

PROCEEDINGS

BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY
MARCH 18, 1997

Present: Richard L. Coss, President
Daris Phillips, Democrat Member
Charles L. Mobley, Jr. Republican Member
Dorothy M. Waters, Republican Alternate
Mark Brugh, Attorney
Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Election Director II
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director I

Richard Coss called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roger Schlossberg, Democrat Alternate was absent.

Richard thanked Daris Phillips for picking up the registration forms from the MVA and Roger Schlossberg for filling in as a regular member in his absence. Richard also thanked the staff for their good job in conducting the City of Hagerstown Election.

MINUTES: Daris motioned and Jim seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on February 11, 1997 be approved as submitted. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dorothy informed the Board that Helen Myers, registrar Howard County, had passed away. She also informed the Board that sympathy cards had been sent to John Reynolds, Dorothy Tritapoe, Evelyn Barr and Pat Young on the passing of John's father-in-law, the passing of Dorothy and Evelyns' husbands and Pat Youngs mother.

Memo to Joan Mobley, SABEL, regarding the cleaning of the voter rolls was discussed. Approval was received February 25, from Tom Surock, SABEL, who consulted with Helen Koss on the method. Voter notification cards will be sent to one fourth of the precincts each year for four years. Cards have been ordered for the following precincts: 11-1, 11-2, 12, 13, 14-1, 14-2, 15, 16, 18-1, 18-2, 19 & 20. Postage will cost \$4000.00 and will be paid for out of Bob Graff's, Facilities Administrator, budget this year. Dorothy will budget for it in the future.

The State Board will meet on March 19, 1997 in the House of Delegates Building, Room 431 at 5:00 pm. The agenda was distributed.

Policy revision from Alan Davis, Human Resources Director, was distributed. The County Commissioners have increased the reimbursement for mileage from 24 to 31.5 cents per mile.

The minutes and related material of the February 12 meeting of the Commission to Revise the Election Code were distributed. Mark stated that any proposed changes to the Election Code would have to be approved by the Maryland Legislature.

Minutes of the MAEO meetings held August 6 and September 25, 1996 were distributed. Copies of MAEO Legislative meeting held February 26, 1997 were distributed. MAEO reviewed upcoming bills and stated their position.

1997 Legislation from Donna Duncan, SABEL, dated February 14, February 21, February 28 and March 7, 1997 was distributed. The Board discussed several bills. House Bill 1275 which wants to change the definition of "State personnel" to include county-funded State offices such as the board of supervisors of elections and House Bill 1427 requiring a department of the State government that has a home page on the Internet to provide access to forms to be downloaded at no charge.

Letter from Nancy Crawford, Anne Arundel County Administrator, regarding changing the deadline for registration was discussed. The Commission is seriously considering changing the registration deadline from 29 days to 15 days prior to the election. Dorothy contacted Joan Mobley, SABEL, to see how this would affect us since we are a MCVRS-U County. Joan advised that SABEL, Annapolis Data Center and the Washington County staff would need to work around the clock to complete the tasks required. Dorothy sent her response to Bob Antonetti stating such.

Updated form from Gene Raynor, SABEL Administrator, to challenge a person on voter registry was distributed. The revised form allows a municipal corporation as well as an individual voter to file a challenge. Dorothy informed the Board that we cannot remove someone from the voter rolls based on information provided by others. If we did receive a challenge it would generate a confirmation mailing from our office.

Memo from Donna Duncan, SABEL, regarding Attorney General Advice on Petitions was distributed. It stated that a person holding power of attorney for registered voter may not sign a petition for a registered voter.

OLD BUSINESS: Change of district lines where City has annexed tabled from February 11 meeting was tabled until next meeting. Dorothy informed Mark that Donna Duncan told her that it must be included in the legislative redistricting bill. It would take effect in the year 2002 election.

Evaluation sheets were sent to all chief judges from the November 1996 election. Dorothy encouraged the Board members to review the evaluation sheets and the surveys the poll workers returned to our office.

Dorothy sent a memo to Joe Torre, SABEL, requesting to change the wording on the ballot from "Vote for One Pair" to "Vote for One Pair by Connecting One Arrow" or by changing the arrangement of the names. In the November 5, 1996 election there was much confusion with the wording which resulted in many overvoted ballots in the office of President.

Mark will refer to the prosecutor the individual who registered to vote on September 23, 1996, but was convicted of a felony on September 10, 1996.

Dorothy informed the Board that we will soon be on line with AAMVAnet. We have our ID numbers and Ron Whitt, MIS Director, has been in contact with them.

NEW BUSINESS: MAEO Meeting will be held June 16 - 18, 1997 at Solomons Island, Calvert County. The tentative agenda and nominating committee names were distributed. Registration is from 3:00 - 4:00 on Monday June 16.

Dorothy distributed revised copies of FY98 Budget showing increase in Substitute Board Members pay. Jim made motion based on salary discussion held at the February 11, 1997 meeting that salary of 3 Regular Board Members be increased by \$300.00 each and the Board Attorney by \$200.00 effective July 1, 1997. Daris seconded the motioned, all were in favor and motion carried.

The State Ethics Commission Forms were distributed. The Board members signed them and Kaye will notarize them and return.

Next meeting April 8, 1997.

Motion made by Jim and seconded by Daris to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kaye E. Robucci
Election Deputy Director I