

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION

June 8, 2010

35 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
240-313-2050

Present:

Board

Eileen Wiggins, President
John Benchoff, Democratic Member
Clyde Tate, Republican Member
Sharon Washington, Democratic Alternate
Carroll Earp, Republican Alternate
Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney

Visitor

Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Past Director, I

Staff

Kaye Robucci, Acting Director, I
Sharon Mackereth, Election Supervisor, II

Eileen Wiggins called for the Mother of the Trainer, who trained the horse that won the Belmont to come forward. Kaye Robucci presented to Dorothy Kaetzel her retirement gift from the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO). Ms. Kaetzel retired on April 30, 2010 after 30 years of State service.

Eileen Wiggins called the meeting to order at **2:10 PM**. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2010:

Eileen Wiggins asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the May 11, 2010 Board Meeting. Approved as submitted.

Addition/Changes to the Agenda:

Kaye Robucci requested the following to be added under Correspondence –
Registered voters - registered at a commercial address and not a residential address.
E-mail regarding the administrative closure of the Independent Party's campaign account.

Correspondence:

A. MAEO survey 2010 -

E-mailed to the Board.

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B. Job Posting – Election Director I –

E-mailed to the Board.

C. Election Systems and Software/Premier Election Solutions –

Anti-Trust lawsuit has been settled.

D. Voters registered using a commercial address –

This office received instructions from State Board of Elections on how to handle registered voters who registered using a commercial business address. Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, suggested turning this matter over to him and he will send them a letter to both addresses requesting a residential address.

E. Administrative closure of the Independent Party's campaign account –

At the June 3rd State Board meeting the Board approved the administrative closure of the Independent Party's campaign account. In doing so the Independent party will be removed from the VRA. Currently, all registered voters – registered as Independent (1,728) we would need to send a letter explaining this and requesting them to select another affiliation. If they do not respond after two weeks from the date of the letter, we are required to change their affiliation to "Unaffiliated".

Reports:

A. MAEO/ Biennial Meeting -

The Board discussed the MAEO/Biennial meeting and confirmed that all completed a survey and sent them to Shawn Larson at Harford County.

B. Demonstration at Star Community –

The three board members, John Benchoff, Clyde Tate and Carroll Earp, who did the demo, gave a presentation. The demo was very interesting, they learned a lot regarding issues the disabled have in voting. There were approximately 30 residents trying the touchscreen voting system.

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Old Business –

A. Early Voting agreement –

Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, reported. The State will not accept a complex agreement. Roger will contact Andrew Wilkinson, County Attorney, to review the agreement.

B. Posting of Campaign signs –

- “No Electioneering Zones and Private Property –

Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, reported. This issue is ongoing.

- Time frame for Posting Signs –

- Washington County eliminated its time reference on their sign regulations, just recently. Signs may be posted on private property at any time.
- The School Board has revised the time of day signs can be posted on school property, after 5:00 AM on election day and removed no later than 6:00 AM on the morning after election day.

C. Alternate Site for Early Voting –

Kaye Robucci reported that we still have not heard from the State.

D. Post election Maintenance –

The post election maintenance on all voting machines - is completed. Thank you, John Benchoff, Board Member, for your help and assistance.

E. Mock Election –

The Mock Election will be held June 17th through June 29th. It will be completed by the staff and will be reported to the Board at the next Board Meeting. The Board members will be willing to help if needed.

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New Business –

A. Voting demonstration for the ARC in July 2010 –

Kaye Robucci informed the Board that we received another request for a voting demonstration. The Association of Retarded Citizens (ARC) would like a voting demo for approximately 30 to 40 residents. Clyde Tate and Carroll Earp are interested in helping. Kaye will try and have it set up for July 9th or July 16th.

B. Election Workers' activities on Election Day –

During the Hagerstown City Election 2009 the Election Workers were told they could not do anything other than their duties as Election Workers. How strict are we on workers during Election Day? We have received reports of workers – reading, eating at check-in tables, and crocheting. There should be a separate room or designated spot away from check-in tables and the normal flow of voters. This area would be for workers to take breaks throughout the day. Clyde Tate made a motion that Election Workers need to use the break room for all non-election related activities. Carroll Earp seconded the motion and all were in favor.

C. Election Worker Appointments –

All Election Workers have been appointed for election day. Early Voting workers are being appointed now.

D. Election Worker Training Schedule –

Board members will be requested to help sign in Election Workers at the training. Alternate Board members may attend any of the classes. Cirdan is providing trainers. Training will be at the Washington County Vocational Technical High School. Election Worker's manual is being printed.

E. Early Voting –

Kaye Robucci informed the Board of details pertaining to Early Voting. There is ample funds budgeted for doing a mailing to voters about Early Voting, as part of Voter Outreach. But, there is no money for TV or newspaper advertizing. Kaye asked the Board if they would have any ideas on getting the message out to the voters. A suggestion was – a banner out front of this building or across the street in front of the University of Maryland Campus.

The State will provide us with a template for setting up a security plan for Early Voting. The plan is to be submitted to SBE for approval by July 13, 2010.

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Member Remarks:

None.

Adjournment:

The next Board Meeting will be on July 13, 2010 at 2:00 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, John Benchoff made a motion to adjourn at 3:45 PM; Clyde Tate seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Sharon C. Mackereth
Election Supervisor, II

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Wiggins
Eileen Wiggins, Board President

7/13/10
Date

Carroll Earp
Carroll Earp, Board Secretary

7/13/10
Date