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Charlie Walton resumes politician role

BY MARK HANSEL • MHANSEL@NKY.COM • JANUARY 3, 2011

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BOONE COUNTY - Charlie Walton will attend his first meeting as a Boone County District 3 Commissioner tonight, but he is hardly a political novice.

Walton, a Republican, spent 12 years as a state representative and was narrowly defeated in a Republican state senate primary in 2008.

He defeated incumbent Terri Moore in the Republican County Commission primary in May and bested Democrat David Welte in the November general election.


"I think (Moore) did a pretty good job and I didn't run against her as much as I ran for the seat," Walton said. "I think my experience will be a big asset."

Walton, the principal at Florence Elementary School, has been an educator for 39 years.


"Being an educator, I've worked with a number of community groups and church groups here in the area and I see an increase in the number of people that are truly in need," Walton said. "I think it's really important that we identify and support services for the people at the greatest need and risk."

Walton believes the county can provide those services with existing revenues if they are managed properly.


"I think we need to be very focused on maximizing the dollars that we have," Walton said. "There are a number of things happening statewide and nationally that are very exciting.




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There are some government collaborative programs that really work."

Walton said his experience in state government will be an asset in his new position.

"My background in state government will be very helpful," Walton said. "People throughout the state know me and I know them. A lot of people want to do things; they just don't know what doors to knock on. I know what doors to knock on."

Walton said the Fiscal Court should focus on economic development to create more jobs and

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encourage increased involvement from the citizens of Boone County.

"We need input from the people in the community," Walton said.

Walton said he is looking forward to working with the other members of the Fiscal Court.

"I think we will work well together," Walton said. "I have already talked with (District 2 Commissioner) Charlie Kenner about some economic incentives to bring businesses to Boone County."

While all of the Fiscal Court members are Republicans, Walton admits there are probably some philosophical differences among them.

"I don't think we are looking at a situation where people are at two extremes," Walton said. "I may be a bit more conservative than some others, but I don't think we are that far apart."

Walton and Matt Dedden, the other newly elected county commissioner, join Kenner and Judge-executive Gary Moore on the fiscal court.

Dedden fills the District 1 County Commission seat previously occupied by Cathy Flaig. Flaig gave up the seat to run for Boone County Judge-executive, but was defeated by Gary Moore in the primary.

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