

PROCEEDINGS

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
December 11, 2001**

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

Richard Coss called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM.

MINUTES: Marianne Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2001 Board Meeting; Charles Mobley seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dorothy Kaetzel distributed an invitation to the open house at the Governor's mansion on December 21, 2001 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

Dorothy Kaetzel will be meeting with Mr. McDonough on December 18, 2001 regarding the Jeffrey Sheffler case. The court date is January 10, 2001.

The Ney-Hoyer Bill (HR3295) and Dodd-Conyers Bill (S565) are to be voted on this week. The Board previously wrote to the Maryland Senators asking them to oppose S565.

Vincent Dellaposta and Richard Everhart resigned from the Republican Central Committee. Mildred Myers is the current chairman.

The Election Clerk II Position is on hold. A hiring freeze is currently in effect. We have requested an exemption to the hiring freeze because the position was established in September 1999. Linda Lamone, Administrator SBE, sent a letter to T. Eloise Foster, Secretary of Budget and Management, stating the importance of having this position filled. Our 2 part time ladies have been working once a week to help with the workload.

Two letters appeared in the Herald Mail Newspaper on Sunday, November 25, 2001. The letters, "League finds many flaws in election process" and "Results of the League's voting survey" were written by John Porter, President of the Washington County League of Women Voters". While the articles did not directly find fault with the election process in Washington County, the Board felt a response was warranted. The Board formulated a response and met on December 3, 2001 to approve the written response. Response was e-mailed to Bob Maginnis on December 3, 2001. It has not appeared in the paper yet.
Letter from Marvin Wilson, President, Maryland Association of Counties, Inc., questioning the

status of the state procurement of voting systems. Linda Lamone sent a response indicating that all counties except Allegany, Dorchester, Prince George's and Montgomery should plan to use their existing voting system through the 2002 elections.

The 2001 Board Meeting Minutes tracking chart was distributed.

2001 Biennial Meeting Evaluation Summary was distributed.

The Circuit Court of Anne Arundel County, Maryland issued an order and declaratory judgment regarding the petition to the AntiDiscrimination Act of 2001. The petition failed to possess the required number of valid signatures and will not be placed on the 2002 General Election Ballot.

The Maryland State Board of Elections selected Global / Diebold Election Systems, as the vendor for the new Direct Recording Electronic voting systems in Maryland. Allegany, Dorchester, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties will use this system for the 2002 Gubernatorial Elections.

OLD BUSINESS: Roger Schlossberg distributed copies of the City of Hagerstown Charter. The Board discussed the City of Hagerstown elections and the possibility of their election date coinciding with the county election dates and the advantages and disadvantages to this. Richard Coss recommended that the Board and staff evaluate this and bring all thoughts and ideas to the February board meeting.

Election day communication problems, Charles Mobley will contact Ron Whitt.

Kaye Robucci reported that the daily backups are going well. In addition to the daily backup done at 3:00 AM there is now a daily dump performed at 4:00 PM. A CD is burned and is stored offsite.

Roger Schlossberg reported on the Attorney Round Table discussion held at the Biennial meeting. They discussed our situation in the 2000 election, when an emergency room nurse requested an absentee ballot because of being scheduled to work a 12 hour shift on election day and not being able to get to her polling place in time to vote. She did not qualify for an absentee ballot and her request was denied. The Attorney Roundtable did not come to a consensus. Roger Schlossberg will call Tim Augustine and discuss this concern.

The Board discussed the distribution of the monthly minutes and monthly statistical reports. The Board decided to keep the recipients of the minutes and reports the same.

Richard Coss plans on being in Florida from January through March. In his absence, Eileen Wiggins will pickup the work from the MVA.

Richard Coss congratulated Dorothy Waters on her being named the Business and Professional Woman of the Year.

Charles Mobley asked for additional information regarding the crash kits that were discussed at the November Board meeting. The information distributed at the Biennial meeting was copied and distributed to all the Board members. Dorothy Kaetzel will ask Tim Augustine to include this in the poll worker training manual.

NEW BUSINESS: The review of the confidentiality of a voter's record was tabled until the January meeting. A letter was sent to the voter requesting verification of the home address and the need to remain confidential.

Next meeting - January 8, 2002.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kay E. Robucci
Election Deputy Director I