

PROCEEDINGS

**BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY
February 10, 1998**

Present: Daris Phillips, Democrat Member
Charles Mobley, Jr., Republican Member
Roger Schlossberg, Democrat Alternate
Dorothy M. Waters, Republican Alternate
Mark Brugh, Attorney
Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Election Director II
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director I

Daris called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Richard Coss, Democratic Member was absent. In his absence, Roger Schlossberg sat in.

MINUTES: Dot made a motion and Jim seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 1998 be approved as submitted. All were in favor.

Dorothy informed the Board that Doris Bradley's husband passed away.

A Murder Mystery will be held at the MAEO meeting in May.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter to Judge Wright from Mark Brugh requesting use of court space for counting of the absentee ballots. Judge Wright offered the use of the former commissioners office in the Court House. Mark, Dorothy and Kaye surveyed the area and thought it would work out well. At the March Board meeting, the Board Members will set a date to look at the room, probably early April when Richard Coss is available. Judge Wright has the room reserved for us until further notice.

Dorothy informed the Board that any amendments to the MAEO By-Laws must be received by March 13, 1998.

Memo from Carol Evans, MAEO Legislative Committee, requesting our position on HB 120, SB 124. These Bills are requiring the last four digits of each voters' social security number. We do not support the bills because of the difficulty involved with obtaining 65,000 social security numbers. The Election Center Newsletter also indicates that a Federal Bill has been introduced requiring social security numbers for voter registration.

Minutes of the Directors Meeting held January 7 were discussed. Dorothy pointed out that paragraph 6 on page 2 is incorrect. Dorothy spoke with Linda Lamone and the minutes will be corrected. Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dacheille, is researching the procedure for voters who move within the jurisdiction.

County Commissioner minutes of January 27, 1998 were reviewed. Included in the minutes is the pay increase for the Election Board members of \$300.00 per year. Jim informed the Board that the proposed pay increase had been approved by the Washington County Delegation. The Final Legislative Proposals from Washington County were distributed.

Bill for the Washington County Board of Education - Terms of Members. The Bill specifies that the 3 members who receive the highest number of votes will serve a 4 year term and the two members who receive the next highest number of votes will serve a term of 2 years. After the initial term each term will be 4 years.

Letter from Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dachille, regarding Absentee Ballot Applications on the Web. She concluded that this would be in violation of the election code.

Letter from Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dachille, regarding use of obituaries to cleanse voter rolls. We do use obituaries to clear names of deceased voters from the rolls. We also allow for a challenge of a removal. We will continue to use obituaries to remove deceased voters from the rolls.

Letter from Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dachille, regarding Article 27, 452 - prohibiting certain types of electioneering on specific property in designated counties. The past Superintendent, Wayne Gersen, had given permission for candidates to post campaign signs on school property after school vacated the day before the election and they must be removed by midnight on election day. Mark will send a letter to School Superintendent, Dr. Herman Bartlett, Jr. and copy to the School Attorney, Mr. McGrory, inquiring if the the current policy is still in place or if they will be revising the policy. Until further notice, we will not be distributing the current school board policy on campaign signs.

Letter from Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dachille, regarding the proper district to register a voter whose street address is in one district, but the house is in another district. She recommends using the street address to determine the proper election district.

Letter from Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Dachille, regarding inquiries for public information. Kathleen is suggesting that we establish a policy for providing information pertaining to voter records. We will request the caller to provide his name before providing voter information over the phone. If the person refuses to give his name he will be asked to request the information in writing or appear in person to the board office.

There will be a retirement party for Carrie Armiger, Prince George's County, on February 23, 1998.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board discussed District 24 - Horst Fencing. Dorothy informed the Board that the Court Commissioners may be moving their office to the Detention Center. They would be using the same room we had surveyed for a polling room. Dorothy also informed the Board that the

poll workers had surveyed the area at the Detention Center and they would prefer not to move since Horst Fencing is a central location, there have been no complaints and Horst Fencing has always been very accommodating. Jim made a motion to keep District 24 at Horst Fencing, Dot seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Board discussed moving District 5 from the Hancock Community Building to the Hancock Middle/Senior High School. Roger made a motion to relocate District 5 to the Hancock Middle/Senior High School, Dot seconded the motion and all were in favor. Notification cards will be sent to each voter informing them of their new polling place.

NEW BUSINESS: Janet Buchanan is coming February 11 to discuss calendar of dates.

Dorothy sent the letters requesting permission to use the polling places.

Dorothy distributed copies of the FY 99 and Strategic Long Range Budgets. Dorothy indicated that there is a \$23,000 increase over the last Gubernatorial Election Year - FY 95. This increase is due mostly to the increase in the poll workers pay and training class fee.

The State Ethics Commission Forms were distributed and need to be returned by April 30, 1998.

The class at HJC, "How to Run for Office", has been canceled.

The office will be closed February 16 in honor of President's Day.

Next meeting March 10, 1998.

Motion made by Roger and seconded by Jim to adjourn the meeting at 3:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye E. Robucci

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Election Deputy Director I