

MINUTES
Wicomico County Board of Elections
345 Snow Hill Road, Salisbury, MD 21804
Wednesday, January 15, 2020

ATTENDEES: Brad Bellacicco, Board President, Republican Member
Joseph Collins, Republican Member, via phone
Catherine Keim, Republican Member
Katrina Purnell, Board Secretary, Democratic Member
Sharon Morris, Democratic Member
Peter Golba, Board Attorney
Anthony Gutierrez, Election Director
Dionne Church, Deputy Director

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: None

The Wicomico County Board of Elections met Wednesday, January 15, 2020 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, Board President, 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 December 18, 2019 minutes. Sharon Morris made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Katrina Purnell, passed, unanimously.

Prior to this meeting, Mr. James "Bo" McAllister, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, was present to swear in the members of the Wicomico Board of Canvassers for the upcoming Primary Elections.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

We still have had only 2 candidates file for the 2 local offices this year. Filing deadline is next Friday, Jan 24 at 9 p.m. As a satellite office, we have also begun taking filings for delegates to the national nominating conventions later this summer.

The cost of the Shore Transit Early Voting bus ad has gone up by \$250 but the Director feels it is a worthwhile ad and the board agreed. (See also New Business)

The board was sent our regular list of important election-related dates for their reference. We will also add the MAEO meeting dates to the monthly agenda calendar.

The board was also sent our regular color-information flyer with important 2020 election dates. If anyone needs more copies to hand out, just let us know.

The Director also reviewed the staff's proposed scanner allocations with the board.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board reviewed the Tabletop Exercise which was conducted following the December 18, 2019 meeting. The consensus was that it was a beneficial exercise.

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NEW BUSINESS:

For the 2020 Elections, the Board discussed and agreed to purchase bus ads promoting early voting. Brad Bellacicco abstained from this discussion and vote.

The draft of the Code of Conduct for Election Judges was reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Katrina Purnell to change item 10 to read in bold: "Regardless of your original assignment, you will assist in any task assigned to you by the Chief Judges." The motion was seconded by Joseph Collins, passed, unanimously. Following this modification, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Code of Conduct.

If any Election Judges are not invited to return to work for the next election, the Board requested that they be made aware of these persons at the following Board meeting.

The Board reviewed and discussed the initial draft of the budget proposal for FY 2021. The Election Director will supply more detailed figures for certain categories as they become available. This should be ready for the February Board meeting.

The possibility of procuring additional pollbooks for Same Day Registration for the 2020 General Election was discussed. A motion was made by Sharon Morris to procure 15 of these pollbooks and printers (pending availability) to be used in 15 of the largest polling places for Same Day Registration in November 2020; seconded by Katrina Purnell, passed unanimously.

Brad Bellacicco mentioned information received pertaining to ethics requirements, and also shared an email regarding Wicomico County's FY 2021 Budget Process.

MISCELLANEOUS:

None.

MEMBERS TIME:

None.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Brad Bellacicco announced the next scheduled meeting would be Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Sharon Morris made a motion to adjourn, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

 2-19-2020
Brad Bellacicco, Board President Date

 2/19/20
Bill Blockston, Recorder Date