

PROCEEDINGS

BOARD OF ELECTION SUPERVISORS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Board of Election Supervisors for Washington County held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, February 14, 1995, at the Board Office. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 P.M. by Daris Phillips.

The following were recorded present:

Daris Phillips, Democrat Member
Jason A. Malott, Democrat Alternate
Dorothy M. Waters, Republican Alternate
Mark P. Brugh, Attorney
Dorothy M. Kaetzel, Election Deputy Director I
Kaye E. Robucci, Registrar

In the absence of Richard Coss and Charles Mobley, Jason Malott and Dorothy Waters sat in.

MINUTES: Motion made by Jason, seconded by Dottie Waters that the minutes of the meeting held on January 10, 1995 be approved as submitted.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dorothy informed the Board of request from SABEL for the names of any deceased members of MAEO from 1989 to present. There were only two, Ralph A. McCauley and Charles L. Downey.

Dorothy informed the board that the annual MAEO meeting will be held on June 19, 20 and 21 in Washington County. She also informed the Board of the Special Meeting held February 10 in Montgomery County.

Copies of Election Judge Survey were distributed. Discussion ensued concerning the underpayment of poll workers in Washington County.

Dorothy informed the Board of Ballot Security Survey completed and returned to Gene Raynor.

Copies of memo from Julian Manelli announcing the reopening of all books on January 18, 1995 were distributed.

Letter from poll worker Vera Seal was distributed. Mrs. Seal informed the Board that she had forgotten to vote during the General Election on November 8, 1994; and hoped it would not jeopardize her being reappointed as an Election Judge. Letter will be sent to her from President Richard Coss, assuring her that it will not affect her being a poll worker.

Letter sent to Bob Antonetti supplying the names of the elected officials in Washington County was distributed. Mr. Antonetti would like to invite them to the MAEO meeting.

Board informed of letter from William Kimberling, Federal Election Commission, regarding the Convention in Colorado in April.

Copies of memo from Mr. Edward Koogle regarding High School Voter Registration were distributed. Registration will be held at Hancock on February 23. Dorothy and Kaye will be attending.

PERSONNEL: Dorothy informed the Board that she spoke with Ernestine Blake-Green concerning the promotion of Dorothy Kaetzel and Kaye Robucci. Ernestine assured Dorothy that the paper work has been sent to the Department of Personnel. Concerned was raised that fourth position will not be filled until June or later.

OLD BUSINESS: Mark Brugh distributed copies of letter to Mr. Keeling of Business Records Corporation, concerning the replacement of the 62 ballot boxes. He has given Mr. Keeling two weeks to reply.

Dorothy informed the Board that all the required agencies had received Voter Registration Applications. Social Services has received 3000 forms, Vocational Rehab has received 1000 forms, WIC has received 600 forms, The Commission on Aging has received 1000 forms and the Health Department has 5000 forms.

Dorothy spoke with Debbie Bastian, Accounting Department, concerning the additional compensation for the Board Members. Referring to minutes of August 9, 1994, when Board discussed entering a bill in state legislature in effort to change the law, Debbie advised this would not be necessary and to just combine additional compensation with regular salary in budget.

NEW BUSINESS: Impact of NVRA was discussed. Voter registration has increase by 538 voters. We received 262 from the MVA and 82 from Social Services & WIC.

Mark discussed the Special Meeting held in Montgomery County on February 10, 1995. Meeting was held to draft some proposed legislation and try to implement uniform procedures in all counties. Proposed legislation include the following:

1. Removing the affidavit from absentee ballot application (therefore accepting just a written request for an absentee ballot. In addition, the affidavit is on the absentee ballot envelope).
2. To not open any envelope or count any absentee ballots until 10:00 am on Thursday.
3. To allow the hiring of declines to work as poll workers.
4. Make poll worker pay uniform throughout the state. Chief Judges would receive \$150.00 and Judges would receive \$100.00. Training fee to be \$25.00.

Additional procedure changes include: not accepting any absentee ballot that is not sealed in its envelopes, notifying all voters whose absentee ballot was not counted and the reason it was rejected, and informing poll workers they must repeat the name and address of each voter loud enough for any challengers or watchers to hear. In addition, the Attorney General is to define or eliminate the word canvass as it applies to Article 33.

We will send letters to those voters whose absentee ballots were rejected in the Primary and General Elections.

Copies of the High School Registration Booklet were distributed.

Decision made to table any decisions about the MAEO meeting until the March meeting. Dorothy will contact Bob Antonetti to see when he needs information from us to set the price for the package.

The 1995 Biennial meeting will be held October 24, 25 and 26, 1995 at the Sheraton Hotel in Ocean City.

Jason made a motion that if the legislation doesn't pass to increase the poll worker pay statewide, that the Board increase the poll worker pay in Washington County to \$90 for Chief Judges and \$80 for Judges. Daris seconded the motion and discussion followed. Motion taken and all were in favor.

Request made for a transfer of funds to purchase 3 office chairs from Office Essentials who submitted the low bid. Dot motioned and Jason seconded the transfer of funds.

WordPerfect 6.0 has been installed on our Dell Computer. This will allow both computers to be used for WordPerfect documents and free up the computer with the absentee ballot report on.

Copies of the revised Government Official Guide were distributed. Paulette Sprinkle with the County will set it up in Page Maker for us and the Chamber of Commerce is looking for a sponsor to print it.

Dorothy distributed copies of the estimated cost of the General Election, Fiscal Year 1996 budget request and the 1995 calendar. She informed the Board that weather permitting she will be attending a meeting in Annapolis on February 15, regarding the NVRA.

Dorothy informed the Board that the brochure "How to Vote in Maryland" will be updated by SABEL after the legislative session is over.

Copies of the Fiscal Estimate Worksheet for HB 478 were distributed. Whenever legislation is introduced that costs money, an analysis is done on the affect it will have if passed. Worksheet completed and returned to Jim Young.

Dorothy informed the Board that we do not have to move from the Boonsboro High School during elections. She spoke with Ralph Giffin and he said we are to stay there and if anyone disagrees they are to call him. There had been a complaint from the Athletic Director. Also, the problem with the availability of a phone at Keedysville has been resolved.

Next meeting March 14, 1995 at 2:00 P.M.

Dottie motioned, seconded by Jason, to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye E. Robucci