

**APPROVED**

First Reading: 05/23/12

Passed 8-0: 06/13/12

**COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
COMMISSIONERS BILL 2012-17  
SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONER DOUGHERTY  
REQUESTED DATE: MAY 15, 2012  
ORDINANCE NO. 2012-116**

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**ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY AUXILIARY APPEAL BOARDS FOR THE  
COUNTY-WIDE REASSESSMENT**

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**WHEREAS**, by Ordinance 2012 - No. 103 the Board of Commissioners authorized the implementation of a County-wide reassessment to be effective in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, appeals taken from the new assessed values are currently being received by the Lehigh County Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA); and

**WHEREAS**, the volume of reassessment appeals to the BAA will substantially exceed the normal volume of annual appeals, which may create difficulty for the BAA to hear and decide all cases by the October 31<sup>st</sup> statutory deadline; and

**WHEREAS**, the Consolidated County Assessment Law, 53 Pa C.S. §8801 et seq., authorizes the County Commissioners to establish up to four temporary auxiliary appeal boards in conjunction with a county-wide reassessment and authorizes the appointment of alternates who may serve in the event of absence, conflict or disqualification of an auxiliary appeal board member; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Administration has requested that two auxiliary appeal boards be established, with three members on each board, who will be paid an hourly rate of \$24.00 and that two alternate members be available to serve if needed, at the same compensation; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the auxiliary appeal board and any alternates must be appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of existence for an auxiliary appeal board is set by 53 Pa C.S. §8853, and may be no longer than two appeal cycles.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA, THAT:**

1. The foregoing **WHEREAS** clauses are incorporated herein as if set forth in their entirety.
2. Two Auxiliary Appeal Boards are hereby established for purposes of hearing appeals from the county-wide reassessment. The Auxiliary Appeal Board members shall be contract employees for the County, and shall be compensated at an hourly rate of \$24.00. Auxiliary Appeal Board members shall not be entitled to any county benefits, including participation in the county pension system. Two alternate auxiliary appeal board members are also authorized.
3. The terms of the Auxiliary Appeal Boards and their members and any alternates shall be consistent with 53 Pa C.S. §8853.
4. The proper officers and other personnel of Lehigh County are hereby authorized and empowered to take all such further action, including any necessary transfer of funds, and execute additional documents as they may deem appropriate to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

5. The County Executive shall distribute copies of this Ordinance to the proper offices and other personnel of Lehigh County whose further action is required to achieve the purpose of this Ordinance.

6. Any Ordinance or part of any Ordinance conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this Ordinance.

7. This Ordinance shall become effective in ten (10) days after enactment.

ADOPTED this 13th day of June, 2012, by the following vote:

| <u>Commissioners</u>     | <u>AYE</u> | <u>NAY</u> |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| Thomas C. Creighton, III | X          |            |
| Percy H. Dougherty       | X          |            |
| David S. Jones, Sr.      | X          |            |
| Daniel K. McCarthy       | X          |            |
| Vic Mazziotti            | X          |            |
| Brad Osborne             | X          |            |
| Scott Ott                | X          |            |
| Lisa Scheller (absent)   |            |            |
| Michael Schware          | X          |            |

ATTEST: Deid Bourke  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

APPROVED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2012.

Donald T. Cunningham, Jr.  
Donald T. Cunningham, Jr.  
Lehigh County Executive

ENACTED this 20th day of June, 2012.

COUNTY OF LEHIGH ORDINANCE 2012 – NO. 116

**CERTIFICATION**

I, DAVID BARILLA, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Lehigh County, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Commissioners of Lehigh County held on the 13th day of June, 2012, and approved on the 20th day of June, 2012 by the Lehigh County Executive, and effective on the 30th day of June, 2012.



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DAVID BARILLA, Clerk  
Board of Commissioners