

**MINUTES**  
**Wicomico County Board of Elections**  
**345 Snow Hill Road, Salisbury, MD 21804**  
**Wednesday, July 17, 2019**

**ATTENDEES:** Brad Bellacicco, Board President, Republican Member  
Catherine Keim, Republican Member  
Katrina Purnell, Board Secretary, Democratic Member  
Sharon Morris, Democratic Member  
Peter Golba, Board Attorney  
Anthony Gutierrez, Election Director

**ABSENT:** Joseph Collins, Republican Member (*Excused*)

**GUEST:** None

The Wicomico County Board of Elections met Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Public notice was given and the agenda was posted at the Board of Elections office the week prior to the meeting. This includes the required public notice when the board is discussing possible changes to polling places.

Brad Bellacicco called the meeting to order, as there was a quorum present, and voluntarily led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer.

Brad Bellacicco asked for approval of the June 19, 2019 minutes. Sharon Morris made the motion to approve the minutes with one revision; seconded by Catherine Keim, passed, unanimously.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

The staff will be conducting polling place connectivity testing this summer. The preliminary estimate from SBE for SDR on election day is \$1,000 per polling place, which could change.

If there is a District 3 board of ed primary, it will require a non-partisan ballot style to be created for those precincts in the southeast part of the County. It will also allow unaffiliated and 3<sup>rd</sup> party voters to participate in the primary in that district.

The State Board awarded a 2% pay raise for FY20, which the SBE HR director will process, retroactive to July 1.

Automatic registration went into effect July 1 (now MVA customers must opt-out instead of opt-in to be registered to vote); we have seen our MVA batches double since then.

We may be required to close the office on Aug 14 so the staff can attend state training.

Last week, the Director was invited to participate in a panel discussion at a conference hosted by the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia; it was by invitation-only and they paid his expenses. He felt his input was very well received by the academics and other election officials in attendance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was discussion regarding the change of polling place location in Delmar. Of the four initial possibilities, Wood Creek Clubhouse and Holy Redeemer Catholic Church are being considered. A recommendation will be brought before the Board at the August meeting.

There was also discussion regarding the necessity of making Wor-Wic Community College a polling place. It was suggested that we request clarification from SBE regarding the regulation regarding community colleges. It was also suggested that it would be better to have a polling place with a half mile

**MINUTES**  
**Wicomico County Board of Elections**  
**345 Snow Hill Road, Salisbury, MD 21804**  
**Wednesday, July 17, 2019**

of Wor-Wic instead; or, if Wor-Wic must be a polling place, to encourage voters at Wor-Wic to vote in their actual assigned polling places.

The Board discussed the SBE request for submission of new bylaws. Katrina Purnell made a motion to submit the current bylaws without revisions; and if SBE requires revisions, they can be made at that time; seconded by Catherine Keim, passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The budget for the past year's budget was discussed. The Director provided a printout of the year-to-date budget report. The Board requested monthly budget updates. The Board also discussed looking into the contract for the office copiers and what is included in the contract.

The Director provided an overview of staff duties; discussion followed, including a request for a more specific list of duties and to whom they are assigned, as well as updates on the SBE job restructuring process. It was also suggested that there be a checklist of duties for the canvassing process.

The Director proposed a dry-run for the canvassing process. The Board agreed, with a target of December in which to conduct this.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

As of this date, the confirmation letter has not been received for the two Democratic members of the Board.

**MEMBERS TIME:**

None

**CLOSED SESSION: Personnel Items**

A motion was made by Sharon Morris to go into closed session; seconded by Catherine Keim, passed unanimously. The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. to go into a closed session. Following the closed session, a motion was made by Catherine Keim to reconvene the regular meeting; seconded by Sharon Morris, passed unanimously. At 10:33 a.m., upon conclusion of the closed session, the Board President reconvened the regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Brad Bellacicco announced the next scheduled meeting would be Wednesday, August 21 at 9:00 a.m.

Sharon Morris made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Catherine Keim, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Brad Bellacicco, Board President Date

  
Bill Blockston Date