

# Election Board Meeting

October 16, 2019

Jeff Grimes, Chairman, called the October 16, 2019 Election Board meeting to order. Attending the meeting in addition to Mr. Grimes were Dave Balint, Vice-Chairman; President Judge Farley Toothman, Secretary; Chief Clerk Jeff Marshall, Election Director Tina Kiger, Administrative Assistant of Elections Rachel Gillispie, Scott Kelley, Commissioner Zimmerman, Solicitor Cheryl Cowen, and public.

## **Meeting Minutes:**

Jeff Grimes made the motion and Dave Balint the second to approve the minutes from the May 13, May 20 and June 11, 2019 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Old Business:**

### Sheriff's Vacancy:

The Republican Party submitted no nomination for Sheriff. Ms. Kiger stated the Democratic Party nominated Marcus Simms for Sheriff vacancy. No action needed.

### Southeastern School Board Vacancy:

The Republican Party submitted no nomination for School Director. Ms. Kiger stated the Democratic Party nominated Chris Spiker for School Director vacancy. No action needed.

Judge Toothman wished to discuss the petition Solicitor Cheryl Cowen presented to the court to reestablish Archie Trader as an Election Board member. Judge Dayich denied the petition as the Board hadn't considered it. There was discussion at the last meeting in regards to Commissioner Trader being reestablished. Judge Toothman asked Solicitor Cowen if she planned to present this petition before the court again, she replied she will not. Judge Toothman questioned whether Ms. Cowen could represent Mr. Trader when the County Solicitor is to represent the County Election Board according to statute. Ms. Cowen stated she represents the Commissioners and Election Board by statute. Judge Toothman wanted to clarify that Solicitor Cowen would not be bringing this before the court due to a conflict of interest. She agreed that she will not due to there being a conflict in the representation. Mr. Toothman said there is nothing against Mr. Trader from his perspective, but he still thinks the law is very clear that it says the year of; not in the primary of, not in the month of, not in the week of; it says in the year of the commissioners being reelected the President Judge shall appoint an Election Board. Commissioner Zimmerman spoke of Mr. Trader's interest in coming back to the Election Board after the Primary. Mr. Zimmerman spoke to the Deputy Secretary at

the Department of State who said since he was no longer a candidate, he was eligible to be seated on the board. Mr. Zimmerman also spoke to the Secretary of State. Judge Toothman expressed concern as to if Commissioner Trader would be running a write in campaign. Judge Toothman also questioned as to whether Mr. Trader is a Greene County resident or a domicile. Mr. Trader is a resident of Greene County even though he and his wife purchased a house in Fayette County. Judge Toothman made the motion to not seat Archie Trader in the Republican position on the board due to the statute which reflects in the year that the commissioners are candidates, the President Judge is to appoint the Election Board which serves the year. Mr. Balint second, Jeffrey Grimes abstained. The motion passed.

**New Business:**

An Election Board member is needed to swear in the canvass board on Friday, November 8, 2019. Mr. Balint swore in the board last election. Judge Toothman suggested Mr. Grimes and Mr. Balint coordinate their availability to perform this duty. Mr. Grimes is available on Friday, November 8, 2019 to swear in the canvass board at 9 am in the Greene County Elections office. The canvass board members are as follows: Director Tina Kiger, Administrative Assistant Rachel Gillispie and Clerk Morgan Kendall. Also, Kristina Nicholls from Tax Claim as an alternate. No objections. Dave Balint made the motion to approve the three Elections Office employees as the canvass board with Kristina Nicholls as an alternate. Judge Toothman second. Motion passed unanimously.

Judge Toothman discussed the docket stamps. He stated that no one should manipulate these office time clocks. Discussion was had. The Elections Office will purchase a new time clock.

