

PROCEEDINGS

**BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY
November 9, 1999**

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

Richard called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM. James Sprecher, substitute member, was absent.

MINUTES: Charles Mobley motioned and Marianne Schneider seconded that the minutes of the October 12, 1999 meeting be approved as submitted. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Mayor Robert Bruchey, II, to Senator Barbara Mikulski, regarding the prohibition of using the Army Reserve Center as a polling location.

Memo from Rebecca Wicklund regarding the 2000 National Party Conventions. The Democratic National Convention will be held August 14 - August 17, 2000 in Los Angeles, CA. The Republican national Convention will be held July 29 - August 4, 2000 in Philadelphia, PA.

Memos to Greg Snook and Rod Shoop requesting permission to have Norman Bassett conduct the accessibility surveys on the polling places. Permission was granted to have Norman Bassett conduct the surveys with the understanding that the election board would also do surveys. Norman Bassett agreed to survey all of the public buildings and the board and staff will survey the schools.

Opinion of the Attorney General regarding the powers and duties of substitute board members. Roger Schlossberg will review and report on the opinion at the December board meeting.

Press release from the State Board regarding the pilot program which will allow visually impaired voters to cast a secret ballot. News 25 came to the office and interviewed Dorothy. Those wishing to participate in the pilot program must contact the election board by January 28, 2000.

Memo from Linda Lamone, SBE Administrator, regarding the dissemination of information to the local board members. She is requesting that the regulations, Attorney General Opinions, and other important information from the state office be given to the board members and attorney.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board discussed challengers and watchers. Charles Mobley, made a motion that, having been presented the informal opinion of the Attorney General that a candidate is not prohibited from being a challenger and watcher; and, having further considered the local board council's opinion which disagrees with the informal Attorney General opinion, the Board respectfully declines to accept the AG informal opinion and will continue the long standing practice of prohibiting candidates to serve as challengers and watchers. Marianne Schneider seconded the motion and all were in favor. The Board suggested that a letter be sent to all candidates informing them of the prohibition against electioneering in the polling places.

Roger Schlossberg updated the Board on the status of liability insurance at the polling places. The County will add an endorsement to their policy that will cover us from the Thursday before the election until the Thursday following the election. Dorothy will supply Annajean Bitner with the names, addresses and contact persons for each of the polling places. Dorothy will also indicate those locations that requested a certificate of insurance.

Permission was granted to use the Christ Lutheran Church as a polling place. The Board discussed the need to move the polling place from the Army Reserve Center and the deadline to notify voters. Marianne Schneider made a motion to move District 22 from the Army Reserve Center to Christ Lutheran Church. Dorothy Waters seconded the motion and all were in favor. The Board recommended that a letter be sent to the elected officials and Linda Lamone informing them that a new polling location was found and thanking them for their assistance.

The Board discussed the recent State Board meeting held in Ocean City. The Board felt that many interesting and relevant topics were discussed. Procedures for Temporary Certificates were discussed. The Board will discuss the delegation of authority at the February board meeting.

The Board discussed the current meal and travel policy.

Dorothy reported on the Accessibility Training that was held at the Old Downsville School. A survey was conducted on Downsville using the new accessibility forms. Downsville will need a few modifications to make it accessible. Dorothy will inform Downsville of the needed modifications.

The Board, Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci will survey Christ Lutheran Church on Friday at 10:30 AM. Pangborn School will also be surveyed.

Dorothy Kaetzel will contact Cathy Ashley-Cotler to inquire about reserving the conference room at the Frostburg Center for absentee ballot counting. She will ask about security for the room and if there is a charge for reserving the room. If the room is available, Dorothy will set up a time for the Board to look at the room.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board discussed the recent request for a poll worker list. We are allowed to give a list of the names but we cannot disclose the addresses or phone numbers. The Board decided to send a letter to the Chairman of the Delegation (copies to the entire delegation), and the Chairmen of the Central Committees, stating that a request was made, our current policy and citing the Public Information Act.

Richard Coss suggested that the staff evaluation process be changed. Dorothy Kaetzel will continue to evaluate the staff and Richard Coss will evaluate Dorothy Kaetzel. Every 6 months Richard Coss, Marianne Schneider and Charles Mobley will review the evaluations. Dorothy recommended that the Board members attend the PEP training classes.

The Christmas Party will be held Monday, December 20, 1999 at 6:30 PM at the Grill. Roger Schlossberg will call to reserve the back room.

Sharon Mackereth and Sherrie Bonebrake will attending training on the new registration system November 15 - 18, 1999.

Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci will attend a Director's meeting on December 2, 1999.

Next meeting December 14, 1999.

Marianne Schneider made a motion to adjourn at 4:17 PM; Charles Mobley seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Robucci

Kaye E. Robucci
Election Deputy Director I