

## MINUTES

### WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION

December 11, 2012

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

**Present:**

**Board:**

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

**Staff:**

Kaye Robucci, Election Director I  
Pamela Byrd, Election Supervisor II

John Benchoff called the meeting to order at 2:12pm. There was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes of October 9, 2012:**

John Benchoff asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the October 9, 2012 Board Meeting. Carroll Earp made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted; Bruce Field seconded the motion. Approved as submitted.

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

Kaye Robucci, Director, requested the following additions to the agenda – under

**Correspondence:**

- A. E-mail from the State Board of Elections
  - 1. Inquiry about long lines at the polls
  - 2. Article regarding a bill introduced by Senator Barbara Boxer, “The Line Act”
- B. Note that voting equipment has been released from the General Election

**Correspondence:**

- A. E-mailed to Board, MAEO, Executive Board Meeting Agenda, December 17, 2012

The Director reminded the Board that they are welcome to attend the MAEO meetings.

- B. Certification of General Election

The Director informed the Board the General Election was certified November 29, 2012 after some issues at the State were resolved.

- C. Herald Mail Article regarding City of Hagerstown and draft resolution to fill a vacancy if needed

The City of Hagerstown, after opting for nonpartisan City elections, has drafted a resolution that provides for choosing replacements of elected officials between elections be without regard to the party of the official being replaced, as resolution was originally written.

- D. Canvassing Minutes

The minutes of each of the Canvasses were presented to the Board for review. The Board agreed to table approving the minutes until after the first of the year.

- E. Memo from SBE regarding proposed legislation regarding long lines at the polls

The Board discussed if Washington County had any lines on Election Day. They determined that voters may have waited an hour on Saturday and Sunday of Early Voting.

A short discussion of proposed legislation ensued.

- F. Note that voting equipment has been released from the General Election

The Director informed the Board that post-election maintenance of the voting equipment can begin. Dean Robucci is working on a report covering any issues with equipment.

**Old Business:**

- A. Christmas Party, Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 6pm at the Fireside Inn

- B. By-Laws, discussion of Assistant Secretary

The Board agreed to table this discussion until after the first of the year.

Reports:

No Reports

New Business:

A. FY 2014 Budget

The Director told the Board the budget is due January 11, 2013. A discussion followed regarding changes that should be considered and the best way to pursue them, particularly in the area of training costs for the 2014 Gubernatorial Election.

B. Review of General Election

The Director shared the amount paid to Election Judges this election, and that it is comparable with other local boards of elections.

The Board discussed sending a survey to all Election Judges, and meeting with all Chief Judges on January 15 from 6-8pm for a Lessons Learned session, after such time the Board will discuss each precinct in more detail. A snow date for the session is scheduled for January 22. Surveys will be sent the week between Christmas and the first of January, with a deadline for return of January 4 so the Board can review them.

Survey items will include training, Election Day opening and closing, polling place staff or facility issues, and how the Election Judges felt the election went in general. The survey will be kept to one page in length and will have a space for comments, both positive and constructive.

Executive Session:

Approval of minutes from last Executive Session has been tabled until the January meeting.

Members Remarks:

The Director and members of the Board commented that they have heard from voters, Election Judges, and the part-time office workers that the election went smoothly and with minimal issues. Early voting seemed to take much of the pressure off the Election Judges on Election Day. A comment was made that the Board and staff work very well together, and that the Board works very hard at making the election work.

Scheduling of Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held on January 8, 2013 at 2:00pm at the Washington County Office Building, 35 W. Washington St., Room 101, Hagerstown, MD.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Tammy moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:32pm; Bill Blazes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Distributed Information:

- A. Voting unit malfunction
- B. Official General Election Results

Compiled by Pamela K. Byrd  
Election Supervisor II

Respectfully Submitted,

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

1-8-13  
Date

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

1/8/13  
Date