

Trail board gets new president



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BY ROBERT L. BAKER Wyoming County Press Examiner

The Lackawanna Trail School Board voted a change in leadership last Monday (Dec. 3) at its annual reorganization meeting.

Mark Lombardi who had been vice president, was the lone candidate nominated for president, and won by a 7-1 vote with Lombardi abstaining and Joe Strauch voting against the election.

Ned Clarke, who had been president, was the lone candidate for vice president and won unanimously except for himself abstaining from the vote.

Clark thanked the board for the opportunity to lead over the past year and a half, and said he was happy to remain a part.

His colleagues also moved that he be the school board's representative to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

During the reorganization part of the meeting, the board approved a monthly meeting schedule for 2013 with work sessions typically the first Monday of the month and public voting meetings the second Monday.

The work sessions in 2013 will be Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 4, April 2 (Tues.), May 6, June 3 (with an alternate June 10 date), Aug. 5, Sept. 3, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2 (reorganization).

Public work meetings are set for Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 24, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 15 (Tues.) and Nov. 11.

All meetings are to start at 7:30 p.m.

After going into an executive session for about 15 minutes, the board then held a special meeting.

First up on the agenda was the appointment of a person to fill a pending vacancy created following Frank Tylutki's announcement in November that he would be stepping down.

The position is for a person from Region #1 (Clinton and Nicholson Townships and Nicholson Borough).

David Thorne placed into nomination the name of Kevin Mulhern which was approved 8-1 by the board, with Strauch voting 'no' and saying not because he did not like Mulhern, but because there was another candidate for whom Strauch felt the board ought to give due consideration.

Parent Tracy Wescott said she also was aware that two persons had applied for the position and in the name of openness, she had hoped that each candidate would have been allowed an opportunity to make a presentation before the public, before the board actually voted.

Lombardi said the board was following accepted practice, and the public would have an opportunity to vote on the position in the spring.

Magisterial District Judge David Plummer was present at the meeting and was expected to swear in Mulhern, but there was an expressed concern that because Tylutki's resignation wouldn't take effect until Jan. 1, the board did not want to have one too many board members.

When asked if the public would be given proper notice as to when the nominee would be sworn in, Lombardi said it would be posted on the district's website.