and the Chair and Vice Chair should begin again. He said those meetings should be held the week before a Board of Commissioners' meeting to increase productivity.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

  
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David Barilla, Clerk to the Board