

PROCEEDINGS

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
March 12, 2002**

Present: Marianne Schneider, Democratic Member
Charles Mobley, Jr. Republican Member
Eileen Wiggins, Democratic Alternate
Dorothy Waters, Republican Alternate
Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Election Director II
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director I

Marianne Schneider called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. Richard Coss, President, is on vacation and Marianne Schneider will assume the chair in his absence. Roger Schlossberg, Attorney, was absent.

MINUTES: Charles Mobley made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2002 Board Meeting; Eileen Wiggins seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Notice received from DSI Technology Escrow Service regarding Escrow Agreement Account #330. We are a beneficiary to the agreement with ES&S and DSI Technology regarding the holding of PowerProfile v5.0.173. DSI needs to be notified whenever we receive an update to PowerProfile.

The 2001 Board Meeting Minutes Tracking Chart was distributed.

The tentative agenda and reservation information for the upcoming MAEO was distributed. The conference is May 5 – 8, 2002 at the Clarion in Ocean City, MD.

Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meetings held January 16 and February 21, 2002 were distributed.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution and Bi-Laws of MAEO was distributed. The changes will be considered for adoption at the MAEO meeting May 5 –8, 2002.

Testimonies for HB 1046, HB 1201 and HB 1371 were discussed. House Bill 1371 requires that a polling place be located on the campus of each institution of higher education. Dorothy Kaetzel had to prepare a fiscal impact for his Bill. MAEO is opposed to HB 1371.

The State Ethic forms will be distributed to the Board and Dorothy Kaetzel at the April board meeting. They are due by April 30, 2002.

The Proposed Redistricting Plan JH3 was distributed.

Minutes of the State Board Meetings held December 3, 2001 and January 9, 2002 were distributed.

Opinion of the Attorney General regarding Article 27, 452. Article 27, 452 deals with the placing of political posters, etc. in certain counties prohibited. Kathryn M. Rowe, Assistant Attorney General, feels it is unconstitutional. Dorothy Kaetzel will contact SBE and ask what procedures we are to follow. Currently, Washington County does not allow the placement of political signs in certain areas and we provide information to each candidate regarding the current regulations. Until we hear otherwise, we will continue our current practice.

Letter from Linda Lamone to Honorable Robert Bell regarding the deadline as set by the March 1, 2002 Order of the Court of Appeals for Case No. 19. The court order changed the deadline for candidate filing from July 1 to July 8, 2002. This change creates a ripple effect throughout the election calendar. Linda Lamone is asking that the Court modify its order of March 1 and re-establish the deadline for filing as July 1, 2002. Dorothy Kaetzel will contact SBE and discuss the status of this Court Order.

OLD BUSINESS: Dorothy Kaetzel updated the Board on the Jeffrey Sheffler case. Dorothy Kaetzel was subpoenaed to appear in court on January 10, 2002. Jeffrey Sheffler was present and pleaded guilty. His sentence was suspended but he received 3 years probation, responsible for court costs and \$1,000.00 fine.

Communication problems on Election Day – Charles Mobley had nothing new to report.

The Board reviewed and discussed the confidentiality record. A certified letter was sent to the voter indicating that the Board would be making a decision at today's board meeting as to whether the voter record should remain confidential. The voter received the letter but no communication was received by the office. Charles Mobley made a motion to remove the "confidentiality" from the voter's record; Eileen Wiggins seconded the motion and all were in favor. The voter will be notified by certified mail as to the decision.

Statutory changes for AB – high-risk professions – tabled until April meeting.

Testing for the Clerk III position will be March 26, 2002 at 9:00 AM at the MVA.

Dorothy Kaetzel informed the Board that the computer in the FY'03 budget has been cut. The IT Department may consider using the money to build a firewall so that we can use one computer to access both the county and state information.

The Board discussed redistricting. The effected areas are as follows:

- 10-1 Brightwood and South Pointe areas are now in 2C
- 24-0 23 voters are now in 2C (Hump Road, McSwain and part of W. Washington St.)

- 26-2 Tiny section off Virginia Avenue is now in 2A. Don't know the house numbers. Dorothy Kaetzel will call the State Planning Department.
- 13-0 Eight people are now in 2C.

The Board discussed how best to serve the voters in the affected areas. Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci will be attending the Director's meeting on March 13, 2002. The Board delayed any action until after the Director's meeting.

The election board will keep their storage space in the basement of the Washington County office building.

Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci attended the CERA training in Charleston, SC from February 8 – 13, 2002. They also attended the Election Center Workshop on poll workers. Both the class and the workshop were very beneficial

The 2002 Election Calendar was distributed.

Dorothy Kaetzel will contact Jeff Harr and ask if the schools will be available as polling places for the primary and general elections. She will also ask if there will be a teacher's in-service day on November 5, 2002.

NEW BUSINESS: MAEO meeting will be May 5 – 8, 2002 at the Clarion in Ocean City, MD. Room reservations will be made this week.

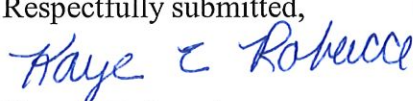
The Board discussed the security of the office during election time and whether a dead bolt should be placed on the office door or just the inside storage room. They also discussed the security of the 1st floor conference room. Charles Mobley made a motion to request the county to take measures for the security of the absentee ballots during the election time period. A lock should be installed on the storage room door in the election board office and that secure measures be taken for the common area conference room. Eileen Wiggins seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Open house for the election board will be April 24, 2002 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Next Board meeting – April 9, 2002 at 2:00 PM.

Eileen Wiggins made a motion to adjourn at 2:24 PM; Charles Mobley seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Kaye E. Robucci

Election Deputy Director I