

Naylor, Reese drop election campaigns

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Longtime Lackawanna Trail school Director Dan Naylor and Dunmore Police Chief Patrick Reese were the highest-profile names to drop their bids for election as the deadline for withdrawing passed Wednesday.

Mr. Naylor was a surprise. In his 18th year as a director, he rarely had election opposition. This time, he and two other candidates filed for two Region 2 school director seats. Region 2 encompasses Benton Twp. in Lackawanna County and Factoryville in Wyoming County.

Mr. Naylor said he only ran four years ago because no one else did. When two candidates he likes - Michael Mould and Carol Vail Selwood - entered the race,

Mr. Naylor, as someone who favors term limits anyway, decided it was time to leave the board.

"I've really enjoyed serving," Mr. Naylor said.

Chief Reese filed petitions for the Democratic nomination for the magisterial district judge seat covering the Green Ridge section, North Scranton and Dunmore.

He withdrew because he would have been in violation of the federal Hatch Act, which prohibits most political activity by federal employees and also often applies to people who work for agencies that receive federal funding.

As the head of the police department, federal officials told him he was in charge of \$2,200 in federal grant money that came through the state last year for seat-belt safety enforcement. Because of that, he would violate the Hatch Act if he ran. He could not afford to resign as chief, he said.

"At the end of the day, it was an easy decision," he said.

The chief's withdrawal leaves five candidates in the Democratic race for the seat and four in the Republican.

Others who withdrew are:

- Tom McCafferty from the Scranton school board race for four-year and two-year unexpired term seats.
- Democrat Joseph A. Matyjevich from the Scranton City Council race.
- Republican Kenneth Genovese from the race for two six-year supervisor seats in Spring Brook Twp.
- Mark DeLeo from the Democratic and Republican races for two Region 2 seats in the Valley View School District. Region 2 is Blakely.
- Jason M. Dietz from the Democratic contest for one of two Region 2 seats in the North Pocono School District. Region 2 encompasses Moscow and Spring Brook and Thornhurst townships. Mr. Dietz remains on the Republican ballot.
- Michael Hayes from the Democratic contest for the four-year seat on Dunmore Borough Council.

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