

PROCEEDINGS

BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS  
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Board of Election Supervisors for Washington County held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 1992, at the Board Office. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by Vice President Richard L. Coss in the absence of President Oscar Spigler due to illness.

The following were recorded present:

Richard L. Coss, Democrat Member  
Walter F. Bell, Jr., Republican Member  
Donald A. Smith, Democrat Alternate  
Charles L. Mobley, Jr., Republican Alternate  
Jean D. Calhoun, Administrator I  
William F. Dunham, Jr., Attorney  
Dorothy M. Kaetzal, Election Registrar

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on February 11, 1992 were approved as submitted with the following corrections:

Regarding the ramp at the Old Rohrersville School polling place, Richard called Joe Hannah instead of what was recorded.

CORRESPONDENCE:

In a memo from Cindy Mease, Coordinator for Disabled Citizens, a request was made for a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf be included in our budget. Jean advised the Board that this was added to our budget. Board approved same.

OLD BUSINESS

Jean reviewed final reservations for the MAEO meeting to be held on June 29, 1992.

The Board was informed that Kaye Robucci had gotten an advance in pay. She was due to get a paycheck on time the next pay.

Jean updated Board members on Oscar's illness. He is out of the hospital and recuperating at home.

Jean explained about an error in the budget which has been corrected. She distributed new copies of budget to Board members.

Workmen's Compensation: Bill received today for the first quarter payment. Next quarter payment will be less since there will be fewer employees as poll workers will not be included.

NEW BUSINESS

Jean advised the Board members of a complaint received that a resident in a nursing home was registered who was not capable of voting. She explained the procedure that is used to do nursing home absentee ballots. After discussion, it was decided to discuss with the person doing the voter registration to use good judgment when registering these people.

Mrs. Comstock from the League of Women Voters asked Jean to request the Board to consider giving "I Voted" stickers at all polling places, so the stickers can be distributed to people who voted. If the Board approved and if she would find civic groups who would be willing to pay for the stickers, she would like to be able to give recognition inside the polling place to those sponsors. After discussion, Don made the motion we accept this idea and the Board would pay for the stickers for the November Election. After motion received no second, Don withdrew same until further information can be gotten. Mr. Dunham will be in touch with the Attorney General about this procedure to determine if this would be allowed in the polling place. Jean suggested we take this to the State Board. Although a good idea, not sure about advertising end of it.

Walter is interested in knowing if there is any way to eliminate manually doing tally boards. A request has been put in the budget for a wider printer in hopes of developing a program for this on our PC. Keep in mind for November to determine how this is feasible. Richard wishes to discuss at MAEO with other counties.

Update on OPTECH II absentee ballot counter relating to the problems encountered: Samples of ballots sent to Ed Early Printing Co. in an effort to determine why so many of the ballots were rejected the first time they were entered but after several entries were finally accepted by the counter. After a hand count, the final analysis was perfect. At this time, they are being tested to solve the problem. Richard wants some identical ballots printed if and when the problem is solved to be sure the ballot is corrected.

Election Day problems: Walter distributed copies General Election Considerations. Jean gave Board Members copies of different signs that are available. Thought should be given to these for purchasing in the future. Some polling places need signs for handicap. Mr. Hannah at Keedysville needs to be contacted regarding heat and phone at that polling place. No heat early in the morning and no phone. Poll workers at Ringgold have to go out of polling place to use a phone. Cindy Mease needs to be contacted about signs to designate handicap parking/entrance at Emma K. Doub School. It might be possible for the school board to install these signs. At least three signs are needed.

A count needs to be taken of our "No Electioneering" signs. If any are needed Jean has info on those.

For the Keedysville polling place, it was decided to use signs directing voters there for the upcoming November Election; but not after that.

Discussion on problems election day with voting machines. Don Smith suggested having a checklist - specific things that must be done in opening up a voting machine - and check off when they do them. Jim stated that maybe this could be incorporated in training program. Richard wants a list compiled of where problems that appear to be operator caused were, check with Bill Dorsey to see if he has any suggestions and discuss at next meeting.

It was decided that a log should be established for recording machine trouble reports on election day as this is very much needed. Likewise assign specific geographical areas to those persons visiting voter locations.

Although poll workers were issued name tags some chose not to use them. Make note in poll worker instructions to wear name tags. Also, include some blank ones.

Hancock Community Center: An affair had been held at this polling place the night prior to the Primary Election which interfered with getting set up for the election quickly the next day. Prior to the General Election in November, request that nothing be scheduled to take place there on the eve of the election.

Accessibility at the Old Downsville School Polling Place was discussed. Richard visited here election day and found the door was locked at the ramp entrance. Ramp is now bolted in place but there is still a step up into the polling place. This is very bad. Jim will get more detailed info on Downsville and Fountain Rock School.

Motion made by Walter Bell and seconded by Donald Smith that the meeting be adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dorothy M. Kaetzel*

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Election Registrar