

Election Board Meeting

May 13, 2019

Jeff Grimes, Chairman, called the May 13, 2019 Election Board meeting to order. Attending the meeting in addition to Mr. Grimes were Dave Balint, Vice-Chairman, Judge Farley Toothman, Secretary, Chief Clerk Jeff Marshall, Election Director Tina Kiger, Administrative Assistant of Elections Amie Nehls, Scott Kelley, Doug Murray, Solicitor Kevin Freyder and public.

Meeting Minutes:

Dave Balint made the motion and Judge Toothman the second to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2019 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Director Kiger informed the board that the Dunkard Township merge had been approved. Dunkard Township was combined from four precincts to two precincts, known as Dunkard #1 and Dunkard #2. Ms. Kiger noted that she is currently working on changing the precinct boundaries in hopes to send new ID cards to all of the Dunkard Township voters tomorrow. The merge has been posted on the County Webpage and Facebook page and maintenance will be posting the change in the same places the previous merge notices were posted. It will also be published in the newspaper and announced on the radio.

Judge Toothman inquired if there were enough machines available for the Election. Scott Kelley stated that there would be enough machines by Friday. When the machines were originally purchased the plan was to combine Dunkard Township to one precinct, but after the objection filed and the court's decision to make Dunkard Township two precincts, another ballot box had to be ordered.

Mr. Kelley informed the Election Board that there are nine rovers, who have all been trained to assist with the machines on Election Day. Eight of the rovers are County employees and one is a member of the public. The final meeting for the rovers will be tomorrow and they will receive all of the supplies they should need for Election Day. This is less rovers than previously anticipated, but there weren't many volunteers, and a couple of volunteers were disqualified for various reasons. Scott Kelley also stated he sent a request to Sheila Rode, seeking court orders allowing himself, Doug Murray, all nine rovers and ES&S support in polling places on Election Day.

Judge Toothman apologized for the board having to cancel the previous meeting, due to the Election Office failing to advertise the meeting in a timely manner.

Director Kiger and Mr. Kelley said that the demonstrations of new machines went well. The machines were demonstrated at all of the county senior centers, with the exception of one, the county township supervisor's meeting, a couple community meetings and the republican

committee meeting and is scheduled for the democratic committee meeting. The townships and school districts were also contacted about demonstrations but none replied. The machines seemed to be well received with the exception of the public not understanding why paper was being used again and concerns about ballot box stuffing.

After much discussion regarding the Election Office/Election Board's obligation to post and/or inform the registered voters of Dunkard Township about the merging of precincts, it was decided that Solicitor Kevin Freyder would research the topic and provide the board with requirements, provisions and direction by email the next day. Jeff Grimes stated that if the Election Office/Board can't meet the deadlines and there isn't a provision all we can do is to comply now and see if there is any protest after the fact. Judge Toothman made a motion that the Director of Elections be instructed to advertise, as was court ordered April 30, pursuant to the statute and interpreted by their solicitor. Dave Balint added to the motion that if the Election Office/Board can't comply, we do our best to substantially comply with that statute and seconded the motion. No public discussion. Motion passes unanimously.

Judge Toothman made a motion to acknowledge that the Director of Elections' application to the Bureau of Elections concerning the merge, mapping and descriptions of the two Dunkard Township precincts, has been verbally certified for the State, by Adam Yake, and that the Elections office is narrowing down the specific addresses to be mailed and direct that that be done as soon as possible. Ms. Kiger said she would seek written approval from the state. Mr. Balint seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business:

Ms. Kiger informed the Board Election Board that the Canvass Board, consisting of herself, Amie Nehls, Rachel Gillispie and Kristina Nichols, would need sworn in on May 24, 2019 at 9:00 AM. Chairman Grimes stated that an available Election Board member would be present to conduct the swearing in.

Announcements:

Director Kiger made the following announcements:

- The last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is May 14, 2019.
- The last day to return voted Absentee Ballot is May 17, 2019.
- Poll worker classes were held on May 6, 7 and 8th

Next Scheduled Meeting:

TBA

Public Comment:

None

Recess:

Chairman Jeff Grimes recessed the meeting until the “call of the chair” requiring the next policy meeting be advertised prior to the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amie Nehls
Administrative Assistant