

PROCEEDINGS

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

July 10, 2001

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

Richard Coss called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM; Roger Schlossberg, Attorney, was absent.

MINUTES: Charles Mobley made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2001 Board meeting; Marianne Schneider seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dorothy informed the Board that Bertha Kennedy, former Frederick County Board Member, passed away. A card will be sent to her family.

Florence Sutton, Kent County Administrator, is out of the hospital and feeling better.

A note of appreciation and a list of accomplishments was received from Marvin Cheatham.

Information regarding electronic voting was received from Stuart Harvey, Montgomery County.

Memo from Robert Zarnoch, Assistant Attorney General, regarding the upcoming redistricting was distributed.

Letter from Robert Antonetti, MAEO President, announcing the committee members and the major issues facing the election offices in the coming year.

Information pertaining to the closing of a local board meeting was received from Linda Lamone. It will be placed in our Procedures Manual.

Revised 2002 Election Calendar was received and distributed.

Chart of the 2001 Local Board Minutes was discussed. Kaye Robucci will contact the state to find out why they think we had no meeting in May.

The Board discussed further the Robin Harmon case and the decision of Thomas McDonough, Assistant State Prosecutor, that conspiracy to distribute cocaine is not an "infamous crime".

While we complied with the decision and re-instated Robin Harmon, the Board does not agree with the decision based on the information we have regarding infamous crimes. Dorothy Kaetzel will contact Roger Schlossberg.

The Board Members received the packet of confidential information on the Overview of System Requirements, Performance and Capabilities.

Minutes of the State Board Meeting held May 9, 2001 were distributed. The audits of the local election boards will begin in July. Now that the backlog of infamous crime reports has been depleted, we will no longer remove voters without giving them 2 weeks to show why they should not be removed.

OLD BUSINESS: Charles Mobley reported on his meeting with Ron Whitt, Director of IT, regarding election day communications. They discussed the current problems with communications in and out of the election office on election day. The county will be updating their phone systems in the near future. Ron Whitt requested a list of the communication "dead" spots and a list of schools that we cannot reach on election day. Ron Whitt will check if we could tie into the schools using the Internet.

The discussion of the City of Hagerstown Elections was tabled until the August meeting.

Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci will be attending the continuing education classes July 21 - 28, 2001 at Anne Arundel Community College. The county will pay for the tuition and the state will assist with room and board.

We have received 2,200 additional petition signatures from Senate Bill 205 - AntiDiscrimination Bill. They need to be verified by July 20, 2001.

The office picnic will be held August 27, 2001 at 6:00 PM at the Elks Picnic Grounds. Chicken will be ordered from Martins.

Dorothy Kaetzel informed the Board that she received a call from Mr. Draa requesting further information on the Jeffrey Sheffler case. He is trying to establish if Mr. Sheffler did vote in the November election. Dorothy gave him the name and phone number of the election judge who signed the VAC. Jeffrey Sheffler was issued an VAC, was listed in the poll book and was marked off of the precinct register. The total from the public counter equaled the total in the poll books and the number of voter authority cards issued. The ballot accounting chart also checked out. Dorothy contacted Roger Schlossberg with this information.

NEW BUSINESS: The voting system lease is pending. The county questioned some of the wording in the lease agreement and it will probably be mid-July before the agreement is finalized.

Charles Mobley reported on the Legislative meeting held July 9, 2001 regarding provisional ballots. Several areas of discussion were: eligibility requirements, identification requirements, and post-election processing procedures. The Legislative committee is proposing a change to the bill allowing for provisional ballot to be provided at the polling place or the election office.

2001 Biennial Meeting will be held October 14 -17, 2001 at the Turf Valley Resort. Kaye Robucci will make reservations.

Copies of S50 and HR50 were distributed. These are identical bills dealing with a single poll closing time for Presidential general elections.

Eileen Wiggins will pick up the forms from the MVA on July 23 and July 30 while Richard Coss is on vacation.

Next meeting - August 14, 2001

Charles Mobley made a motion to adjourn at 3:35 PM; Marianne Schneider seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye E. Robucci

Kaye E. Robucci
Election Deputy Director I