

Frederick County Board of Elections

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MINUTES of the November 6, 2019 Meeting of the Frederick County Board of Elections

PRESENT

Mary Lou Green, President
Shirley McDonald, Vice President
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary
Mary Costello, Board Member
William L. Woodcock, Board Member
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney

Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director
Christine Winer, Election Supervisor
Marc R. Welch, Election Administrative Assistant
MC Keegan-Ayer, County Council President

Mrs. Green called the meeting to order at 12:32 PM.

COUNCIL:

Mrs. Keegan-Ayer discussed the ongoing Charter Review process. Mr. Harvey explained one possible Charter Amendment involving special elections to fill vacancies for the Board of Education. He will appear at the Charter Review Commission meeting on November 18, 2019. The Board discussed the process.

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes for the October 9, 2019 meeting. Mr. Woodcock made a motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Costello seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A) FY20 BUDGET

Mr. Harvey provided an update on the current budget status. Not much money has been spent so far, other than capital expenditures (SBE quarterly billing).

B) 2020 ELECTION CALENDAR

Mr. Harvey gave the board an overview of the upcoming special Primary Election for the 7th Congressional District, scheduled for February 4, 2020, and the Special General Election, scheduled for the regular Primary Election on April 28, 2020. This special election will cause the SDR timetable to be accelerated, at least in the impacted counties.

Mr. Harvey also discussed the office's upcoming work as a satellite office for statewide candidate filings for convention delegates. It is expected the bulk of filings will be for delegate to the Democratic National Convention. The Board discussed the candidate filing process.

C) BIENNIAL MEETING - OCTOBER 17

The Board discussed the recent Biennial Meeting held in Annapolis.

D) VACANT POSITIONS

The Election Data Application Specialist II position was filled by Seth Avallone. The contractual IT position interviews will happen on November 7 and 8, 2019. Election Judge Recruiter position interviews will happen on November 21, 2019.

E) RECLASSIFICATIONS

Mr. Harvey provided an update on the status of the State reclassification process. Mr. Harvey and Mrs. Schultz have completed documentation requested by HR at the State Board. The reclassification will be presented at the December 2019 SBE meeting.

F) POLLING PLACE CHANGE

Grace Community Church is not available for the 2020 elections due to construction. This will require relocating Precincts 24-002/004/005/006 to People's Baptist Church. Mr. Harvey and Mr. Welch completed the accessibility survey, and signal testing on October 15, 2019. Mrs. Costello made the motion to relocate Precincts 24-002/004/005/006 for the 2020 elections. Mrs. McDonald seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

G) THURMONT ELECTION

Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the 2019 Thurmont Municipal Election.

H) FY21 BUDGET

Mr. Harvey explained the now-submitted FY2021 budget request.

I) OTHER

Mr. Hill asked if work has begun on the upcoming voting system contract. Mr. Harvey updated the Board on the 11/5 Election subcommittee meeting, and the lawsuit about the BMD. The Board discussed the meeting, lawsuit, and the ramifications thereof. Legislation may be introduced in the General Assembly to mandate a unified voting system that is identical for all voters. Mr. Harvey feels any such legislation is likely to be successful. Mr. Hill inquired as to what the financial and training impacts with a voting system change would be. Mr. Harvey stated that would depend on the new system chosen.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) TABLETOP EXERCISE

Mr. Harvey, Ms. Winer, and Mr. Welch briefed the Board on the tabletop exercise conducted at the Anne Arundel County board offices.

B) ROCKVILLE ELECTION

Mr. Harvey discussed the Rockville election. The city did an all vote-by-mail election. Mr. Harvey and Mr. Welch visited one of the canvass sessions at the Montgomery County board offices on November 1st. The Board discussed the election.

C) OTHER

Mr. Hill asked about the recent State Board decision regarding an additional early voting site in Montgomery County. Mr. Harvey provided an update.

NEXT MEETING:

The Board scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 1:00 PM in Room 119 at the Board offices at 340A Montevue Lane, Frederick, Maryland.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 1:44pm, Mr. Harvey requested the Board adjourn the public meeting and proceed to Executive Session. This action is in accordance with the authority granted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b)(13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter; and Section 3-305 (b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Mrs. McDonald made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and proceed to executive session. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc R. Welch

Election Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Mary Lou Green, Board President

Date