

Lake-Lehman

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process." Mahon felt revenues have been underestimated. "I still say we are about \$880,000 short," he said.

Williams said there were considerable decreases in revenues such as interest earned last year and expenditures were budgeted quite conservatively. She added she "tried to get a comfort level with expenditures," as the numbers change constantly and there were still several unknowns, such as the settlement of the teachers' contract.

Williams said she was given health care premium numbers the Friday before the meeting and health care costs rose only 26 percent, a significantly

smaller amount than was expected. Percentages of 30 and even 45 percent were being tossed about a few weeks ago. Williams said she does not expect the numbers to change. "I think these are good numbers."

Joseph Kapitula spoke out concerning the 10 percent penalty on delinquent taxes, saying it hurt those who could least afford to pay. He was the lone dissenting vote on the issue.

In the other major action taken last week, Michael A. Gokay of Bernville, PA, was hired as the new high school principal, effective July 1, at a salary of \$76,000.

"I got the impression that he really had a good feel for the

students," said board member Sheila Gionfriddo, who was present at the interviews. She said she felt Gokay, who has a varied background, could relate well to students, teachers, parents and administration. "I just felt that here was somebody who had been there, done that and could share that. That really impressed me. Of course, our other concern is we have the building project going on and we wanted somebody who can help us through that transition."

In other business:

• The board accepted the resignation of music teacher Edward Richards effective August 1, 2002. Interviews have been in progress for the hiring of an additional music teacher for the

district as decided by the board last spring. Gionfriddo said the vacancy left by Richards would be filled in addition to that of the new music teacher.

• The board appointed several new teachers including:

Michael Albee of Harveys Lake, as a secondary Social Studies teacher at a salary of \$29,853; Susan Payne of Shawanese, secondary Social Studies teacher, \$32,420;

LeeAnn Bauer of Ashley, elementary teacher, \$30,760; Kelly Ann Cave of Harveys Lake, secondary language arts teacher, \$29,853; Tara Palmentere of Bennington, VT, secondary guidance counselor for the Middle Level Education Building, \$32,420; and Robin Rodgers of

Dallas, Family and Consumer Science teacher, \$35,497.

All salaries will be adjusted to the new collective bargaining agreement when the teachers' contract is settled.

• Board president Charles Boytin said there have been no further negotiation meetings between the teacher's union and the school district.

The next regular committee-of-the-whole meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9 at 7 p.m. in the music room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

The next regular meeting for general purposes will be held on Tuesday, July 16 at 7 p.m. in the music room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

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