NEWS

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Supervisors elect Ovitt to serve as Board Chairman

Gonzales selected to serve as Board of Supervisors Vice Chair

The Board of Supervisors today voted unanimously to appoint Fourth District Supervisor Gary Ovitt as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the next two years, and Ffth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales as Vice Chair.

Chairman Ovitt, who has served as vice chairman for the past two years, succeeds Second District Supervisor Paul Biane, who had led the Board of Supervisors since January 2007.

The County Charter requires the Board to appoint one of its members as chair for two years during the first meeting in January following a regular Board of Supervisors election. The Charter also states the Chairman serves as the general executive agent of the Board of Supervisors and exercises general supervision over the official conduct of all County officers. The Chairman presides over meetings of the Board.

"I am very privileged and pleased to be seated in this position," Chairman Ovitt said after his selection. "We are a team, and I look forward to serving this team – Team San Bernardino County."

Chairman Ovitt also praised Supervisor Biane for his tenure as chairman: "Supervisor Biane represented this county very well as our leader, bringing leadership and stability to this county – two years of hard work making this a better county."

Supervisor Biane, addressing county employees as the "18,000 members of the county family," said, "The Board sets policy, but without each of you working hard we couldn't accomplish our mission."

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