

MINUTES

December 5, 2023

MEETING OF THE ALLEGANY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 701 Kelly Road, Room 230, Cumberland, Maryland

ATTENDEES: John Stakem, President
Armand Pannone, Board Attorney
Richard DeVore, Member
Lisa Lyons, Member
Debbie Johnson, Member
Cecilia Pittman, Member
Diane Loibel, Election Administrator
Wendy Maddux, Deputy Director

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC: None

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

Mr. Stakem called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., and stated that there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Stakem called for alterations, corrections, and/or approval of the minutes. Mrs. Pittman made a motion to approve the November board minutes. Mr. DeVore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Loibel shared a copy of the State's Press Release entitled Ensuring Employee Safety.

ADDITIONS

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Election Judge Recruitment

Election judge recruitment is ongoing. As of December 4, 2023, 151 Democratic Judges, 174 Republican Judges and 15 Unaffiliated Judges have responded to the 2024 Election Judge Inquiry. We have approximately 5 vacancies at this time. We hope to have all positions filled by the end of November.

Meet and Greet for New Election Judges

Two Meet and Greet Sessions were held on November 8, 2023. A total of 30 people participated in the sessions.

Election Judge Manual

All chapters of the election judge manual have been submitted to SBE for approval. Once we receive approval, we will send the files to our printer.

Polling Place Plan

The Polling Place Plan was approved by SBE at the November 30, 2023 board meeting.

Mail-in Ballot Applications for 2024 Elections

We have 2,876 mail-in voters for the 2024 Presidential Primary Election as of December 5, 2023. The first mailing for the Mail-in ballot applications will be sent out in early January. The second mailing will take place following the candidate filing deadline.

Pollbook Battery Test

The pollbook battery test was completed on November 30, 2023. The batteries performed as expected, lasting anywhere from 2 to 3 hours.

New Pollbook Training and Testing

Mrs. Maddux and Mrs. Loibel attended the in-person pollbook training at the State's central warehouse on November 29, 2023. At the conclusion of the training, we picked up the equipment to conduct the statewide pollbook test as well as the new power strips purchased for our county.

Disaster Recovery and Security Plan

Mr. DeVore worked on the relocation plan and accompanying appendix. A copy of this plan, which is part of the Disaster Recovery and Security Plan was placed in the blue board folders for discussion. Mr. DeVore questioned whether District 16-1 and 16-2 needed to remain together or could they be split up. Mrs. Loibel's preference would be to keep District 16-1 and 16-2 together if the need to relocate was necessary. Mrs. Loibel also suggested that it would not be possible to relocate District 008-000 to District 009-000 because of the small size of District 9. Mrs. Loibel suggested relocating District 008-000 to District 010-000. The Disaster Recovery and Security Plan will be completed in the near future. A copy of the final version will be sent out at that time.

Computer Systems and Software Security Updates

Mrs. Loibel reports that office staff has successfully applied the Microsoft Security updates for the month of November on SBE workstations. We have also updated other third-party software applications to their latest versions on all workstations.

Registration Statistics

Statistics as of November 30, 2023 were as follows: Total Active Registration 43,946, 11,421 Democrat, 22,871 Republican, 256 Libertarian, 8,833 Unaffiliated, and 565 Others.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Board Members Report:

None

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions:

None

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting will be held on January 9, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

Adjournment:

Ms. Johnson made a motion for adjournment. Mrs. Pittman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Stakem adjourned the meeting at 10:20 A.M.