

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION January 10, 2012

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

Present:

Board

John Benchoff, President
Carroll Earp, Vice President
Tammy Downin, Secretary
Eileen Wiggins, Member
Bruce Field, Member
Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney

Staff

Kaye Robucci, Election Director, I
Sharon Mackereth, Election Deputy Director, I

John Benchoff called the meeting to order at 2:08PM. There was a quorum present.
Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, entered the meeting at 2:15PM.

Approval of Minutes of December 13, 2011:

John Benchoff asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the December 13, 2011 Board Meeting. Carroll Earp made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted; Tammy Downin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Addition/Changes to the Agenda:

Kaye Robucci asked for these additions to the agenda:

Correspondence: Petition drive over re-districting added.

Old Business – Board of Election By-Laws.

Correspondence:

- A. State Legislative Redistricting Information – E-Mailed to Board.
- B. Outcome of Redistricting Lawsuit – E-Mailed to Board.

Donna Duncan, SBE, reported that the lawsuit was a success. Kaye Robucci informed the Board that there could be a petition drive against the redistricting.

- C. E-Mail of appreciation from Jason Laird, Delegate to National Convention.
- D. E-Mail of appreciation from Jared DeMarinis and Ross Goldstein, regarding the candidate filing process.

E. Petition drive over re-districting –

Board Counsel, Roger Schlossberg, commented that he was not sure whether any referendum results could be effective on such an issue and further mused as to when any such changes possibly could become effective within the current 10-year redistricting cycle.

Reports –

A. Mock Election –

Kaye Robucci reported on 3 days of Early Voting Mock Election. We only had a few synchronization issues but nothing critical.

B. Candidate filing Deadline –

Kaye Robucci reported that all the Democrats on the current City Council have filed. Larry Bayer and Christopher Kelly are filed Republicans. Wednesday, January 11, 2012, is the filing deadline, we will be open until 9:00PM.

C. City of Hagerstown – Annexed Voters –

John Benchoff, Kaye Robucci and Sharon Mackereth met with Roger Schlossberg on December 19, 2011. This meeting was to determine if it is possible to establish a new district and precinct for the annexed voters of the City of Hagerstown. Donna Duncan, SBE, joined in that meeting by telephone. After reviewing with Donna the advice of Karl Aro, Executive Director of Legislative Services for the State, Donna agreed that, notwithstanding the lack of contiguity among the affected annexed areas, our Board properly could create a new District 28. Due to the different legislative districts we created three separate precincts 28-1, 28-2 and 28-3. After extensive review of possible polling places, the group agreed to recommend to the Board that the polling place for these voters should be Northern Middle School, because of the location of the majority of the voters.

We did have a call from a voter on Armstrong Ave. in the south end of town wondering why she had to travel so far to a polling place. We explained the reasoning for this but she was not satisfied. She called Senator Chris Shank's office to place her complaint. We received a call from Senator Shank's office and explained the situation and decided that the only recourse would be to suggest an organization offer her transportation to the polls.

Upon due review of the foregoing, the Board resolved by unanimous vote upon motion by Bruce Field; seconded by Carroll Earp. All were in favor and motion carried.

(Resolution District 28 attachment)

Old Business –

A. Early Voting Agreement –

The Board reviewed the status of negotiations between the Board, the County Commissioners and the Red Cross including review of the final form of last-requested revisions for the Red Cross. The Board also considered the comments of Election Director, Kaye Robucci, and Board Counsel, Roger Schlossberg, concerning the willingness of the County (albeit reluctantly) to accept those revisions. Upon motion by Tammy Downin, seconded by Carroll Earp, the Board unanimously approved the final form of the Agreement with the Red Cross and authorized the Election Director or the President to execute and deliver the same.

B. Alternate Early Voting Site –

Emmanuel United Methodist Church has given permission to use the church as our Alternate Early Voting site. Kaye Robucci sent all required information to Linda Lamone, State Administrator, and we are waiting for approval.

John Benchhoff informed the Board that he received a call from Larry Messer, BOE, to clarify the date of the Primary Election being in April not March. We will receive a list of phone numbers for each of the schools used as a polling place.

C. Election Board By-Laws –

At the December 13, 2011 Board Meeting, a motion was made to amend the By-Laws (Section 2.3D) and was approved by the full Board during this January 10, 2012 meeting.

New Business

A. Election Worker Training Classes –

Kaye Robucci requested that the Board peruse the list of training dates and let her know which classes they will be able to assist. Bruce Field requested no evenings. Tammy Downin requested only evenings. Carroll Earp has selected the classes he will be available. John Benchhoff would be available most any time. We will be scheduling a meeting for those helping with training to discuss teaching procedures. Kaye informed the Board that the new Election Worker Manual was sent to the printer.

B. FY2013 Budget –

The FY2013 Budget is due Friday, January 13, 2012. The Board perused the Budget and Kaye Robucci explained the increases. Approval of the proposed Budget was called for - Carroll Earp made motion to accept proposed Budget; Bruce Field seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Members Remarks

Eileen Wiggins informed the Board that she is resigning as a member of this Board for personal and health reasons. This will take effect as of January 31, 2012. Eileen gave her resignation to John Benchoff.

John Benchoff and others expressed their appreciation to Eileen for her dedication to the Board over the years and wished her well.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held at 2:00PM on February 14, 2012.

Distributed Information

Budget
Early Voting Agreement

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Tammy Downin made a motion to adjourn at 3:12PM; Bruce Field seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Sharon C. Mackereth
Deputy Director, I

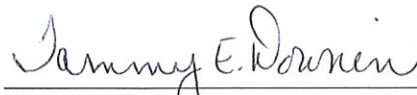
Respectfully Submitted,



John Benchoff, Board President

2/14/2012

Date



Tammy Downin, Secretary

2/14/12

Date