

## **Board of Elections of Talbot County Meeting March 11, 2015, 142 N. Harrison St., Easton, MD**

**Attending: Board Members:** Susan MacKinnon (D), President; Walter Black (D); Joe Secrist ( R); Mary-Beth Goll (D), substitute member; Venita Southworth ( R), substitute member; **Election Director:** Patti Mitchell; **Guests:** Rich Bulman, Lynn Carroll, Antonia Jennings; Prospective Board Attorney, Philip Cronan

February 11 minutes were approved with these corrections: Add “Danny Mautz was reassigned” to first paragraph, and add “at 2 p.m.” to the end of sentence 2 under Board Attorney.

**OLD BUSINESS: General Election:** Ms. Mitchell explained that St. Michaels had 7 voting machines—one went down, and 2 poll books on Election Day. The number of voting machines assigned to each polling place was determined by the state. Talbot County’s machines were in line with state requirements. In 2016, each polling place will have one central machine except the Easton fire house that will have 2.

**New Voting Machines:** Ms. Mitchell just received the acclimation machine, designated as a training machine on March 9. Jim Butts will be the team trainer for 2016; he and Ms. Mitchell are taking classes this spring. The new office will have enough space to store the voting machines; paper for ballots will be stored in a climate controlled area.

**Budget:** The figures are not finalized as the state is still ordering more equipment. The Board discussed the proposed salary for the five-member board. Mr. Secrist moved and Ms. Southworth seconded motion to present revised annual salary figures of \$2,580 per Board member and \$3,080 for the president to the County Council. The members would be paid the additional \$500 after doing each election’s canvass (not included in the salary). Motion passed.

**By-Laws:** Because of the change from a three to five member Board, the by-laws will be examined after the new board takes office in June.

**Board of Elections Office move** to 215 Bay Street is scheduled for March. Ms. Mitchell hopes to be there before the April 8 meeting.

**Board Attorney:** Philip Cronan met with the Board. His duties and compensation details (\$350 / h.; \$750 retainer fee) were discussed and will be finalized later. He feels that he can arrange his schedule to accommodate Board meetings. Members received a copy of his biographical information with their

**Maryland Association of Election Officials: MAEO Conference: June 9-12 in Ocean City.** Ms. Mitchell reported that the agenda has not been finalized yet. The new Board’s attendance is required on the day of the Biennial conference. The new Board will take office June 5. New staff member Teresa Goode will also attend.

**Next Meeting: April 8, 2015 at 9:30 at 215 Bay St. (?)**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Mary-Beth Goll, Recorder