

Board Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2013

Attendees:

Board:

Susan MacKinnon, (D) Board President
Joseph Secrist, (R) Board Member
Walter Black, (D) Board Member
Mary-Beth Goll, (D) Substitute Member
Venita Southworth (R) Substitute Member

Staff:

Patti Mitchell, Election Director
Sabrina Fishell, Administrative Assistant

Public:

None

Susan MacKinnon, Board President called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 9, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Ms. MacKinnon asked if there were any corrections or changes to the minutes. No corrections or changes were noted. Mr. Black made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Southworth seconded the motion.

OLD BUSINESS

Polling Places:

Ms. Mitchell said when she went to the last school board meeting, all of the school board members were not present, and so the matter of using the schools for polling places was tabled until the next school board meeting. Ms. Mitchell stated that the next school board meeting will be Thursday night at 7 p.m. and that she and Ms. MacKinnon planned to attend. Ms. Goll stated that she thought the last school board meeting went very well. Ms. Mitchell said that she was happy to hear the school board members would consider closing the schools for the election.

5 Member Board:

Ms. Mitchell stated the meeting with the Talbot County Council is today at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Mitchell gave each board member a list of all of the Counties with the number of members and substitutes they have on their election board. Ms. Mitchell stated that today's meeting with the Talbot County Council is to see if they would support a 5 member Talbot County Election Board. Due to a death in Ms. Mitchell's family, Ms. Mitchell will not be able to attend the meeting today. Ms. MacKinnon will represent the Talbot County Election Board at the meeting. Mr. Secrist questioned Ms. Mitchell on where she obtained the list of members and substitute members that she presented to them. Ms. Mitchell stated that she pulled the information off each county's website. Ms. MacKinnon stated that in 2010, Senator Colburn supported legislation in Worchester and Wicomico Counties from substitute members to full board members. Ms. Southworth stated that if approved, this change would not go into effect until June 2015. Mr. Black stated this request would not cost the county additional money.

Open Meeting Class Requirement:

There was a general discussion about the Open Meetings Act Online class. It was decided by the board members to wait until the December 2013 meeting to designate someone for the Election Board.

General Discussion:

Mr. Secrist asked Ms. Mitchell if she had found out which counties have schools closed and which counties have schools open on Election Day. There was a general discussion about schools being closed vs. opened on Election Day. Ms. Mitchell said that the Election Law book was vague about which schools were opened or closed on Election Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Election Judge Letters:

Ms. Mitchell stated that an application to apply to be an election judge was mailed to 85 previous election judges. Ms. Mitchell stated that 102 election judges were used in the 2012 General Presidential Election. She said that the deadline to receive the application back was December 1st. She said that we would review the applications once the deadline had past.

Adjournment:

Ms. Goll made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Black. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, December 11th at 9:30 a.m.