

Minutes

Talbot County Board of Elections
215 Bay Street
Easton, MD 21601
May 16, 2018

Present:

Board

Joseph H. Secrist, President (R)
Richard B. Bulman (R)
Wadella Thomas (R)

Staff

Jeri Cook, Election Director
Kyra Farrow, LBE Technician

Public

Walt Johnson

The monthly meeting of the Talbot County Board of Elections was held on May 16, 2018 in Conference Room # One at the Board office indicated above. Prior to the start on the meeting, Clerk of the Court, Mary Ann Shortall administered the oath of office to Mr. Secrist, Ms. Thomas and Mr. Bulman as members of the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Susan MacKinnon has taken the oath with Ms. Shortall's office at an earlier date because she was not able to attend the meeting. Following this, Mr. Secrist called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m. Mr. Secrist noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of April 18, 2018

Mr. Secrist asked if the Board had any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2018, a copy of which had been forwarded to the Board Members in advance of the meeting. Upon motion duly made (Mr. Bulman) and seconded (Ms. Thomas), the minutes for April 18, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Secrist asked for additions or changes to the agenda. He asked that the following be added to the agenda:

- Change June Meeting Date
- Board Web Site

A motion to approve the agenda with the addition of these two items was made (Mr. Bulman) and seconded (Ms. Thomas) and approved unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Election Director's Report

Ms. Cook introduced Kyra Farrow who was recently hired as the LBE Technician for this election cycle. Ms. Farrow was welcomed by the board members.

At this point, Ms. Farrow departed the meeting.

Election Judge Training: At this point training is completed. An Open House will be held on June 9 for any judges desiring additional training.

Specimen Ballots: Preparation of the Specimen Ballots is in progress.

Ballots: There are 4 ballot styles and they are now at the office. There may need to be a last-minute change in the Democratic ballot due to the death of Gubernatorial Candidate Kevin Kamenetz. No final decision has been made at this time.

Logic and Analysis Testing: Testing starts on Tuesday May 29 at 9:00 a.m.

Canvass Ideas: Some suggestions were offered regarding the procedure for canvass. Duplicate ballots will be prepared by hand.

Ms. Cook explained the reasons for overtime and the high quarterly billings from the State Board.

Board Attorney's Report

Due to the absence of Mr. Cronan, there was no report.

Old Business

Review Invoices

No issues were raised regarding the invoices.

Approval of Election Judges

Ms. Cook provided her suggestions on the assignment of judges for the upcoming Primary. She has been able to increase the number of judges substantially from the list previously approved by the board. Discussion ensued concerning the number and positions at the various polling places, and the balance of the assignments by party. Two changes were agreed upon to the assignments suggested by Ms. Cook – Move one Republican judge from Oxford to Easton High School and remove one

Democrat judge from Wittman and schedule as Standby. Mr. Bulman, then moved approval of the Election Judge assignments as submitted by Ms. Cook with these two changes. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cook reported that she will have no problems meeting the political party balance requirement for Early Voting.

Budget FY2018

The board reviewed the expenditures for the year as reported through April. It was noted that Contractual Services, Other operating expenses and Salaries Part Time are over budget. Salaries Part Time was due to the need to hire Regina as a contractual employee before she was hired full time. The other operating expense line is for things that do not fall into another line item. This was recommended by Angela Lane, County Finance Officer. Contractual Services reflects the need for the Board Attorney to address the mapping error between Districts 1 and 3. Mr. Bulman moved to approve the expenditures over budget for Contractual Services due to the need to rectify the mapping error. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Budget FY2019

The county is still considering the budget for the coming year.

County Bulletins

Copies of the latest County Bulletin were distributed to the board members.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Cook had previously provided copies of recently submitted surveys to the board.

New Business

Board Web Site

Mr. Secrist noted that the number of voters reported on the web site was out of date and asked Ms. Cook to update it.

He also pointed out that access to Absentee Ballot Application is more difficult on our site than on the sites of other counties. He asked Ms. Cook to look into improving that feature on our site.

Change June Meeting Date

Mr. Secrist noted that our regular date for the June meeting will be during Early Voting and suggested we move the meeting to the prior week. Due to a scheduling conflict,

Conference Room # One will not be available; however, Conference Room # Two is available. Ms. Thomas moved that the June meeting be changed from June 20 to June 13, 2018 in Conference Room # Two. Mr. Bulman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. At that meeting the board will decide the polling places to be evaluated and make Board Member assignments.

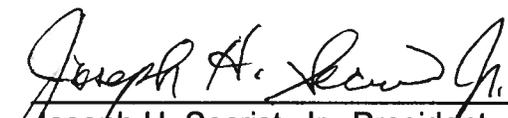
Confirmation of next meeting – June 13, 2018

Mr. Secrist noted that the next Board meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on June 13, 2018.

Adjournment

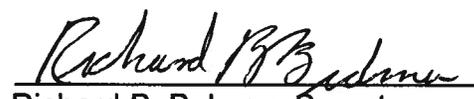
Ms. Thomas moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Bulman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11.29 a.m.

Attested,



Joseph H. Secrist, Jr., President

Respectfully submitted,



Richard B. Bulman, Secretary