Judge Toothman addressed the appointments and resignations of District Board Members, which was not on the Agenda. He provided copies of these to Mr. Grimes and Mr. Balint. Ms. Kiger stated that some of the appointments and resignations are old due to the previous Administrative Assistant being on maternity leave and part time. She stated Ms. Gillispie brought the papers over when she moved to that position in June. Judge Toothman clarified these are to go before Judge Dayich and no action needed from the County Election Board today. Director Kiger confirmed. Mrs. Kiger stated there are vacancies due to people not wanting to be appointed to a permanent position on a District Board. Ms. Gillispie explained how vacancies were filled with substitute workers. Director Kiger expressed workers will only seek appointment when they want to serve as a permanent worker and most people will not seek that appointment. Discussion was had. Judge Toothman inquired how the Elections Office tries to fill vacancies. Mrs. Kiger explained the office has sent out many letters, Facebook, County website, Party chairs, township supervisors to name a few. Judge Toothman

asked how many vacancies there are. Ms. Gillispie said there are quite a few vacancies and there are people who work in these positions most every time, but do not wish to be appointed. Ms. Gillispie also stated that all of the District Boards were secured with workers for now with the exception of Center Township requiring a Republican to serve as a Minority Inspector. Discussion was had regarding the oath the workers swear to Election Day. Mr. Kelley made the distinction between a rover and the District Board. Mr. Kelley explained the rovers are issued court orders so the Judge of Elections will allow the rover in the precinct on the day of Election. More discussion was had regarding appointments of District Boards. Motion made by Judge Toothman to acknowledge the vacancies to the Board and to propose individuals who can serve for that day only. Dave Balint second. Motion passed unanimously. This matter will be continued and Ms. Gillispie will compile a list of vacancies along with Elected workers for the board.

The Board received an email from Mr. Kelley regarding a rover who was active in a political party after the Primary. The rover was active in driving a vehicle in the Jacktown Fair Parade and working a booth at Rain Day. Mr. Kelley doesn't believe that this was done maliciously, but the gentleman volunteers a lot. Discussion was had regarding rovers. Scott Kelley named the list of rovers: Lauren Chambers, Michelle Howard, Bonnie Davis, Richie Policz, Paul Ondash, Lisa Main, Jared Zinn. Doug Murray, Scott Kelley and Angie Butler our ES&S representative will also be roving. Amy Anderson and George Scull will not be roving this time. Judge Toothman made the motion to acknowledge George Scull's political activity precludes him from being a rover for this Election only. Dave Balint asked to amend the motion to include the approval of the rovers and Angie Butler from ES&S. Scott Kelley asked the board to approve with regret that Mr. Scull will be unable to work as a rover for this Election. Mr. Grimes agreed and the Board thanked Mr. Scull for his service. Judge Toothman amended the motion to recommend for appointment by the court the following rovers for Election preparation and Election Day Lauren Chambers, Michelle Howard, Bonnie Davis, Richie Policz, Paul Ondash, Lisa Main, Jared Zinn, Doug Murray, Scott Kelley, and Angie Butler. With regret, excluding the appointment of George Scull recognizing his political activity and honoring his commitment in the past to helping the Elections Office. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Announcements:**

Director Kiger made the following announcements:

- Express Vote preparation is scheduled to be performed by Scott Kelley, Doug Murray and rovers on October 17&18, 21&22, 2019.
- DS 200 (scanner) preparation is scheduled to be performed by Scott Kelley, Doug Murray and rovers on October 25-30, 2019.

- Poll worker classes to be held October 21&22, 2019 at the Greene County 4 H Building, with the exception of the last class on the 22<sup>nd</sup> which will be held in the Commissioners Meeting room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the County Office Building due to scheduling.
- Logic & Accuracy Tests (L&A Testing) will be October 31, 2019 at 1:30 pm in the Commissioners Meeting Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Count Office Building. Director Kiger notified both party chairs by email and will be mailing a letter as well for a reminder.
- Last day to apply for an absentee ballot is October 29, 2019
- Last day to return a voted absentee ballot is November 1, 2019
- Election Day is November 5, 2019
- Canvass of votes cast at the Municipal Election will begin November 8, 2019
- There is a sample practice machine set up in the office
- Supplies will be handed out the Judge of Elections on November 4, 2019
- Maintenance will deliver machines to precincts on November 4, 2019

**Next Scheduled Meeting:**

TBA

**Public Comment:**

None

**Recess:**

Chairman Jeff Grimes recessed the meeting until the “call of the chair”.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel D. Gillispie  
Administrative Assistant