

# Minutes

Talbot County Board of Elections  
215 Bay Street  
Easton, MD 21601  
November 2, 2022

Present:

## **Board**

Joseph Secrist, President	(R)
Walter Black	(D)
Richard Bulman	(R)
Wadella Thomas	(R)
Susan MacKinnon	(D)

## **Staff**

Tammy Stafford, Election Program Assistant II

## **Public**

None

A Special Meeting of the Talbot County Board of Elections was held on November 2, 2022 in Conference Room # One at the Board office indicated above. President Joseph Secrist called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. Mr. Secrist noted that a quorum was present. Miss Stafford distributed materials for the meeting then departed the meeting.

## **Procedural Issues regarding selection of Election Director**

Board Members proceeded to discuss possible questions for the panel members who will interview candidates for the position of Election Director. Copies of the interview material from the last interview panel for selection of Election Director served as a basis for discussion. Following discussion, Ms. MacKinnon moved approval of the interview questions used by the previous interview panel with the following modification:

- Question 1, add "governing boards" to Suggested Response # 7 and "bylaws and" to Suggested Response # 11;
- Question 4, add "managing" to Suggested Response # 4;
- Question 12, add "governing boards" to Justification
- Question 9, replace the previous question with the new question in the attachment to these minutes.

Mr. Bulman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Mr. Secrist asked Mr. Bulman to forward the approved questions to Ebony Parron at the State Board offices.

### **Appointment of Election Judges**

At this point, Ms. Stafford returned to the meeting. The Board discussed the Election Judge assignments suggested by her and Election Director Crystal McGinn. Mr. Black moved approval of the Election Judges as presented by the staff. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. At this point, Ms. Stafford departed the meeting.

### **Procedural Issues regarding selection of Election Director (continued)**

Board Members had questions regarding personnel procedures and invited Ms. Ebony Parran of the State Board staff to participate by conference call. She answered questions and clarified the state policy regarding staffing and interviewing candidates. Board Members also discussed specifics regarding the selection of an interim Election Director following the departure of the current Election Director. Ms. Parran then left the meeting.

The Board then discussed selection of a non-Board Member to participate in the candidate interview process. Mr. Bulman then moved the Board invite Ms. Dionne Church to serve on the interview panel or, in the event she is not available, Ms. Patty Jackson. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Mr. Secrist contacted Ms. Church who agreed to serve on the panel.

Following discussion of possible other members of the panel, Mr. Bulman moved that the panel consist of Ms. Church, Ms. Thomas, Mr. Secrist and Ms. MacKinnon. Mr. Black seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

### **Consider appointment of Interim Election Director**

The Board then discussed the time and place for the Board to meet to discuss the candidates the Election Director position. Following discussion, Mr. Secrist announced that the Board will meet at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at the offices of Booth, Booth, Cropper and Marriner, PC, 130 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland.

### **Closed Session**

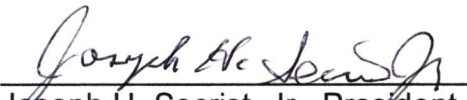
Ms. MacKinnon moved that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters that affect one or more specific individuals as permitted under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b) (1). Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Whereupon the Board went into closed session at 11:47 AM. Present at this session were Board Members Mr. Secrist, Mr. Black, Ms. Thomas, Ms. MacKinnon and Mr. Bulman.

At 2:32 PM. the Board returned to open session. President Secrist reported that the Board discussed procedural issues regarding the selection of the next Election Director and appointed Ms. Stafford as Interim Election Director following the departure of Election Director Crystal McGinn. The Board also approved the minutes of the Closed Meetings of July 13, 2022 and September 21, 2022.

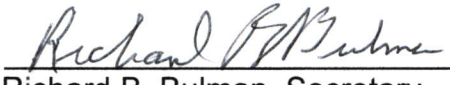
### **Adjournment**

Mr. Black moved adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:34 PM.

Attested,

  
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Joseph H. Secrist, Jr., President

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Richard B. Bulman, Secretary