

MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION
May 16, 2006

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

Present:

Board

Charles Mobley, Jr., President
Clyde Tate, Republican Member
Eileen Wiggins, Democratic Member
John Benchoff, Democratic Alternate
Clair Baker, Attorney

Staff

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

Charles Mobley called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2006

Charles Mobley asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the April 11, 2006 Board Meeting. The following corrections were made (corrections shown in **bold**).

Page 3:

B. Christ Lutheran Church

The Board discussed using Emmanuel **United Methodist** Church

Page 2:

C. Name Badges

Charles Mobley reported that the order has been given to **Aladdin** for the new name badges.

Minutes were approved as corrected.

Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2006

Charles Mobley asked if the Board had any corrections or modifications to the minutes of the April 27, 2006 Special Board Meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Addition/Changes to the Agenda:

Dorothy Kaetzel requested the following items be discussed under Correspondence: Marylander for a Fair Election, Letter from Senator Munson, Letter to Reverend Hawes, and Memo to Charles Strong.

**Washington County Board of Elections
May 16, 2006 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 2**

Correspondence:

A. County Bulletins

Vol. 2 Issue 5: The deadline to request items to improve accessibility at polling places has been extended to June 16, 2006.

Vol. 2 Issue 6: The voting system questionnaire has been completed and returned to SBE.

Vol. 2 Issue 7: Dorothy Kaetzel ordered 500 "Need Assistance" button for use at the polling places.

B. Public Justice Center

Letter from Roscoe Jones, Jr. to Mary Wagner, SBE, regarding registration and voting procedures for incarcerated individuals. Based on a 2006 survey of the local election boards, the Public Justice Center is asking SBE to clarify its procedures.

C. CSC Contract

E-mail from Ross Goldstein, SBE, regarding the CSC Contract for continued support of the election management system. The contract went before the Board of Public Works for renewal but was not approved. It will be held until the next board meeting.

D. Interim Election Administrator

Robert Antonetti has been appointed as the Interim Election Administrator for Prince George's County.

E. Election Center

All Election Offices should be prepared for heightened scrutiny in many of the federal contests and to be prepared for recounts.

F. Marylanders for a Fair Election

Marylanders for a Fair Election is requesting information under the Maryland Public Information Act. Dorothy Kaetzel has prepared an estimate of the number of hours and cost of the request. She sent the estimate of \$4,400.00 on May 12, 2006. An e-mail was received on May 12, granting a 15 day extension. Clair Baker will review the information and send a response.

G. Senator Munson

Letter from Senator Donald Munson regarding Senate Bill 713 – Voter Verified Paper Records.

**Washington County Board of Elections
May 16, 2006 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 3**

H. District 3-2

Letter to Reverend Kenneth Hawes requesting permission to use Emmanuel United Methodist Church as a polling place for District 3-2.

I. Charlie Baker Case

Memo Charles Strong, State's Attorney, requesting that the trial for Roger Weber, aka Charlie Baker, not be scheduled close to the primary and general elections.

Reports:

A. MAEO

Everyone agreed that the MAEO Conference was very informative.

B. Registration Figures

Registration is running about 3% with the City of Hagerstown at 4%.

C. Court Case – Charlie Baker

Charles Mobley reported on the Charlie Baker case held April 25, 2006. Charles Mobley and Kaye Robucci went to court. When Charlie Baker was asked if he wanted a jury trial, he didn't answer the question, so a jury trial was ordered. The case will now be heard in Circuit Court. No date has been set. Dorothy Kaetzel sent a memo to Charles Strong, State's Attorney, regarding the dates of the elections.

D. Budget

Dorothy Kaetzel updated the Board on the FY07 budget. The County Commissioner Minutes of April 10 and April 11 noted that the budget for the Election Board would increase by \$355,620 or 62.4% for wages paid to temporary poll workers for 2006. She also reported that the Board did not receive their extra money. The rest of the budget was OK.

E. Alternate Board Member

Dorothy Kaetzel asked if there has been any progress on the appointment of a Republican Alternate. Charles Mobley reported that he has not contacted the Republican Central Committee.

**Washington County Board of Elections
May 16, 2006 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 4**

Old Business:

A. Polling Place Changes

The Board made decisions on the following polling places:

- District 15: Big Pool Community Center – Stay at Big Pool for 2006
- District 26-1: Hickory Elementary – The Board looked at several locations and none worked out. We will stay at Hickory Elementary School for 2006. Charles Mobley will draft a letter to Patricia Abernathy stating such.
- District 3-2: Emmanuel United Methodist Church was surveyed and permission was received to use it. The Board approved the use of Emmanuel United Methodist Church on April 27, 2006.
- District 10-1: E. Russell Hicks was surveyed and permission was received to use it. The Board approved the use of E. Russell Hicks.
- District 22-2: John Benchoff and Eileen Wiggins surveyed a building at the fairgrounds. There is neither heat nor air conditioning available. The Board rejected the use of this building and discussed the need for another location.

Charles Mobley proposed the following:

- District 21-1: Move the polling place from Potomac Heights Elementary School (located in District 18-2) to First Christian Church (located within District 21-1).
- District 18-2: Move the polling place from Pangborn Elementary School (located in District 22-2) to Potomac Heights Elementary School (located within District 18-2).
- District 22-2: Move the polling place from Christ Lutheran Church (not permitted to use) to Pangborn Elementary School (located within District 22-2).

Charles Mobley made a motion to adopt the proposed changes to Districts 18-2, 21-1 and 22-2 in order to realign the polling locations. This motion is pending per approval by First Christian Church. Eileen Wiggins seconded the motion and all were in favor.

B. Poll Workers

Dorothy Kaetzel distributed copies of the election worker training schedule to the Board.

C. Brochures – Guide for AccuVote

Dorothy Kaetzel received a quote from CopyQuik for printing of the brochures. The price is \$700.00 per 1,000. She is waiting to hear how much they are from SBE.

**Washington County Board of Elections
May 16, 2006 Board Minutes (Continued)
Page 5**

New Business:

A. Early Voting

Dorothy Kaetzel reported on Early Voting. We are required to have one location and it must be within the county seat. We have permission to use the conference room on the first floor. We would use 2 chief judges and 9 judges to staff the early voting location.

Member Remarks:

Clair Baker appreciated the opportunity to attend MAEO.

The next meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held June 13, 2006 at 2:00 PM at the Board Office.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time. John Benchoff made a motion to adjourn at 3:36 PM; Eileen Wiggins seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Mobley Ker 6-13-06
Charles L. Mobley, Jr., Board President Date

Kaye E. Robucci 5-17-06
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Dir, I Date