

## Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

Cari Gerchick:602-790-8621

Richard de Uriarte: 602-506-7232;602-578-9700 (cell)

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West Valley businessman Clint L. Hickman is the newest Maricopa County supervisor, unanimously selected today by the other supervisors.

Hickman, vice president of sales and marketing at Hickman's Family Farms, the largest egg producer in Arizona and one of the top 20 in the nation, brings a third new face with a solid business background to the board since January.

Hickman replaces Supervisor Max W. Wilson, who retired from the board March 11 on the advice of his family and physician. Hickman will serve until the next general election in November 2014, when he will face election to serve the remaining two years of Wilson's four-year term.

Hickman pledged to follow the example of Wilson and, "serve with integrity, fairness and to treat all citizens with dignity."

"I come from a great family, a great business and a great industry," he said. "I want the citizens to know they have a real taxpayers' friend, and I'm so proud to accept the appointment." In his application, Hickman said if appointed, he would "rigorously defend the seat" in an upcoming election.

Board Chairman Andy Kunasek stated that, "I have a great friend and mentor in Max Wilson and the county lost a true public servant. The appointment process identified many outstanding candidates. I look forward to serving with Clint Hickman, who will be an outstanding member."

The newest supervisor was selected from a field that once counted 18 candidates and included several former and current city and state officials. Board members said they had a difficult time in choosing from so many qualified people. "I talked with every candidate. There are a lot of very capable people in the West Valley and I would hope that we can continue to build bridges with these individuals in the future." commented Supervisor Denny Barney.

Supervisor Chucri also said that while he was disappointed not to be able to serve with Mr. Wilson, he is, "confident that Sup. Hickman will continue Max's legacy by representing the West Valley with an ear to the needs of his constituents and the county."

"I've know Clint and his family for many years. He is a true Westsider," quipped Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox. She added that she and Supervisor Hickman will work together to represent the interests of the West Valley.

Although Hickman has not held elective office, he and his family members are well known in the West Valley business, philanthropic, and political community. The Hickman family first started their egg business when their grandmother Nell started selling eggs to a store in Glendale in 1944. The Hickman Family Farm has grown to include large, modern operations in Grand Junction, CO., Buckeye, Maricopa and a cage free farm in Valley Center, California. The firm prides itself on its transparency, regularly appearing at community events and even doing a stint on the TV series, "Dirty Jobs."

A fourth-generation Arizonan, Hickman holds a marketing degree from the University of Arizona. He is past- president of the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association and past-chairman of the Consumer Marketing Committee of the American Egg Board. He and his wife Jennifer have two sons and a daughter.

Jeannette Fish, executive director of the Maricopa County Farm Bureau, said of the appointment: "We've known this family for many years. They are the hardest working people I know. I am confident he will work just as hard for Maricopa County."

## <u>Please see attached photo of Clint and Jennifer Hickman at today's Board meeting.</u>

Cari Gerchick Communications Director Maricopa County gerchickc@mail.maricopa.gov

Cell: 602-790-8621

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