

MINUTES
Wicomico County Board of Elections
345 Snow Hill Road, Salisbury, MD 21804
Wednesday, January 18, 2023

ATTENDEES: Brad Bellacicco, Board President, Republican Member
Katrina Purnell, Board Secretary, Democratic Member
Sharon Morris, Democratic Member
Joseph Collins, Republican Member
Carsten Wendlandt, Republican Member
Peter Golba, Board Attorney (via videoconference)
Dionne Church, Election Director
Bill Blockston, Deputy Director

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Janet Smith, SBE
Carlos Ayala
Marita Barnes
Kathryn Dykes
Jane Reagan

The Wicomico County Board of Elections met Wednesday January 18, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Public notice was given and the agenda was posted at the Board of Elections office prior to the meeting.

Brad Bellacicco, Board President, called the meeting to order, and declared that there was a quorum present. The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer.

Brad Bellacicco, Board President, asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting of the Board of Elections. Sharon Morris made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Carsten Wendlandt, passed unanimously.

Changes/additions to the Agenda: None.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (See Attached Copy)

The monthly registration reports and financial report were provided to the Board.

The following items were highlighted from the Director's Report:

Staff evaluations for state regular employees will be performed this week.

Interviews for the two state job openings will be conducted in the coming weeks.

The Election Director will be attending IGO classes later this month.

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The staff participated in a meeting reviewing the 2022 General Election and lessons learned. This information will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

The annual MAEO Conference will be held in Ocean City this May.

Our office displayed a table at the Business After Hours event held at the Wicomico Civic Center and sponsored by the County Executive Office.

Post-Election Maintenance on voting system equipment is being completed at this time and is going well.

BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Emergency Management personnel conducted the 2022 Safety Audit in December, with no significant issues to report. We will follow up on the report issued when we receive it from Steve Garvin.

The FY2022-2023 Budget was reviewed, highlighting the status of expenditures in various categories.

The manual audit for the 2024 General Gubernatorial Election will be held Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Some of our staff have volunteered to assist a neighboring LBE with their manual audit, and we will bring in staff from other LBE’s if needed for ours.

NEW BUSINESS:

A copy of the draft proposal for the FY2023-2024 Budget was presented to the Board. The Election Director discussed certain categories and necessary increases. The Election Director will email the final proposed budget to the Board once completed.

A possible polling place recommendation was presented to the Board. Salisbury University has requested to be a polling place for the City of Salisbury Election, as well as the 2024 Presidential Elections. Discussion ensued. The City of Salisbury Board of Elections will make the decision as to their use of any particular polling place, while this Board will further discuss options for 2024, following an upcoming meeting and site visit at the university.

During this meeting, Janet Smith, Voter Registration Manager of Audits from the State Board of Elections, provided an informative overview of the List Maintenance processes used to maintain

