



## THE EXPRESS-TIMES

### **Forks supervisors' chairman loses his seat**

**Hoff to replace Ackerman. Previous reluctance on Hoff's part overcome by place on new committee.**

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The Express -Times

FORKS TWP. | Three months after supervisors failed to reach a majority on a new chairman, they ousted John Ackerman from the post.

Supervisor David Hoff won the seat in a 3-2 vote. Hoff, C. David Howell and Donald Miller voted in favor of the move. Ackerman and Bonnie Nicholas cast the "no" votes.

Howell, who nominated Hoff, said the move was not a personal affront to Ackerman.

"Mr. Ackerman has served with distinction, but I feel, as with all other committees in the township, we should rotate those responsibilities," he said.

During the previous go-round, Hoff abstained to avoid voting for himself. Previously, Hoff was reluctant to surrender his secretary-treasurer position, a requirement if he won the chairman position, but he has since joined a newly created Finance and Administration Committee that will allow him to continue to work in a similar capacity, he said.

Miller said there was "no particular reason" for his vote but said he wanted to give Hoff another chance at being chairman. Hoff previously served as chairman from mid-1998 to 2002.

Ackerman said it's "too early to say" how he reacts to surrendering the position.

During a January reorganization meeting, supervisors nominated four different candidates for the position, but all of them failed to win a majority.

The post reverted to Ackerman, who served as chairman for the past four years.

At the time, Ackerman said other supervisors told him his loyalty to Leon Fisher, the political opponent to now-supervisor C. David Howell, cost him the chairman's seat.

Back then, Howell and Hoff denied that politics were a factor.

Ackerman declined to get specific about his theories on why he failed to win the position this time, saying the best thing to do is ask his colleagues.

"In the beginning of the year, when reorganization was, they told me why and when I told the press why they turned around and lied about it," he said.

Howell said politics did not play a role in his vote either time.

Supervisor Bonnie Nicholas nominated Ackerman for the post on Thursday, but he failed to win a majority.

"That's the way I voted last time. I vote how I feel," she said. "Personal reasons, I guess."

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