

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
December 9, 2008

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, Attorney

Staff

Dorothy Kaetzel, Director  
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director, I

Eileen Wiggins called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM. There was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes of October 7, 2008**

Eileen Wiggins asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the October 7, 2008 Board Meeting. Eileen Wiggins requested the following change (**in bold**):

Page 4: Adjournment:

Paragraph 1:

John Benchoff made a motion to cancel the November Board Meeting; Clyde Tate seconded the **motion** and all were in favor.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Addition/Changes to the Agenda:**

Dorothy Kaetzel requested the following change to the agenda:  
Reports: Warehouse Move

Correspondence:

A. Salary Study Commission

Report received from the Salary Study Commission. The Election Board did not request nor receive a salary increase.

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B. Letters from Voters

- Ray and Lois Wickline praising their voting experience at District 26-1.
- Eileen Wiggins regarding Election Day and how well everything went throughout the county.
- Shirley Thompson regarding her experience at District 9-0. She wanted to change her vote but claimed that the voting unit would not allow her to change her vote. She requested assistance from the voting unit judge but apparently her ballot was cast before the correction was made.

C. MAEO Meeting – December 9, 2008

MAEO Agenda was e-mailed to the Board

**Reports:**

A. Warehouse Move

We will be moving to our new warehouse the week of December 15, 2008. There is sufficient room for storage and a large common room for training.

B. Board of Education

On October 29, 2008 the Board met with Edward Masood and Tony Mayhugh from the Board of Education to discuss upcoming athletic activities scheduled for November 3, 2008 at Districts 2-0, 4-0 and 10-2. Also present were Loretta Stotemyer and Daniel Rohrer. They worked out the following:

District 2-0: Not a problem since voting occurs in the cafeteria.

District 4-0: Pedestrian traffic will be re-directed and the lobby will remain secure.

District 10-2: The game is at 4:00 PM. The Election Workers will be able to set-up by 7:00 PM.

Mr. Masood and Mr. Mayhugh recommended moving the voting location at District 10-2 from the gymnasium to the cafeteria in 2010. The Board agreed with this recommendation.

Loretta Stotemyer requested time to complete paperwork on election night prior to the custodians cleaning the floor at District 6-1.

C. Election Day Issues

1) Campaign Signs at District 11-2 – Potomac Valley Fire Hall

The Board discussed the events that occurred at Potomac Valley Fire Hall on Election Day. An Election Judge removed campaign signs from private property within the 100' "No Electioneering" zone. Attorney, Roger Schlossberg, spoke with the Office of the Attorney General and informed the Board that there is an Opinion from the Attorney General from the 1990's regarding this issue. Roger Schlossberg recommended having the AG Office re-visit the issue. John Benchoff made a motion to have Roger Schlossberg request a formal opinion from the AG Office; Carroll Earp seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2) Boonsboro High School – District 6-1

Chief Judge, Loretta Stotelmyer, requested a thank you letter be sent to Mr. Masood and Mr. Mayhugh regarding the helpful assistance from the custodians on Election Day.

3) Polling Place Evaluation Forms

The Board discussed the Polling Place Evaluation Forms and the process involved with completing the forms. The evaluation forms and the following comments will be sent to Rick Urps, SBE.

- The forms are too long (keep to 2 pages)
- The Election Judges want to discuss and resolve the current problems.
- Keep the portion regarding the required signage

4) Little Antietam Community Center – District 19-0

There was a report of a person in full uniform standing at rest outside the polling place. We will contact Amy Simmons, Chief Judge, at District 19-0 regarding this report.

5) Pangborn Elementary School – District 22-2

There were not enough regular tables available at District 22-2 on Election Day. Betty Willson, Chief Judge, borrowed a table from her church.

D. Christmas Party

Our Christmas Party was held December 2, 2008 at the Fireside Restaurant. We had a very nice time.

Old Business:

A. Re-instate Voter

Attorney, Roger Schlossberg, reviewed the case involving Charlie Baker (aka Roger Dean Weber) with the Board. In November 2006, Roger Dean Weber was convicted of registering to vote under a false name. The case was appealed and on October 28, 2008 the Court of Special Appeals reversed the conviction. The Court ruled that Roger Weber has legitimately changed his name to Charlie Baker pursuant to his common law right to do so. Therefore, Charlie Baker was permitted to vote a provisional ballot on Election Day and was re-instated as a registered voter.

B. Duplicate Registration

We received Voter Registration Applications from Robert and Sheila Mothershead in August 2006. To date their information has not verified and they are still pending. We also have another Robert and Sheila Mothershead registered with different birth dates. Their information verified and they are active. They insist they did not complete the registration forms from 2006. Roger Schlossberg recommended sending the information to the State Prosecutor to investigate.

C. 2008 Primary Election - Estimated Cost

Dorothy Kaetzel reported that the cost of the Primary Election was \$7.43 per voter.

D. City of Hagerstown Elections

Dorothy Kaetzel updated the Board on the following:

- Currently appointing their Board Members
- There will be a meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January
- 2005 Contract has been sent to John Barr for review by the County Commissioners
- A copy of the contract will be sent to Roger Schlossberg
- To date the proposed changes to the City Charter have not been voted on

E. Marantha Brethren Church – District 18-2

Dorothy Kaetzel reported that Delegate, Andrew Serafini, called and said we could continue to use Marantha Brethren Church as a polling place.

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New Business:

A. No new business

Member Remarks:

Registration figures were distributed to the Board.

Everyone was wished a Happy Holiday.

Adjournment:

The next Board Meeting will be January 13, 2009 at 2:00 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Sharon Washington made a motion to adjourn at 3:32; Clyde Tate seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Kaye E. Robucci  
Election Deputy Director, I

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Wiggins  
Eileen Wiggins, Board President

1/13/09  
Date

Carroll H. Earp  
Carroll H. Earp, Board Secretary

1/13/09  
Date

