



New Jersey Pinelands Commission **PRESS RELEASE**

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Hagaman Joins Pinelands Commission

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ - Mullica Township Mayor Robert Hagaman today began serving as a member of the Pinelands Commission at a special meeting of the Commission held at the Eagleton Institute of Politics in New Brunswick.

Mayor Hagaman, a life-long resident of Mullica Township in Atlantic County, has served on the Mullica Township Committee since 1996, including four years as mayor and two years as deputy mayor. He also serves on the Mullica Township Planning Board. Mr. Hagaman serves as pastor of the Jenkins Chapel in Washington Township, Burlington County. He also served for 13 years on the Mullica Township Board of Education, and six years as a member of the Weekstown Volunteer Fire Company. A Korean War veteran, Mayor Hagaman served in the US Army from 1951 to 1955. Retired from a career in construction, Mayor Hagaman has farmed for most of his life and operates a 60 acre hay farm.

“On behalf of the entire Pinelands Commission, we welcome Mayor Hagaman on board and look forward to working with him as we forge ahead with efforts to enhance and protect the Pinelands,” said Governor James Florio, Chairman of the Commission. “Bob brings a common-sense approach to the table, as well as in-depth, first-hand knowledge of Pinelands issues.”

Mayor Hagaman has served for three years on the Executive Committee of the Pinelands Municipal Council, an organization comprised of Mayors of the 53 Pinelands Area municipalities. Established under the Pinelands Protection Act of 1979, the Council is empowered to review any changes to the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, and advises the Pinelands Commission on all matters of interest to local government.

“As a member and officer of the Pinelands Municipal Council, Mayor Hagaman has worked closely with the Commission on a wide range of Pinelands issues,” said Pinelands Commission Executive Director Annette M. Barbaccia. “His understanding of Pinelands issues from a local government perspective will prove an asset to the Commission.”

Mayor Hagaman was nominated by Governor James McGreevey in September and was confirmed by the full Senate on December 16 following approval by the Senate Judiciary Committee on November 25. Mayor Hagaman replaces Jay Edward Mounier of Franklinville, who served on the Commission since 1995.

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