

# Montgomery County Board

## Re-Organization Meeting Minutes

**Date: Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Time: 5:30 PM – County Board Room**

County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Judge Jim Roberts.

**Roll call was taken. 14 members were present, 0 were absent.**

**Board members present:** Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young.

Leitheiser asked for a nomination of a Temporary Chairman of the County Board. **Motion by Young and second by Miles that Bob Sneed be nominated as Temporary County Board Chairman.** Leitheiser asked if there were any other nominations. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Hughes that Andy Ritchie be nominated as Temporary County Board Chairman.** Leitheiser asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to close the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to close the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman. All in favor, motion carried. Roll call vote was taken on the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman, with members stating the last name of the Temporary Chairman candidate to vote. Members voting for SNEED: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Members voting for RITCHIE: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Roll call vote resulted in a 7-7 tie.** Sheriff Rick Robbins came forward to facilitate a coin toss. Because candidate Sneed was the top vote-getter between the two candidates during the November 8, 2022 General Election, he called the toss. **Sneed called tails and the coin toss was tails, therefore Sneed won the toss and was elected Temporary County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed came up to the bench to conduct the election for County Board Chairman.

Temporary Chairman Sneed asked for nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Murzynski and second Hughes that Doug Donaldson be nominated as County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed asked if there were any other nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beason and second by Miles that Evan Young be nominated as County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed asked three more times if there were any nominations for County Board Chairman. Hearing none, Sneed asked for a motion to close nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beck and second by Ritchie to close the nominations for County Board Chairman. All in favor, motion carried.**

Temporary Chairman Sneed allowed both candidates for County Board Chairman to speak before a vote was taken, starting with Donaldson. Donaldson said the board is clearly divided, and if he is elected, he will make a commitment to work to unify the board. He also stated he will not hold any meetings without the other board members' knowledge and will let the committees run their respective meetings instead of trying to attend every committee meeting and run it himself. Young said he also knows there's division among the board. He said a lot of time is needed to fulfill the job of County Board Chairman and he has always been flexible with his time to fulfill it. He also said there will be a \$2 million deficit in the upcoming year and they will have to work hard to balance it. Following the conclusion of the speeches, Temporary Chairman Sneed requested a roll call vote be taken with board members stating the last name of their desired candidate for chairman. **Roll Call Vote, Voting for DONALDSON: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Voting for YOUNG: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts,**

**Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Roll Call Vote results in a 7-7 tie.** Sheriff Robbins came forward again to facilitate a coin toss. Because candidate Young was the top vote-getter between the two candidates during the November 8, 2022 General Election, he called the toss. **Young called heads and it was tails, therefore Donaldson won the toss and was elected County Board Chairman.** Donaldson came forward to assume his seat as County Board Chairman.

Newly-elected Board Chairman Doug Donaldson called for nominations for County Board Vice-Chairman. **Motion by Jones and second by Hughes that Andy Ritchie be nominated as County Board Vice Chairman.** Newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson asked if there were any other nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. **Motion by Miles and Second by Folkerts that Evan Young be nominated as County Board Vice Chairman.** Donaldson asked three more times if there were any other nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. Hearing none, Donaldson asked for a motion to close the nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. **Motion by Beck and second by Sneed to close the nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. All in favor, motion carried.**

Newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson allowed both Vice Chairman candidates to speak prior to the vote. Ritchie said he was honored to be nominated as Vice Chairman and he has great confidence the board will pull themselves together. Young said if elected, he pledges to help Chairman Donaldson in whatever way he needs it. Following the conclusion of the remarks, newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson requested a roll call vote be taken with board members stating the last name of their desired candidate for Vice Chairman. **Roll Call Vote was held, with the following members voting for RITCHIE: Beck, Donaldson, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. The following members voted for YOUNG: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Hughes, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Roll Call Vote resulted in Young being elected County Board Vice Chairman by a vote of 8-6.**

State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti addressed the County Board regarding the Resolution 2022-39 set for approval. Affrunti said State Statute dictates every 10 years, the board must determine their term lengths by virtue of a lottery. **Motion by Young and second by Murzynski to approve Resolution 2022-39, the Montgomery County Board District Lottery Resolution. All in favor, motion carried.** (For copy of Resolution, see Resolution Book 19, page 240).

After the Resolution was passed, the lottery was conducted. **Drawing terms of 2 years, 4 years and 4 years were: District 1 – Connie Beck; District 2 – Ken Folkerts; District 3 – Evan Young; District 4 – David Loucks; District 5 – Russell Beason; District 6 – Ethan Murzynski; and District 7 – Bob Sneed. Drawing terms of 4 years, 4 years and 2 years were: District 1 – Jeremy Jones; District 2 – Gene Miles; District 3 – Doug Donaldson; District 4 – Patty Whitworth; District 5 – Bill Bergen; District 6 – Mark Hughes; and District 7 – Andy Ritchie.**

No committee assignments were announced and newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson said all committee meetings scheduled for this week have been cancelled. Donaldson announced the next Full Board meeting will be held on December 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.

**Public Comment:** Citizen Bill Schroeder stated he previously requested a group named Echo Justice be included on the December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Full Board agenda to speak about carbon sequestration in the County. He asked if they will still be allowed to come and speak to the board now that there is a new County Board Chairman. Donaldson said he does not have a problem with them coming to speak at the next County Board meeting.

Hearing no other public comment, Donaldson requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to adjourn the County Board Re-organization meeting. All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.