

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION
March 11, 2008

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

Present:

Board

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

Staff

Dorothy Kaetzel, Director
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director, I

Eileen Wiggins called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM. Carroll Earp, Republican Alternate, was absent. There was a quorum present.

Dorothy Kaetzel informed the Board that Carroll Earp's father-in-law passed away this week. A sympathy card will be sent to Laurie and Carroll.

Eileen Wiggins brought red velvet cake for the Board and Staff thanking them for their hard work during the election.

Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2008

Eileen Wiggins asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the January 8, 2008 Board Meeting. Eileen Wiggins requested the following corrections (shown in bold):

Page 2

E. County Bulletin – Vol. 4, Issue 1

Dorothy Kaetzel informed the Board that the Provisional Ballot Canvass was to begin Monday, February **18**, 2008 which is a holiday. We are permitted to delay the canvass until Tuesday, February **19**, 2008. The Board will still start the Provisional Canvass on February **18**, 2008.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

Approval of Minutes from the 2008 Primary Election

Eileen Wiggins asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the following minutes:

Organizational Meeting	February 12, 2008
Absentee Canvass #1	February 14, 2008
Provisional Canvass	February 19 & 20, 2008
Special Meeting	February 20, 2008
Absentee Canvass #2	February 22, 2008

Minutes were approved as submitted

Washington County Board of Elections
March 11, 2008 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 2

Addition/Changes to the Agenda:

Dorothy Kaetzel requested the following additions to the agenda:

Correspondence: Electronic Pollbook Allocation and Electronic Pollbook File

Reports: Letter from Charter Commission

New Business: Confidentiality Request will be conducted during an Executive Session

Correspondence:

A. Marion Miller

Letter to Marion Miller informing her of the Board's decision to not retain her as an election judge for the upcoming primary election.

B. Leadership Washington County

Thank you letter from Leadership Washington County to Eileen Wiggins and Sherrie Bonebrake in appreciation for their attendance on January 11, 2008. Eileen and Sherrie shared information regarding the voter turnout for the previous Charter Home Rule Question and for providing voter registration training.

C. Frederick County Board of Elections.

Letter to Mark Davis, Assistant Attorney General, from Daniel Loftus, Attorney for Frederick County Board of Elections. The letter states the view of the Frederick County Board regarding the Anne Arundel Circuit Court Cases involving 17 year olds voting in the primary election.

D. Letters from Election Judges regarding the extended hours

- Fred and Judy O'Neal expressed their displeasure with the extended hours and asked that whoever made the decision be notified. District 17-2 had no voters during the extended period. Their letter will be sent to SBE.
- Patricia Dixon expressed her displeasure with the extended hours and also requesting additional help in the General Election.

E. Letters from Election Judges regarding training and Election Day

- Charlotte Levin requesting changes to training format
- Giovanni Fouche for the opportunity to serve on Election Day
- Letter from James Failor praising the work of Chief Judge, Kurt Ciannelli
- Elizabeth Creech who was ill and unable to work during the primary
- Letter from Mary Helen Staley in appreciation for the work of Craig Davis, EDSS. The letter was forwarded to Nathan Robinson, Laurianne Brown and Richard Dixon.

F. MoveOn.Org

We received a petition from MoveOn.org with 47 signatures and comments from voters in Washington County questioning the security of the electronic voting units.

Washington County Board of Elections
March 11, 2008 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 3

G. Thank you letters

Thank you letter from Linda Lamone, SBE Administrator, thanking the counties for their work and service to the voters. She also explained the decision to request extended hours for voting.

Copy of letter from Governor Martin O'Malley to all of the election judges thanking them for their service.

H. Republican Central Committee

Letter from Marilee Kerns, Secretary Republican Central Committee, regarding the resignations of Michael Brown and Ray Foltz. The new members are Corey Stottlemeyer and H. Richard Seibert.

I. MAEO Correspondence

Information regarding the upcoming MAEO Conference was e-mailed to the Board.

J. Electronic Pollbook Allocation

Memo from Ross Goldstein, SBE, to Delegate Charles Barkley regarding the allocation of Electronic Pollbooks. We requested 50 additional Electronic Pollbooks.

K. Electronic Pollbook Log Files

All 49 polling places in Washington County were opened on time.

Reports:

A. Charter Committee – City of Hagerstown

Letter dated February 21, 2008 from John Dunlap, Chair of the Charter Commission, was received in our office on March 4, 2008. The letter stated that the Charter Commission has completed their recommendations and are waiting for the city attorneys to review the proposed changes. We were scheduled to meet with the Commission on March 12, 2008 to discuss the possibility of moving the City of Hagerstown's election to the presidential or gubernatorial election cycle. The Commission is not interested in meeting because Dorothy Kaetzel appeared before the Commission on August 1, 2007 and requested the same change. At that time, the Commission considered, debated, and voted to change the date of the municipal elections from March and May to September and November beginning in 2013. The vote to move the City Election to a presidential or gubernatorial election was overwhelmingly rejected.

Washington County Board of Elections
March 11, 2008 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 4

Dorothy Kaetzel informed the Board that the next elections for the City of Hagerstown are March and May of 2009. There are still issues that need to be discussed with the City including the filing process and campaign fund reports. Dorothy will contact Donna Spickler, City Clerk, to ask when the revisions to the charter are being voted on.

The Board will consider their options and discuss them during the April Board meeting.

B. Primary Election

The Board discussed the following items:

- The conduct of several Chief Judges
- The need to review the polling place layouts for optimum privacy

C. Student Election Judges

Kaye Robucci thanked the Board for their support in recruiting high school students as election judges. She reported that six high school students worked as election judges during the primary election. Three were paid and three received Student Service Learning Credit. They all did an outstanding job.

D. Linn Hendershot

Mr. Hendershot's report will be tabled until the April Board meeting

Old Business:

No old business to report

New Business:

A. MAEO Convention

MAEO will be held May 4 – 7, 2008 at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD. Reservations will be made this week.

B. Mileage Reimbursement

The Board discussed paying the election judges mileage for setting up on Monday night. Clyde Tate made a motion to pay mileage to those election judges who travel outside of their precinct to set-up prior; Sharon Washington seconded and all were in favor.

Executive Session:

John Benchoff made a motion to go into executive session at 3:10 PM to discuss personnel matters; Clyde Tate seconded the motion and all were in favor. Regular session resumed at 3:20 PM.

Washington County Board of Elections
March 11, 2008 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 5

Member Remarks:

No remarks at this time

Adjournment:

The next Board Meeting will be April 8, 2008 at 2:00 PM. Linn Hendershot's report will be the first item of business.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, John Benchoff made a motion to adjourn at 3:25 PM; Clyde Tate seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Wiggins
Eileen Wiggins, Board President

4/8/08
Date

Kaye E. Robucci
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Dir, I

3-17-08
Date