

Most commissioners attend

When it comes to attending meetings, freshman commissioners in The Eccentric Newspapers' circulation area set the pace for the Oakland County Board of Commissioners in 1993.

Three first-year commissioners Sue Ann Douglas, R-Rochester, John P, Garfield, R-Rochester Hills; and Kevin A. Miltner, R-Waterford and West Bloomfield—had perfect attendence, according to county records through Dec. 9.

Another freshman — Nancy

Another freshman — Nancy Dingeldey, R-Wixom and West Bloomfield — missed one meet-

ing.
Two veteran commissioners —
Lawrence R. Pernick, D-Southfield, and Donald W. Jensen, RBirmingham — also attended

every meeting of the county board as well as of the committees to which they are assigned. Commissioner Lillian Jaffe Oaks, D-Southfield, missed the most meetings in 1993. She missed three board meetings and 11 committee meetings, mainly because of illness. She was hospi-talized for two weeks in the sum-mer.

talized for two weeks in the summer.

"I realize attendance is important," Oaks said Thursday, "And in the past, my attendance was always in the high 90s (percent). But this year I was sick." Although she was out of commission, Oaks said she was never fully out of torch. "Larry Pernick and Dennis Aaron (D-Oak Park) kept me informed," she said.
In some years, attendance is a touchy subject with some commissioners, especially those who

found out absence doesn't always make the heart grow fonder.

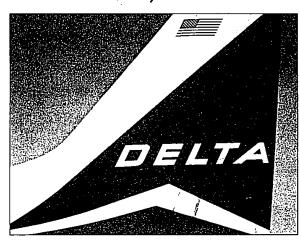
Many commissioners, including David L. Mofflitt, R-Farmington Hills, insist other factors are also important. "Knowledge of the issues, preparation and a willingness to express concerns" are also important, he said.

"But you can't represent your constituents if you're not there," said Mofflit, who attended 73 of 77 possible meetings.

Commissioners are paid \$22,565 annually for what is considered a part-time job, Attendance is expected at board meetings as well as at committee essions, but perfect attendance is not mandatory. Most commissioners miss occasionally because of work conflict or vacations. But excessive absences are noticeable, especially by voters.



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