

Election Board Meeting

May 21, 2020

Commissioner Mike Belding, called to order the May 21, 2020 Election Board meeting. Attending the meeting in addition to Commissioner Belding, Commissioner McClure and Commissioner Zimmerman were Election Director Tina Kiger, Administrative Assistant of Elections Rachel Gillispie, Chief Financial Officer Scott Kelley, IT Director Doug Murray, Controller Ami Cree, County Solicitor Gene Grimm, Chief Clerk Jeff Marshall, Assistant Chief Clerk Sarah Penich, and members of the general public.

Old Business:

Director Kiger stated the only item under old business is the Absentee/Mail-In Canvass Board procedures. Commissioner McClure made the motion to have the Absentee/Mail-In Canvass Board begin on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 8 am to 4:30 pm and continue to the following day if needed. Commissioner McClure also noted that no ballots will be opened before 8 am on June 3rd. Director Kiger stated our current total of ballots sent out is 3,422 and the number of ballots received is 1,847. Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- Director Kiger requested the temporary rent increase for polling locations from \$50.00 to \$100.00 for cleaning and disinfecting the rooms. The increase cost will be covered by the Commonwealth Grant. Commissioner McClure made the motion to increase rent from \$50.00 to \$100.00, Commissioner Zimmerman the second. Motion passed unanimously.
- Director Kiger requested the appointment of two people per Commissioner to the Absentee/Mail-In Canvass Board and to be paid \$115.00 per day covered by the Commonwealth Grant. Commissioner McClure made the motion, Commissioner Zimmerman the second. Director Kiger also noted that IT Director Doug Murray and Chief Financial Officer Scott Kelley will also be assisting with the Board. George Scull asked if they were looking for volunteers. Commissioner Belding said they are and each Commissioner will appoint 2 people. Motion passed unanimously.
- Director Kiger asked for the temporary polling locations to be approved. Certain polling locations did not meet the social distancing and COVID 19 requirements. The polling location changes are temporarily changed to the following upon approval:
 - Carmichaels Boro (Carmichaels VFD), Cumberland #4 (Carmichaels VFD), Franklin East (Greene County Fairgrounds), Franklin South (Greene County Fairgrounds), Jefferson #2 (Jefferson Elementary Gym), Jefferson #3 (Jefferson VFD), Jefferson

#4 (Jefferson Elementary Gym), Waynesburg #2 (Waynesburg University Old Gym), Waynesburg #3 (Waynesburg University Old Gym)

Commissioner McClure made the motion to approve the temporary polling locations, Commissioner Zimmerman the second. Commissioner McClure inquired how Director Kiger knew a polling location was not sufficient for this Election. Director Kiger stated most polling rooms were too small to adhere to the guidelines. Other polling locations that only have one door will limit the number of voters allowed in the room. Commissioner McClure asked if she sent out surveys to request this information. Director Kiger said she called some of the Judges on the boards and other places she knew from previous experience would not work. Commissioner McClure thanked Director Kiger and Scott Kelley for working on securing these locations. Director Kiger added that some polling locations would be at the same address, just different buildings. For example, if the polling location was in a township building, it will be moved to the truck garage bay to allow social distancing. Mr. Kelley added there are only 9 locations where the actual address changed, some out of the precinct, and was allowed due to COVID 19. Commissioner Belding added voters who had their polling locations changed should have already received a postcard of notification in the mail. It will be advertised in the paper, be posted on the webpage, social media page, and usual polling location doors. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

Director Kiger announced the following:

- Last day to apply for an Absentee/Mail-In Ballot is May 26th
- Last day to return a voted ballot is now June 2nd by 8:00 pm (Election Day)
- If you have voted and returned your ballot to our office, you are not permitted to vote at the polls. However, if you received a ballot and did not return it to the office, you may vote a provisional ballot at the polls, which is still a paper ballot.
- Poll workers are needed, about 20 people. There has been advertising in the paper, webpage, social media. Students may work, but parents need to contact our office since school is not in session.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Next scheduled meeting TBA

Public Comment:

District Attorney David Russo asked if there was a list with the precincts where poll workers were needed.

Call of the Chair:

Commissioner McClure made the motion to recess the May 21, 2020 meeting, Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion. Meeting was recessed to the call of the chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel D. Gillispie
Administrative Assistant