

PROCEEDINGS

BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Board of Election Supervisors held its regular monthly meeting on Friday, January 4, 1991, at the Board office. The meeting was called to order by the President, Oscar W. Spigler, at 10 A.M.

The following were recorded present:

Oscar W. Spigler, President
Richard L. Coss, Democrat Member
Walter F. Bell, Jr., Republican Member
Geraldine M. Harmon, Republican Alternate
Dorothy M. Waters, Chief Clerk II
Daris A. Phillips, Chief Clerk I

MINUTES:

Ths minutes of the last regular meeting held on October 16, 1990, were approved as submitted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Memo from Marvin Meyn advising us that we will be responsible for the on-line costs for the computer, which the State has been paying for. They suggested that we check on a Watts line. Dottie advised the Board that she had checked on this with Karen Luther, County Purchasing Agent, and Karen wants us to wait several months and do a cost estimate of the charges before considering a change.

Memo from State Board notifying us that the Libertarian Party has not gotten enough signatures to become a party.

Memo from Gene Raynor of the 1990 Polling place accessibility report was read. The Board discussed this and will begin to look for other polling places to replace those that are not accessible.

A memo dated December 20, 1990, was read regarding the release of the voting machines used in the November 6, 1990 General Election.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board discussed election day problems. We had a complaint about the Chief Judge smoking at District 19. The Board decided that the no smoking in the polling place must be enforced. This will be included in the letter to the poll workers and the school for the poll workers prior to the next election.

The Board discussed the problems with the voting machines. One of the machines at Hancock had to be taken out of service for the day. This will have to be repaired. Several other machines must be checked. Some of the problems were caused by the poll workers not being sure of the correct method for getting the first sheet of the paper pak out of the machines in the morning. More training will help this problem.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Bell questioned if we had sent the thank-you notes to Sam McAfee and Glenn Board. We will send these notes and also thank Glenn for the appointment books that he sent us.

The Board discussed the problem of the water coming in the building where the voting machines are kept. We will recheck with Bob Graff and Gary Rohrer about the cause of this and if anything has been done to eliminate the problem. After much discussion there was a motion by Walter Bell and seconded by Richard Coss to have Bill Dorsey stop by the warehouse at least once a month to check on the condition of the voting machines and the building. Motion carried.

The Board is concerned with the dampness in the building and the possibility of rust to the machines. We will check with Sam McAfee as to the maximum humidity suitable for storing voting machines. The Board would like to have this in writing to take to the County Commissioners for their prompt response to this problem.

The Board discussed some problems they had with the counting of the absentee ballots. These will be continued later when Joe McIntyre from Business Records Corporation will be here.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the success of sending VRA forms to the polling places. We have had 27 come back.

We discussed the need for paint and new carpet for the office. Dottie suggested that we do our registration in the high schools the two days that the office has to be closed for putting down the new carpet. We are hoping the scheduling for the school registration and carpet installation will work out satisfactorily.

We have been advised by Delegate Callas that the Board of Education has requested a bill that would keep the schools open for Primary and General Election days. We are opposed to this as 50% of our polling places are in schools and having the schools open would cause much confusion, congestion and a parking problem for the voters. We will write to Delegate Callas and Delegate Stup concerning this.

Motion by Walter Bell and seconded by Richard Coss that the meeting be adjourned at 11:20 A. M. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5 at 1:30 P. M.

Joe McIntyre arrived at 11:30 A. M. and the Board discussed various aspects of the absentee voting system with him. The meeting concluded with Lunch at the Dutch Kitchen.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy M. Waters
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