

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS/REGISTRATION

Minutes of Combined Meeting

August 22, 2019

Present: Bill Barton, Chairman
Shirley Huckaby, Vice-Chairman
Anna Lawhorn, Secretary
Dr. Mary Sue Ward
Pat Witherspoon
Dawn Arnold
Lamar Ellis

Call to Order:

Chairman Barton called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Shirley Huckaby.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the July meeting were reviewed. Shirley Huckaby made a motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Ward seconded. Motion carried.

Citizens to be Heard:

None.

Challenges to be Heard:

A list of 49 felons was presented for consideration to remove them from the voting rolls. After review and discussion, Pat Witherspoon motioned that these individuals be removed. Anna Lawhorn seconded and the motion carried.

Supervisor's Report:

- a. The SOS office made an announcement on July 29 that Dominion Voting Systems was awarded the new voting equipment contract. They advised that each county should receive a few machines by the end of August to begin training. Each county should have all their equipment before the Presidential Preference Primary on March 24, 2020.
- b. The local Elections Office will be responsible for purchasing carts, furniture, shields, etc. to accommodate the new equipment. We were told initially that the state was going to furnish carts to hold the Ballot Marking Device and printers during the elections, but were later informed that other counties had complained about storage of the carts. We are receiving small padded bags to help store and transport the equipment instead. Lowndes County has been chosen as one of the counties to receive their equipment and to participate in the pilot program.
- c. On August 1, an Open Records Request was forwarded to Dawn from our County Atty., Daniel Connell. It was from Leslie Bryan, an attorney with the Lawrence & Bundy law firm in Atlanta. This was a very extensive request, seeking copies of numerous documents. It took several hours

- over a two-week period to complete. The documents, along with an invoice for \$397.89 was mailed to the law firm on Friday, August 16th. It was received by the law firm on August 19th.
- d. A notice was received on August 15th stating that a Federal Judge ruled that we could continue to use the current DRE's for the remainder of 2019, including the November Municipal Election.
 - e. An inventory of all election supplies has been completed and we will order the supplies needed for the November Municipal Election after August 26th, the first day supplies will be available.
 - f. The verification process of the voter registration cards and signatures in eNet has been completed. Lamar has worked diligently on this process and is to be commended.
 - g. Qualifying for the November 5, 2019 Municipal Election began on Monday, August 19th. The City Clerks will be the Qualifying Officers for each city where an election is necessary. Qualifying time ends on Friday, August 23rd. Only Sparks and Lenox will be conducting an election this year. Only incumbents qualified in the City of Adel.
 - h. The issue of paying board members when they serve as poll workers during early voting continued. The bi-laws for the Board of Elections and Registrar states that Board Members "Periodically serve as poll officers during the Advanced Voting in the Board of Elections & Registration Office", however, it does not mention whether this is with or without compensation. It also states that the Board "appoints poll officers and other officers to serve in primaries and elections." Again, there is no mention of compensation, but these workers are paid for their services. One of the original Board Members stated that Ms. Louise Coward told her that "she would be expected to attend one meeting per month and work on Election Day." The Advance Voting requirements have changed considerably since that time. It was agreed that we would address this matter with the County Commissioners to get their opinions.
 - i. The all-in-one printer/fax machine in the Elections Office will need to be replaced soon. It needs a lot of replacement parts which are no longer available, as this is a discontinued product. We anticipate the new printer will cost between \$400 - \$500. Both computers in the office will need to be updated to Windows 10 since the current Windows 7 program will not be supported by Microsoft after this year. Dr. Ward made a motion to purchase two (2) new computers for the office, as well as a new printer/fax machine. This motion was seconded by Pat Witherspoon. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Announcements:

- a. The office will be closed Monday, September 2, 2019 in observance of Labor Day.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Dr. Ward made a motion to adjourn. Pat Witherspoon seconded and the motion carried.

Next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 26th, at 10:00 a.m.

Shirley Huckaby
Shirley Huckaby, Vice-Chairman

09-26-19
Date

Anna Lawhorn
Anna Lawhorn, Secretary

09/26/19
Date