



DATE: November 16, 2004
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Broward County Commission Selects New Mayor, Vice-Mayor

Broward County commissioners selected a new mayor and vice-mayor at their annual reorganization meeting November 16. One new and several incumbent commissioners were also sworn in during the meeting.

Broward County Commissioner Kristin Jacobs, who represents district 2 and served as vice-mayor during the last year, will serve as 2004-05 mayor. Broward County Commissioner Ben Graber, who represents district 3, will serve as vice-mayor.

The position of mayor and vice-mayor were created through an amendment to the Broward County Charter, approved by voters in 2002. The amendment replaced the former positions of chair and vice chair and granted the mayor the authority to declare a state of emergency and oversee the agenda. Each year, commissioners select two Board members among themselves to serve as mayor and vice-mayor.

"I am honored to be chosen by my colleagues to serve as mayor during the upcoming year," Mayor Jacobs said. "I am confident that we can look forward to another prosperous year for Broward County."

The meeting also included a swearing-in ceremony for the Board's newest member, Commissioner Lois Wexler of Plantation. Wexler, whose previous experience includes serving as an at-large member on the Broward County School Board, was elected November 2 by voters in west Broward to represent district 5. District 5 includes all or parts of Cooper City, Davie, Hollywood, Pembroke Pines, Plantation, Southwest Ranches, Sunrise and Weston.

Also sworn in were commissioners who were up for re-election this year, which are commissioners representing odd-numbered districts. Incumbent commissioners sworn in were Ilene Lieberman, district 1; Ben Graber, district 3; John Rodstrom, district 7; and Josephus Eggelton, district 9.

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