

ELECTION BOARD
February 26, 2024

Present at the meeting were:

Brenda Watson
William Lyons
R. Franklin Campbell
Bill Bunt
Sarah Geesaman
Shannon Hines

Present from the Public: Dave Pundock and Faith Pundock

The Election Board met on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was conducted virtually via WebEx video/telephone conference and in person in the Commissioners' Conference Room. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Public Comments: None

Meeting Business: Commissioner Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sarah Geesaman, Election Director, stated that further discussion had occurred with the Maintenance Director regarding a generator when the power goes out during the election. She said that the Courthouse has a generator and it would be a possibility to bring in a generator to run the Freedom Building if the situation occurred. The Board discussed the logistics of completing election duties during a power outage.

Ms. Geesaman commented that all but three polling location leases had been returned. Solicitor Bunt stated that the leases should be added to the March 11th Commissioners' meeting agenda for action.

Ms. Geesaman stated that three election helpers had completed training with her department and would be assisting the office during the upcoming election.

Ms. Geesaman said that ClearBallot will be onsite on March 12, 13, 14 to complete L&A testing and change batteries. She further stated that they will be showing her how to properly use batteries in the ADA machines. She commented that batteries will last approximately two hours.

Sarah Geesaman stated that she continues to participate in the Department of State trainings and noted they are very informational. She said she is registered to participate in an upcoming de-escalation training.

Ms. Geesaman commented that mail-in/absentee envelopes will be shipping soon per the printer.

Sarah Geesaman said she is continuing to work on the candidate list as the Department of State continues to send updates each day. She commented that casting of lot happened last week as well.

Ms. Geesaman said that the candidate listing from the Department of State deadline is February 28th.

Solicitor Bunt said that Marty Smith, Maintenance Director, said that the drop boxes are under security camera coverage. He asked if a motion had been made to have one or two drop boxes in County buildings. The Board discussed the drop boxes and the need to empty the boxes regularly.

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to have two drop boxes, one in the Freedom Building and one in the Courthouse public entry area where the Deputy Sheriff sits. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Faith Pundock asked if language regarding internet capability of the voter machines was on the website. She stated that there are U.S. Senate position petitions being challenged and the hearings on these issues are schedule for February 28th or March 1st. She questioned why this process happens at the last minute.

Shannon Hines stated that the next Election Board meeting scheduled for March 4th was cancelled due to the CCAP conference. Solicitor Bunt asked that this information be posted on the County website.

Commissioner Lyons made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.