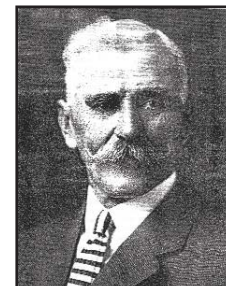




## County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors



### SUPERVISOR WILLIAM E. HINSHAW

Term: 1913 - 1917  
District: Fourth  
Date of Birth: Sept. 22, 1868  
Death: March 8, 1947

William E. Hinshaw served as county supervisor for one term. He was elected in November 1912 and assumed office on Jan. 3, 1913.

Hinshaw was born in Indiana on Sept. 22, 1868. He attended public schools in his hometown. Hinshaw experienced tragedy at the early age of 8 when his father died. He remained and worked on the family farm until he was 23.

In 1891 he married and started his own farm. Two years later he opened a general store at Lynn, Ind. After conducting this business for eight years, he sold out and came to Southern California for an extended vacation. During his stay he spent three months in Long Beach.

In 1902 he returned home and helped to organize the Independent Telephone Company, becoming secretary and manager. Two years later, Hinshaw became tired of the cold weather and decided it was time to move West. He sold all his interests in Indiana and moved to Long Beach.

In 1904 Hinshaw started a real estate business under the firm name Wilmington Realty Company, and for a number of years he dealt extensively in real estate. Considered one of the pioneers of Long Beach, he was one of the organizers of the Wilmington Dock Company, whose purpose was the development of the Long Beach harbor. To this end, he lobbied in Washington, D.C. for federal support as a representative of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce. Under the new city charter, he was appointed a member of the Board of Police Commissioners of Long Beach, and later was appointed a member of the Board of Public Works.

In 1910 he was elected a member of the State Legislature, and in 1912 was elected to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. During his four-year term he is credited with helping form the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

In 1916 Hinshaw moved to Signal Hill and built a home on his five-acre piece of property, located on the northeast corner of Cherry Avenue and Hill Street. He became involved in the oil business, and had 16 wells pumping on his home property alone.

In September 1925, after Signal Hill became a city, he was elected its second mayor. He served consecutively until 1940.

Hinshaw died March 8, 1947, after a long illness. He was 78, and was survived by his wife, Dottie.