

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION April 19, 2011

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

Present:

Board

Eileen Wiggins, Board President
John Benchoff, Democratic Member
Clyde Tate, Republican Member
Sharon Washington, Democratic Alternate
Carroll Earp, Republican Alternate
Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney

Staff

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

Eileen Wiggins called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes of March 8, 2011:

Eileen Wiggins asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the March 8, 2011 Board Meeting. Approved as submitted.

Addition/Changes to the Agenda:

Kaye Robucci requested additions under Reports - Update on City of Hagerstown.

Correspondence:

- A. Meet the Commissioners Event – E-Mailed to Board.
- B. Legislative Update as of March 23, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- C. MAEO Executive Board Meeting Agenda for April 8, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- D. Bill Hearings March 31, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- E. Bill Status Update as of March 29, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- F. MAEO Silent Auction - E-Mailed to Board.
- G. House Bills Passed 3-23-2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- H. SB534, changing effective date to June 6, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.

- I. Final Bill Status – April 14, 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- J. 90 Day Report – 2011 – E-Mailed to Board.
- K. Petition Drive to Repeal In-State Tuition – E-Mailed to Board.
- L. Legislative Wrap-up – E-Mailed to Board.

Kaye Robucci, Director, reported that the following Bills passed –

- SB806/HB740 Online Voter Registration
- HB257 Access to Voting room and Voting Booth by Minors (younger than 18 years and not eligible to vote). Older than 17 years would need an assistance form if accompanying a voter to a voting booth.
- SB765/HB561 Exchange of Information with Other States.

- M. Green & Libertarian Parties Lose Status & Sue – E-Mailed to Board.
They failed to win enough votes in 2010 election and didn't collect enough signatures.
- N. MACo's Take on Election Bills – E-Mailed to Board.
- O. Maryland Redistricting Website – E-Mailed to Board.

Sharon Mackereth, Acting Deputy Director, reported on attending a meeting in Howard County regarding procedures in redistricting. Representatives from around the State were present and contributed with ideas in completing the process. 1) They found that it is necessary to compare as many maps as possible (ADC maps, Google Maps, MapQuest, Census Maps, etc.). 2) Retain assistance from Nasrin Rahman, Maryland Department of Planning, and ask for a street file listing. 3) Use the Maryland Redistricting website <http://planning.maryland.gov/redistricting/>.

- P. E-Mail from Stuart Harvey from *The Sun* regarding the MVA & Voter Registration.
- Q. E-Mail from Jim Sterling regarding the Basement Storage Area.
The area has been cleaned up.
- R. Memo from Rick Urps, SBE, regarding the 2010 General Polling Place Evaluation Summary.

Rick Urps, SBE, does look over the surveys from Election Day. Rick puts together the results of those surveys and provides ideas and solutions to issues that come up on Election Day. Kaye Robucci commented that the information gathered at the polling place on Election Day is a good gauge of our training process. Board Members feel it is useless and time consuming. Is there a way the staff can get this information other than having these forms completed? Kaye stated that there is a new form coming from SBE regarding a polling place Evaluation Authorization Form.

Reports -

A. Elizabeth Hager Center for Early Voting – Report.

Kaye Robucci, Director, reported – it is a wonderful place but the elevator could be a problem. The major problem is the second floor location. What if the elevator broke during early voting? Kaye did a survey of other counties to see if anyone had an early voting site on a second floor location. This option was received as a bad idea. We need to tell the City Board – “Thank you but no thanks”. Eileen Wiggins stated she read in the newspaper that this space has been claimed by other City departments.

B. SB534 & HB954 Board Member Compensation.

The Bills affecting the number of full members on our Board passed and becomes effective - June 6, 2011. The pay compensation has been put in the hands of our County Commissioners. Election Board pay has been changed to \$3500 (from \$5000) for Board President and \$3000 (from \$4500) for Board members.

C. City of Hagerstown update.

Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, reported that the City has been very cooperative with the changes we have proposed to their City Charter. Mr. Schlossberg will be putting together final revisions. The issue of the need for a City Board of Elections was discussed. Considering the work will be done by Washington County Board of Elections the need for a City Board of Elections is no longer required. The City Board will have a work session on May 3rd, and adopt the proposed charter amendments on May 24, 2011. These changes will then become effective in the Fall.

