

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION

April 9, 2013

35 W. Washington Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
240-313-2050

**Present:**

Board

John Benchoff, President  
Carroll Earp, Vice President  
Tammy Downin, Secretary  
Bruce Field, Assistant Secretary  
William Blazes, Member  
Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney

Staff

Kaye Robucci, Election Director, I  
Sharon Mackereth, Election Deputy Director, I

John Benchoff called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM. There was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2013:**

John Benchoff asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the March 12, 2013 Board Meeting. Carroll Earp asked for a correction on page 3, D. first bullet, "A **fast** track for voters with disabilities – to get them around the general public". Approved as submitted with correction by Carroll Earp; seconded by Tammy Downin. Unanimously approved.

John Benchoff asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the March 12, 2013 Absentee Canvass minutes. Carroll Earp made a motion to accept as submitted; Bruce Field seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Addition/Changes to the Agenda:**

Kaye Robucci, Director, requested additions under the following –

**Correspondence:**

MAEO Board Meeting minutes, February 27, 2013  
Updates on Legislation  
MAEO's request for photos from past Conferences  
E-mail to County Commissioners about Early Voting polling place

**Old Business:** Appointment of Assistant Secretary

**New Business:** Municipalities leasing Electronic Poll Books for town elections

Correspondence:

A. MAEO Conference information – E-mailed to Board -

Reservations and registrations made. Cruise is on for Tuesday night, June 18, 2013.

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- B. SBE Biennial Conference information – E-mailed to Board -

SBE Biennial will be held on Monday, June 17, 2013 with the MAEO Conference on Tuesday, June 18, 2013.

- C. MAEO Executive Board Meeting Agenda – E-mailed to Board.

- D. MAEO Agenda Draft for Conference – E-mailed to Board.

- E. Newspaper article regarding changing the 100' No Electioneering Zone -

The Director informed the Board that House Bill #1060 was withdrawn. The opinion of this Board is that it was a Bad Bill.

- F. MAEO Board Meeting minutes from February 27, 2013.

- G. Legislation Updates, April 9, 2013, Bills that have passed – to be discussed later in this meeting.

- H. Request from MAEO for photos from past MAEO Conferences.

- I. E-mail sent to County Commissioners -

The Director informed the Board that she e-mailed the Commissioners regarding legislation that would allow us to have an additional Early Voting center. State Senator, Chris Shank, is in favor of an additional center. Another early voting center would be an increase in the FY14 Budget. This Election Board agrees that just one permanent good center is what we need.

**Reports**

- A. County Commissioner Meeting – April 9, 2013

The Director informed the Board that we are listed on the agenda for the County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 1:45 PM. Do any of our members wish to attend? John Benchoff, Bruce Field and Bill Blazes will be there.

- B. Meeting with Shafiq Satterfield, New Regional Manager, and Kim Meiklejohn, Supervisor.

Shafiq Satterfield will be visiting tomorrow for a tour of our warehouse. He is due to arrive at 11:00AM.

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## Old Business:

### A. Legislative updates, HB1060, SB542/HB730 and SB279/HB224 -

- HB1060 "No Electioneering Zone" change – withdrawn.
- SB542/HB730 Regarding private property as polling places – will be required to allow electioneering and campaign signs on the property. Washington County currently uses 19 private properties. The Director informed the Board that we have received several examples of Polling Place Agreements used in other counties. The Board suggested a uniform contract should be provided by the State Board of Elections.
- SB279/HB224 is the Governor's Bill which includes additional Early Voting sites and additional Early Voting days – passed. If possible, we should consider using only schools if there is one in the precinct.
- The Board recommended that the Director follow-up on the e-mail sent to the County Commissioners requesting their support for "One" Early Voting site. The Director will contact Greg Murray, County Administrator. The Board was in agreement to collaborate with the County Commissioners, for it is in everyone's best interest for all to be in agreement. The State Board needs to let us know if we are required to have a second site.

### B. FY14 Budget

The Director informed the Board that our Budget was cut –

- No increases for the Board
- No money for continuing education through CERA.
- No new computers

### C. Update on Redistricting

The Director informed the Board that redistricting is complete, in as far as making the updates in MDVoters Voter Registration System. The Director is in the process of getting quotes on printing the Voter Notification Cards and postage for mailing approx. 54,000 cards.

### D. Appointment of Assistant Secretary for the Washington County Board of Elections

Carroll Earp made a motion to appoint Bruce Field as the Assistant Secretary; Tammy Downin seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

## New Business

### A. Early Voting Site

Kaye Robucci, Director, distributed a list of Early Voting sites we have used, surveyed or contacted. Jim Sterling, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities for the County, suggested the new Library or old Massey Auto Building. The Board reviewed the list and added a few more potential sites to consider.



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The locations discussed as possible early voting site were as follows – 2500 sq. ft. is needed.

- The Allegheny Building on the Downsville Pike which is being considered as a new location for the Board of Education. It is a large building and certainly there would be room for an Early Voting polling place.
- Our Warehouse on Tandy Dr. – The Library will be moving out once the new Library is completed. It would be an ideal location, because our voting machines are already stored there.
- HCC should be considered – great location with plenty of parking and accessible with large rooms.
- Ag Center on the Sharpsburg Pike – not ideal.

Roger Schlossberg, Attorney, will provide us with additional information on the law that allows us the use of facilities that are public properties.

- B. Discuss Polling Places (Use of an agreement, Impact of SB542 & HB730, Move 17-1 back to Library) -

The Director informed the Board that we are gathering some sample polling place agreements from other counties. We need to discuss the moving of polling place 17-1 back to the Library once the re-building is complete. Or, should we combine both 17-1 and 17-2 at Bester Elementary School, considering the County is in the process of re-building the school. The Director will get some numbers together for the May meeting, along with District 12 Fairplay.

- C. Redistricting Resolutions

The Board perused the new Resolutions for the Redistricting changes and the additional precincts 10-5 and 18-4. The following precincts were eliminated – the 28's, 24-2 and 25-3. Bruce Field made motion to accept these Resolutions; Bill Blazes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Tammy Downin, Secretary, signed the Resolutions.

- D. Municipalities use of e-poll books

The Director suggested tabling this discussion until the next Board meeting.

**Members Remarks**

The Director asked the Board if there were any objections to Closing the office during MAEO. The Board had no objections – the office will post a sign on the office door well in advance and a notice will be included in candidate filing packets.

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**Scheduling of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held on May 14, 2013 at 2:00PM. The location is Washington County Board of Elections, 35 W. Washington St. Rm. 101, Hagerstown, Maryland.

**Distributed Information**

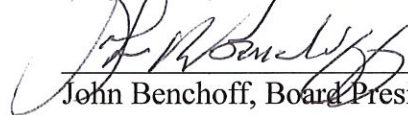
Turnout for the 2012 Presidential General Election.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Carroll Earp made motion to adjourn this meeting at 3:35PM; Bill Blazes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Sharon C. Mackereth  
Deputy Director, I

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Benchoff, Board President

5/14/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy Downin, Secretary

5/14/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date