

Minutes

Talbot County Board of Elections
215 Bay Street
Easton, MD 21601
March 15, 2023

Attendance

Board Members Present

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

Staff

Tamara Stafford, Talbot County Election Director

Board Attorney

Lyndsey Ryan

*Ms. MacKinnon attended by conference call. She did not vote on any motions.

The monthly meeting of the Talbot County Board of Elections was held March 15, 2023 in Conference Room # One at the Board office indicated above. Mr. Secrist called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Secrist asked if the Board had any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting of February 15, 2023, copies of which had been mailed to the Board Members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Black moved to approve of minutes as mailed. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Addition/Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Secrist asked for any additions or changes to the agenda as presented. Mr. Black moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Election Director's Report

Ms. Stafford provided the Board with a written report on staff activities since the last monthly Board Meeting. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes. She expanded on her written report as follows:

- She has completed the interview of candidates for the Election Program Assistant II position and awaits action on her selection at the State Board.
- She updated the Board on the issues surrounding the dismissal of an election judge on Election Day.

Board Attorney's Report

Ms. Ryan provided status reports on several bills pending in the State Legislature that would affect the conduct of elections and operations of local election boards.

Old Business

- A. FY 2023 Budget - Ms. Stafford provided reports on expenditures recorded through March 1, 2023. There were no questions from Board Members.
- B. FY 2024 Budget – Ms. Stafford provided an updated proposed budget for the coming year. This revised budget reflects the addition of an Election Program Assistant II position, the cost of relocating the operation now at the Glebe Road location to a temporary location and the updated cost of pollbooks provided to her by the State Board office.
- C. Facility for Election Office – Ms. Stafford provided the Board with sketches for the relocation of the Glebe Road operation to space in our current office building. It is anticipated that this will be a temporary situation and that the Board's entire operation will be moved a single new location in 2025.
- D. Tilghman Fire House Repair – An estimate to repair damage at the Tilghman Fire House that occurred during the last election was presented to the Board in the amount of \$151.74. Following discussion, Mr. Black moved that the Board approve payment of \$151.74 to cover the cost of repairs at the Tilghman Fire House. Mr. Bulman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

New Business

- A. MAEO Conference – Ms. Stafford provided updated information for the MAEO Meeting scheduled for May 14 – 19, 2023. She asked that Board Members and the Board Attorney advise her of their plans so that she can make appropriate arrangements. Ms. Ryan asked for guidance regarding her attendance at the meeting. Following discussion, Mr. Black moved that Ms. Ryan attend the MAEO meeting. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Confirmation of the next meeting

Mr. Secrist noted that the next regular monthly meeting will be Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 9:30 AM.

Board of Canvassers meeting

Mr. Black moved that the Board of Election convene as the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

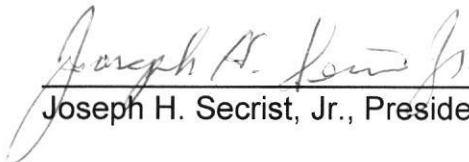
The Board of Elections convened as the Board of Canvassers at 10:26 AM for presentation of a ballot from General Election. Ms. Stafford presented an unopened mail-in ballot to the Board which was received after certification of results. She recommended it be rejected for the reason it was received late. Mr. Bulman moved the ballot be rejected for the reason it was not received in a timely manner. Mr. Black seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Black moved that the Board of Canvassers meeting be adjourned and the Board of Elections reconvene. Mr. Bulman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. This concluded the meeting of the Board of Canvassers at 10:28 AM.

Adjournment

Mr. Black moved adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM.

Attested,


Joseph H. Secrist, Jr., President

Respectfully submitted,


Richard B. Bulman, Secretary