Old Business –

A. Changing polling place for District 8 and 10-2.

Roger Schlossberg reported on his survey of Rohrersville Sub-Station 8, which is only 1.1 miles from the old established polling place (Old Rohrersville School). The recommended polling area is right inside the over head doors, shown in pictures provided. The fire engines can be moved during voting to open the bays. There are no dividers between the bay sections. One major thing to keep in mind is - this is a low turnout polling district.

Kaye Robucci, Director, reported on South Hagerstown High School District 10-2. She would like to wait until school is dismissed for the summer before scheduling a survey visit. Mark Mills, Board of Education, recommended the use of the new school, Antietam Academy, on Oak Ridge Drive. Kaye will call Mr. Mills after the MAEO Conference to setup a date to visit both locations.

B. FY12 – Budget update.

Kaye Robucci reported on the revised FY2012 Proposed Budget showing decrease compensation for Board Members.

C. Election Worker Training Dates and Location – update.

Kaye Robucci reported that we will not have the use of the Ag Center as a training location. Jim Sterling, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities Dept., has been working on other possible locations. Mr. Sterling said he considered contacting local developers to see if they have anything available (such as Paul Crampton, David Lyles or Don Bowman). Mr. Sterling suggested that Kaye call Paul Crampton to inquire about a location in Williamsport. Also, there is space on the second floor of Funkstown Town Hall, but there is not enough parking. Kaye will place a call to Paul Crampton and inquire about the Williamsport location.

D. Early Voting Site for 2012.

Kaye Robucci reported on several locations we have considered for an Early Voting Site. Possibilities would be the Red Cross Building off of Eastern Boulevard, the ARC Center on Marshall St. and Elgin Station on Elgin Boulevard. She would like to schedule a time to go see all three places. Clyde Tate would like to be part of the survey process and he has a doctor's appointment tomorrow about his surgery. Kaye will set up something for May 3rd in the afternoon - starting at noon to visit all three places.

E. MAEO – Reservations, Conference Information and Door prize suggestions.

Carroll Earp, Board Member, reported on a visit to Knob Hall Winery in Washington County. They are able to sell to us at wholesale but Maryland law does not allow them to donate wine. Carroll will buy 2 bottles and we'll fix up a basket ourselves along with a few other items – such as cheeses. John Benchoff knows of cheese businesses in Washington County that we might contact.

F. Financial Disclosure – Reminder: Disclosure due date May 1, 2011.

All Board Members have sent their disclosures in.

G. Polling Place Parking Signs –

Kaye Robucci asked for this to be tabled until next meeting May 17, 2011.

New Business:

A. MAEO – Silent Auction Item.

Eileen Wiggins, Board President, has offered to donate a Longerberger Bread Basket for the Silent Auction at MAEO Conference.

B. Untimely Ballots from General 2010 Election – the Board needs to rule on.

Nine 2010 General Election Absentee Ballots were presented to the Board for the purpose of ruling on. A motion was made by John Benchoff - to reject these ballots for un-timeliness and Clyde Tate seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ballots	Name of Voter	Board Decision
#1-B	Hunter Thomas Bowman	Rejected (timeliness)
#2 - B	Imelda M. Coon	Rejected (timeliness)
#3 - B	David Patrick Fuechsel	Rejected (timeliness)
#4 - B	Eric Wayne Hammond Jr.	Rejected (timeliness)
#5 - B	Dylan Lee Miss	Rejected (timeliness)
#6 - B	Charles Jonathan Mongold	Rejected (timeliness)
#7 - B	Christopher David Robertson	Rejected (timeliness)
#8 - B	Randy Ray Ross	Rejected (timeliness)
#9 - B	Denise M. Simon	Rejected (timeliness)

Members Remarks

Clyde Tate, Board Member, is not sure he will be attending MAEO Conference, will let us know tomorrow.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

Due to vacations, the next Washington County Election Board meeting will be held on May 17, 2011 at 2:00 PM.

Distributed Information

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion was made by John Benchoff to adjourn at 3:03 PM; Clyde Tate seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Sharon C. Mackereth
Deputy Director, I

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Wiggins
Eileen Wiggins, Board President

5/17/11
Date

Carroll Earp
Carroll Earp, Board Secretary

5/17/11
Date