

PROCEEDINGS

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
April 10, 2001**

Present: Richard L. Coss, Board President
Marianne Schneider, Democratic Member
Charles Mobley, Republican Member
Eileen Wiggins, Democratic Alternate
Dorothy M. Waters, Republican Alternate
Roger Schlossberg, Attorney
Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Election Director II
Kaye E. Robucci, Election Deputy Director I

Richard Coss called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. He thanked Eileen Wiggins for picking and delivering the work from the MVA while he was away. He also thanked Marianne Schneider for assuming the chair in his absence.

MINUTES: Marianne Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2001, Board meeting; Charles L. Mobley seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Minutes of the State Board Meeting held February 14, 2001 were distributed. All Board Members and Attorney have received their copy of Title 33.

Various information on the voting process and election reform was distributed.

The effort by the Federal Government to appoint a Special Election Panel to examine election reform died due to House Partisanship.

The Election Administration Advisory Panel Meeting will be held May 4-5, 2001 at the Wyndham, Baltimore Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD. Roger Schlossberg suggested that it would be a good idea for someone from our board to attend in light of the accessibility issues that will be discussed. Charles Mobley will consider attending. Deadline is April 20, 2001.

Minutes of the MAEO meeting held February 21, 2001 were distributed.

MAEO is accepting nominations for any retiring members or for any special recognition awards. Policy for Awards and Recognition was received.

The Nominating Committee is requesting names to be placed on the ballot for the MAEO Board of Directors. The election will be held June 12, 2001.

OLD BUSINESS: Communication problems on election day will be tabled until next board meeting.

Meal packages will be ordered for the MAEO meeting in June. Kaye Robucci will find out the price for only the meals.

Roger Schlossberg distributed a packet of information regarding Robin Harmon that he sent to State Prosecutor, Steven Montanarelli.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board discussed the Lease Extension Agreement from ES&S. Roger Schlossberg suggested several items to consider:

- Don't purchase the equipment at this point
- The termination clause. He feels this point should be re-negotiated with ES&S. The Board discussed this and decided to re-negotiate the extension lease with a date of 12/31/01. If the State decided on a uniform statewide voting system prior to 12/31/01 - the lease amount would not be paid. If the State did not decide on a uniform statewide voting system until after 12/31/01 - the lease amount would be paid. Roger Schlossberg will inform the county attorney of the Board's recommendation.

House Bill 1457 and Senate Bill 833 were discussed. Charles Mobley led the discussion on the two bills. He provided the following overview to the Board:

- Both bills have been amended and are now identical
- Bills provide for a uniform statewide voting system for use at the polling places and for absentee voting
- Must be capable of creating a paper record of all votes cast in order that an audit trail is available in case of a recount
- No particular system was specified
- State will purchase or lease the equipment
- No set date for implementation
- Each county will be responsible for 50% of the cost based on voting age population.
- Bill takes effect 6/1/01
- Lever machines cannot be used after 12/31/01 unless the state has not selected a statewide system

Director's meeting will be held April 11, 2001.

Charles Mobley volunteered to be on the committee that will be reviewing the voting systems.

Dorothy Kaetzel will find out the date we are to be moving to our new office.

Continuing Education Classes were discussed. Classes will be held July 21 - 28, 2001 at Anne Arundel Community College. Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci are thinking of attending but there is no money in the budget. Dorothy Kaetzel will ask the state if there is money in their budget.

The Board discussed hiring for the Election Clerk II position. Dorothy Kaetzel has an eligibility list. Dorothy Kaetzel, Kaye Robucci and the Board will be involved in the interviewing process.

Marianne Schneider made a motion to adjourn at 3:25 PM; Dorothy Waters seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next meeting will be May 8, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Robucci

Kaye E. Robucci
Election Deputy Director I