

MINUTES

**WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
February 12, 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, Board Member  
William Blazes, Board 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 1:41PM. There was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2013:**

John Benchoff asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the January 8, 2013 Board Meeting. Carroll Earp asked for a correction on page 2, last paragraph – “The Director inquired about funds for this coming fiscal year and was **given** approval by the County.” Approved as submitted with correction by Carroll Earp; seconded by Tammy Downin. Unanimously approved.

**Request for Additions/Changes to the Agenda:**

**Correspondence:**

- A. MAEO Executive Board Meeting Agenda, January 29, 2013 – E-Mailed to Board.
- B. “The Washington Post” newspaper article regarding expansion of Early Voting – E-Mailed to Board.
  - Extending the voting days for Early Voting from 6 days to 8 days and extending the voting hours, depending on the type of election.
  - During Early Voting, an individual may appear in person at an Early Voting center in the individual’s County of residence and apply to register to vote or change the voter’s address on an existing voter registration. The applicant will have to provide proof of residency.
  - Online Absentee Ballots – to be available to all who request not just UOCAVA voters.

- Although we were not pleased with the use of Runbeck Election Services (RES) in 2012, SBE is scheduled to use Runbeck in 2014.
- A municipality (those that have small town elections) could use the pollbooks for looking up registered voters that live in their municipality.

C. Director's Meeting, February 12, 2013

- Same Day Registration during Early Voting would require MVA to use Board of Election Voter Registration Street files.
- Because of the impact of Same Day Registration there would have to be a Mock Election to test the process before Election Day.
- The Governor wants Same Day Registration voters to vote on the Voting Units, not as a Provisional Voter on paper ballot.
- Touch Screen and E-poll book updates – expect installation media next week. The total completion of the updates is January or February, 2014 – next year.
- Deadline for completion of Re-districting is April 9, 2013.

D. Meeting with County Commissioners, February 12, 2013

The Board members feel that the meeting with the County Commissioners went very well. Thanks to Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, for such a great presentation.

**Old Business –**

A. By-Laws discussion of Assistant Secretary and guidelines for filling a Vacancy.

Roger Schlossberg, Board Attorney, presented to the Board the “Resolution Amending By-Laws of the Washington County Board of Elections”. The revision is as follows –  
Article 2, Section 2.2C. Within the first 20 days of a new board term, the board shall elect by a majority vote of the members a member to serve as secretary, and one or more members to serve as assistant-secretaries. The secretary (or in the absence of the secretary one of the assistant-secretaries) shall be responsible for, inter alia, ensuring that board minutes are accurately compiled and transmitted to the State Board of Elections.

Article 2, Section 2.2D. Vacancy. In the event of a vacancy in any office during any board term due to death, resignation, removal or ineligibility, the remaining members of the board shall elect a member to serve in such office for the balance of said board term.

SBE reviews all bylaw amendments. Bylaws are approved by a majority vote of the full Board. As per the bylaws - a motion to amend is too be made during this meeting, with approval by the majority vote of the full Board at the next Board Meeting.

Carroll Earp made a motion to amend the aforesaid bylaws; Bruce Field seconded the motion. An approval of these amendments will be tabled until the March 12, 2013, Board meeting.

B. FY14 Budget update –

Kaye Robucci, Director, informed the Board that it is still too early to hear anything regarding the Budget acceptance.

**New Business –**

A. Proposed legislation changing the “100 No Electioneering Zone”.

Washington County Board of Elections – Unanimously opposed.

B. Redistricting Training Class, February 15, 2013.

Guy Mickley, Election Director, Howard County, will be giving additional training on re-districting. Election Directors and staff members from Allegany, Garrett, Frederick and Montgomery County will be joining us to participate in the training. The training is to run from 10:00AM until 12:00PM. Washington County will provide coffee and breakfast pastries.

C. Regional Lessons Learned meeting regarding Early Voting, February 20, 2013.

Gilberto Zelaya, Montgomery County Board of Elections, will be visiting our office on February 20, 2013 to conduct a Lessons Learned on Early Voting. Election Directors and staff members from Allegany, Garrett, Frederick and Montgomery County will be joining us. The Director extended an invitation to the Board members who would wish to attend. The session is to be from 11:00AM until 2:00PM, with lunch provided. Pizza and drinks will be provided.

D. Retirement Party for Nathan Robinson.

The Board discussed the planning of a Retirement Party for Nathan Robinson, Regional Manager for Cirdan. The dates considered were - April 3rd or April 10th at 6:30PM. The location will be Dutch’s Daughter Restaurant in Frederick, MD. A gift was considered.

**Members Remarks**

**Board of Canvassers**

At 2:45PM, Carroll Earp made a motion to adjourn this regular Board meeting and to convene into a meeting of the Board of Canvassers for the 2012 Presidential General Election; Bill Blazes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Return to Regular Meeting**

At 3:10PM the monthly meeting of the Board of Elections re-convened; Tammy Downin made motion to re-convene the regular Board Meeting; Bruce Field seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Scheduling of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held at 2:00PM on March 12, 2013. The location is the Washington County Board of Elections office at 35 W. Washington St., Rm. 101, Hagerstown, MD.

**Distributed Information**

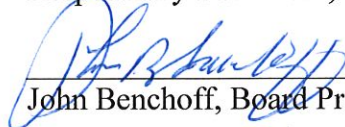
EHEA information (Education, Health & Environmental Affairs)  
2012 Presidential General Election Voter Turnout

**Adjournment:**

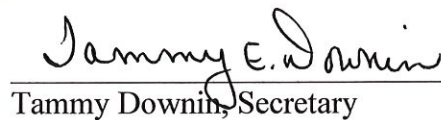
There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Tammy Downin made a motion to adjourn at 3:40PM; Bill Blazes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Compiled by Sharon C. Mackereth  
Deputy Director, I

Respectfully Submitted,

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

3/12/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

3/12/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date