

Minutes
City of Virginia Beach
Electoral Board
Meeting of February 9, 2017

The Virginia Beach Electoral Board Meeting was called to order by D.A. Ablowich, Chairman at 9:00 AM, Thursday, February 9, 2017 with other Electoral Board members present: Lauralee Grim, Vice Chairman and Tim Barrow, Secretary. Also present was Donna Patterson, General Registrar. These minutes constitute the account of proceedings required by the Code of Virginia §24.2-107 and are prepared in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order 11th Edition.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- a. Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2017
- b. Appointment of Officers of Election
- c. Supplemental Budget Request
- d. New Polling Locations
- e. Voting System Security Plan
- f. Review and Brief Discussions
 1. HB 1598
 2. Forsyth County Neutral Observers – June Primary
 3. Judicial Watch FOIA Request
 4. PrintElect Virginia Users Group Meeting
 5. Norfolk Electoral Board Invitation
 6. Building 23 Replacement Status
- g. Other such business as may be brought before the Board.

A motion by T. Barrow and properly seconded, the proposed agenda was discussed and approved by voice vote.

Upon a motion by T. Barrow and properly seconded, the minutes of the Electoral Board meetings of January 11, 2017 were approved by voice vote.

Appointment of Officers of Election. Appointment of officers of election was discussed as required by the Code of Virginia §24.2-115. Senior Registrar Cindy Shortridge was in attendance and presented the Board with list of Officers of Election who were recommended for appointment, and lists of those who would no longer be asked to participate.

The list of individuals titled "Election Officials Removed from the Rolls – 2016 Election History", prepared for the February 9, 2017 Electoral Board meeting, was reviewed. This list was approved by consensus of the Board members.

The recommended list of officers or elections contains a total of 1,445 names, including 715 who will be first-time officers. These proposed officers have been vetted and all are capable, and enthusiastic about serving. T. Barrow moved that the list "Electoral Board Report-2017" listing 1,445 officers of election for the Term 1 March 2017– 28 February 2019" be approved. The motion was properly seconded and approved by voice vote.

C. Shortridge presented a list "Chief/Assistant Chief Changes, 2016 History", prepared for the February 9, 2017 Electoral Board meeting, for review by the Board. This list was discussed as well as an accompanying list of those Chiefs/Assistant Chiefs who have retired. Those on the retiring list will be sent a certificate of appreciation for their service.

C. Shortridge presented summary data pertaining to student page participation during the 2016 General and Special Elections.

Supplemental Budget Request. Supplemental budget request for FY 2016-17 Operating Budget is being requested for: January 10, 2017 Special Election for 85th House District for \$135,500. It is anticipated that this request will be on the City Council's agenda for their February 21 meeting for approval.

Voting equipment vendor payment for FY2014-15 and FY2015-16 for \$96,134 was discussed. The City Manager will be addressing this topic at a future meeting.

New Polling Locations

Hillcrest (087) polling location was Village Church. At their request we are looking at another polling location. Newcastle Elementary School and Mt. Bethel Baptist Church have been identified as a possible location.

Pleasant Hall (079) polling location is Pleasant Hall Annex of Kempsville Baptist Church. At their request we have looked at another polling location. Emmanuel Episcopal Church is under consideration as a polling location.

Haygood (086) polling location was Haygood United Methodist Church. At their request we are looking for another polling location.

Trantwood (009) polling location was Virginia Beach Christian Church. At their request we are looking at another polling location, perhaps Trantwood Elementary School.

Courthouse (035) polling location is Courthouse Fire Station. We are looking at Kellam High School as the new polling location. The fire station would continue to be used for in-person absentee voting.

Chimney Hill (080). We may need another location since Beth Chaverim Congregation is being sold. The current church will ask the new owner if they will continue as a polling location.

Foxfire (060). The current polling location, the old Princess Anne Middle School, is scheduled for demolition. Potential new locations are Wave Church on Seaboard Road and the old Kellam High School on Holland Road.

Edwin (027) polling location is at Kempsville Middle School. Once the new Kempsville Recreation Center is open, we will look at that facility for use as a polling location.

Other polling location concerns were discussed. Rosemont Forest (064) precinct needs to be watched because of the large Spence Crossing apartment complex could result in many new voters being added to the rolls. Also Sigma (031) may require splitting because of growth. Larkspur (024) The interior room used for voting and the outside parking and lighting need to be discussed with Saint Andrews United Methodist Church to determine if improvements can be made.

Voting System Security Plan. A. Ablowich provided via email a revised version of the plan which is due for an annual review and update 60 days prior to the November general elections. A. Ablowich requests comments be submitted to him by February 20. Another draft will be prepared following receipt of review comments.

Review and Brief Discussions

a. HB 1598. This bill requires the General Registrars to see proof of citizenship prior to registering a new potential voter. The bill was discussed, and although passed the House and is now in the Senate, will likely be vetoed by the governor if it reaches his desk. A. Ablowich will draft a letter to Senator Bill DeSteph, a member of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee, expressing our concerns over the potential implementation of this bill.

b. Forsyth County Neutral Observers. D. Patterson will coordinate with Forsyth County's request to observe our election process during the June Primary Election. The Neutral Observer Process previously adopted by the Board will pertain in this instance.

c. Judicial Watch FOIA Request. D. Patterson has forwarded the requested information to the City's FOIA office for a reply to Judicial Watch.

d. PrintElect - Virginia Users Group Meeting. This meeting will be held 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM March 16, Holiday Inn and Suites, 515 Bypass Rd. Williamsburg 23185. A. Ablowich will attend this meeting.

e. Norfolk Electoral Board Meeting, The Norfolk Electoral Board had forwarded an invitation to Hampton Roads electoral boards and general registrars to meet on March 7 at Norfolk Police Dept. 3rd Precinct Community Center, 901 Ashbury Ave., Norfolk. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss new voting equipment. T. Barrow and D. Patterson will check their calendars to determine if they are available to attend.

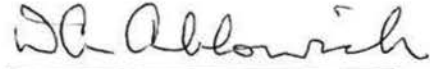
f. Building 23 Replacement Status. The portion of Building 23 in use for the general registrar's function is about 1,500 square feet. Building 23 will be available for our use for the June primaries. Our current warehouse is about 4,400 square feet. B. Schockley and T. Nichols will look at our warehouse during the week of February 20 to see our present use of the space.

Other business. Uniformity training provided by the Department of Elections will take place the week of June 26-30. An RFP was recently issued for a venue contract.

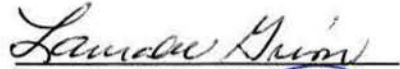
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The next meeting of the Electoral Board will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 9:00 AM.

Having completed its work, the board meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM, Thursday February 9, 2017.



D.A. Ablowich, Chairman



Lauralee Grim, Vice Chairman


Timothy E. Barrow, Secretary