

**MINUTES OF THE KENT COUNTY LEVY COURT
SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING
KENT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX
555 BAY ROAD, DOVER, DE
LEVY COURT CHAMBER, ROOM 203
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025**

Call to Order

The Special Business meeting of the Kent County Levy Court was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Clerk of the Peace Brenda Wootten.

Invocation

The Invocation was led by Commissioner Masten.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led Commissioner Angel.

Moment of Silence for our Troops

A moment of silence was observed for our Troops and led by Commissioner Sweeney.

Roll Call

Allan F. Angel	Commissioner
Jeffrey W. Hall	Commissioner
Paul Hertz	Commissioner
Joanne Masten	Commissioner
Terry L. Pepper	Commissioner
Robert Scott	Commissioner
George W. Sweeney, Sr.	Commissioner

There are seven (7) Commissioners present at Roll Call.

Clerk of the Peace Presiding

Now is the time for the election of officers for the next two (2) years. In a moment the floor will be opened for nominations for the offices of President and Vice President. Pursuant to Mason's rules, nominations need not be seconded. If more than one person is nominated for an office, voting will be by Roll Call until one nominee obtains four votes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President

M-25-001 Commissioner Pepper **Moved** to open the floor for nominations for the Office of President; seconded by Commissioner Angel.

Floor was opened for nominations for the office of President.

M-25-002 Commissioner Pepper: Madam Clerk, as prior president of Levy Court if I may have the floor for just a couple of minutes. I've been on Levy Court for 18 years. During that 18-year period of time, twelve of those years have been in leadership, eight as president. During that time, we've done a lot of things and accomplished a lot of things. We built the 911 center. We expanded paramedics throughout Kent County. We completed the West Dover Paramedic Station and built the Kent Recreation Center, which is shared with the Boys and Girls Club. The only time that has ever been done, as far as we know in the country. And now we're currently in the process of building two new paramedic stations and possibly a third this coming year. With that being said, with that time in leadership and I've recently...have additional family responsibilities that weren't expected, I will not be seeking the Office of President and I'd like to make a **Motion** to make Commissioner Joanne Masten from the 1st district President of Kent County Levy Court; seconded by Commissioner Hertz.

With no other nominations, Ms. Wootten asked for a motion to close the nominations.

M-25-003 Commissioner Angel **Moved** to close the nominations for President; seconded by Commissioner Scott; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas in favor of closing the nominations.

M-25-004 Roll Call vote electing Commissioner Masten as President reveals six (6) yeas; one (1) (Sweeney) nay.

Vice President

M-25-005 Commissioner Angel **Moved** to open the floor for nomination of the Office of Vice President; seconded by Commissioner Pepper.

Commissioner Angel: Madam Clerk, I'd like to at this time also say a few things. Having been...now going into my 21st year here, I've been vice president for many years on and off and all while seeing what's good for the county and our community I would like at this time to place a nomination for Robert Scott as Vice President; seconded by Commissioner Masten.

M-25-006 **Motion** made by Commissioner Hertz to close the floor for nominations to the Office of the Vice President; seconded by Commissioner Angel; Roll Call vote reveals seven (7) yeas.

M-25-007 Commissioner Hertz **Moved** to elect Commissioner Scott as Vice President; seconded by Mr. Hall; carried by Roll Call vote six (6); one (1) (Sweeney) nay.

Meeting was turned over to President Masten.

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of Standing Committees

M-5-008 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Commissioner Angel; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas Adopting the Rules of Standing Committees.

Adoption of Rules of Procedure of the Levy Court

Adoption of Rules of Procedure of Standing Committees

Commissioner Masten: Based on my conversations with our County Attorney yesterday those current rules will remain in place until they are reviewed and revised. I believe the first opportunity to revise the rules will be next Tuesday, January 14th, correct County Administrator Sipple?

Mr. Sipple: Correct.

Additions to the Agenda – None

Adoption of Agenda

M-25-009 **Motion** was made by Commissioner *Inaudible; seconded by *Inaudible; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas Adopting the Agenda.

- **Appointment Levy Court Attorney** – Craig T. Eliassen

M-25-010 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Sweeney to appoint Craig T. Eliassen; seconded by Commissioner Pepper; carried by Roll Call vote of seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointment of Regional Planning Commissioner Attorney** – Erica Sefton

M-25-011 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Angel; seconded by Commissioner Scott; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointment of Row Office Attorney – Erica Sefton**

M-25-012 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Angel; seconded by Commissioner Scott; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointment of Monitions Attorney – Barrett Edwards**

M-25-013 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Angel to appoint Barrett Edwards; seconded by Commissioner Sweeney; carried by Roll Call vote of seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointment of Board of Assessment Review Attorney - Craig T. Eliassen**

M-25-014 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Sweeney; seconded by Commissioner Angel; carried by Roll Call vote of seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointment of Board of Adjustment Attorney Frederick A. Townsend III**

M-25-015 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Angel; seconded by Commissioner Pepper; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointments to Boards and Committees**

M-25-016 **Motion** to approve made by Commissioner Angel; seconded by Commission Hall; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

Commissioner Masten noted that Harold K. Brode does wish to remain Liaison with Kent County Volunteer Firefighters Association

M-25-017 **Motion** was made by Commissioner Scott; seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

- **Appointments to Standing Levy Court Committees**
 - **Community Services Committee – George “Jody” Sweeney, Chair Topics: Park Plans & Operations Recreational Programs Library Facilities & Services Aging Program Referral Services Special Programs (i.e. DASEF) State Legislature**
 - **Planning Services Committee – Jeff W. Hall, Chair Topics: Comprehensive Land Use Plans Mapping Services Inspections & Enforcement Community Development & Housing Drainage & Flood Control Historic Preservation Information Technology Farmland and Forestland Preservation**

- **Public Safety Committee – Robert “Bob” Scott, Chair Topics:** Emergency Medical Services HAZMAT Response Emergency Communications
Fire/Ambulance Services Emergency Management Meets 3rd Tuesday
- **Administration Committee – Allan F. Angel, Chair Topics:** Litigation
Personnel & Pension Insurance Coverage Employee & Retiree Benefits Economic Development/ Investments Business Continuity Facilities Management
- **Finance Committee – Terry L. Pepper, Chair Topics:** Budgets Property
Assessment Taxes & Fees Capital Bonding Audit
- **Public Works Committee – Paul Hertz, Chair Topics:** Wastewater Services
Sewer Districts & Contract Users Street Lighting Districts Industrial Pretreatment Program Trash Collection District Presidential Appointments to External Committees and Boards
- **Presidential Appointments to External Committees and Boards**
 - **Commissioner Allan F. Angel:** City of Dover Liaison, NACo Board of Directors
 - **Commissioner Jeffrey W. Hall:** Delaware League of Local Governments
Executive Committee, Educational System Liaison, Delaware Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation Board
 - **Commissioner Paul Hertz:** Dover AFB Liaison, City of Harrington Liaison
 - **Commissioner Joanne Masten:** Delaware Assn. of Counties Executive
Committee, Kent County Tourism Corporation Board Member, Town of Smyrna Liaison
 - **Commissioner Terry L. Pepper:** Kent Economic Partnership Board Member
(President’s Designee), Kent County Conservation District Board of Supervisors,
City of Dover Liaison
 - **Commissioner Robert “Bob” Scott:** Delaware Assn. of Counties Executive
Committee, City of Milford Liaison
 - **Commissioner George “Jody” Sweeney:** Delaware League of Local
Governments, Row Offices Liaison, Towns of Camden and Wyoming Liaison,
Dover AFB Liaison, Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
Honorary Member, Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization
(MPO) Council
 - **Former Levy Court Commissioner Harold K. Brode:** Liaison with Kent
County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association

Other Business - None

Public Comments – None

Commissioner Comments

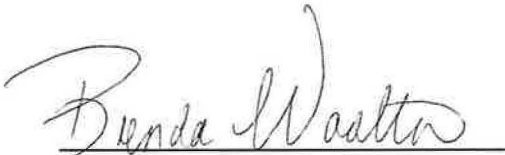
Commissioner Scott wished to thank Commissioners Pepper and Angel for their leadership and support. He stated they did a first-class job in all they've done for the county, and he hopes this will continue.

Commissioner Masten seconded that thought and stated, "You all have been terrific to work with and I look forward to working with you at least two more years."

Commissioner Pepper: Thank you. I appreciate that a lot.

Commissioner Angel: Thank you. Also, we just got this tonight, about our SAB tomorrow here instead of Mission BBQ. Seems they don't have any heat. Go think, you have a BBQ grill there should be heat. Anyway, what a way to start off the New Year. In case we do get heat we'll be back there or are we still having it here? We'll still be here. Okay, I just wanted to be sure. Thank you.

M-25-018 **Motion** to adjourn made by Commissioner Angel; seconded by Commissioner Pepper; carried by seven (7) ayes.
7:22 p.m.


Brenda Wootten
Kent County Clerk of the Peace