

Warren County Board of Elections Meeting

July 20, 2012

9:00 AM

MINUTES

Gloria Decker, Chair for the Board called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM. Board Secretary, Anthony Wyhopen, Commissioner Robert Stead, Commissioner Harry Brown, Warren County Clerk Pat Kolb and Bill Duffy, Administrator were in attendance. Mrs. Decker read the legal notice for the meeting.

Mrs. Decker asked if there was any public comment. Louis Cartabona of 1119 Fifth Ave, Alpha NJ step forward to speak. He pointed out that the Meeting had not taken Roll Call. He suggested that the Board consider using electronic recording for their meetings. He commented on the brevity of the public notice and presented Guidelines for Open Public Meeting.

Mrs. Decker, see no other public comment, requested that Roll Call be taken.

Pat Kolb and the Board discussed items for the General Election. They spoke about how the reporting in the Primary Election had gone well with the set times to produce the reports. It was also agreed that the Municipalities and School Districts with races should have their reports produced as quickly as possible. It was agreed that the reports would be produced in a similar manner for the General Election. Pat Kolb also suggested that while the results are being processed that her office would answer the questions from the public. Pat Kolb also told the Board that she will have a test ballot ready in mid August and the real ballot ready for testing by mid September. She also stated that she didn't believe there would be a need for the voter to scroll on the voting machine.

The next item discussed was some additional training prior to the November Election. Bill Duffy stated that in addition to the normal training that the poll workers are required to attend, he and Marie Petre had spoken about having a Judges and Inspectors meeting to review the changes to the Ballot and to go over Provisional Ballots. It was suggested that during the classes, it be emphasized that Open and Close checklist be used with one poll worker reading from the check list and another poll worker performing the task. Also, Poll worker classes at the Warren County Community College are being scheduled for September and October.

Mrs. Decker strongly suggested that a fresh roll of tape be put into all of the printers in the voting machines. Bill Duffy asked the Board if the Troubleshooters could remove the slips from the printer boxes at 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM and place them in sealable envelopes in the front bin of the voting machine. The Board agreed with this suggestion. The slips need to remain with the machine during the quarantine period.

Pat Kolb expressed concerns over voters voting on machines not for their district. Bill Duffy tells the poll workers in class not to share encoders. Mr. Wyhopen suggested that the poll workers be told if the Voter's name is not in the poll book, they should not encode a card.

9:50AM Pat Kolb departed the meeting.

Bill Duffy reminded the Board that currently only the voting machine vender, Avante; representatives are allowed to use keyboards. Bill also informed the Board that Dave Alampi of Avante would be accompanied by 2 new Avante representatives. Bill suggested that the Board appoint 3 of the Warren County Troubleshooters as "Super" Troubleshooters. They would have more experience with the voting machines.

Bill stated that currently, the Board has a policy of no electronics at the polling place and asked if the Board wished to continue this policy. The Board agreed that this rule should be continued to be enforced and that if necessary the poll worker should leave the polling place to use electronics. The only exception is the cell phone designated to be used to contact the Board on Election Day.

Bill reported that the Trinity House in Hackettstown was inspected by the ADA committee. He requested that the Board approve the move of Hackettstown districts 5 and 6 be moved from the Hackettstown Rescue Squad Building to the Trinity House. A motion was made by Mr. Stead to approve the move and seconded by Mrs. Decker. The motion passed 4 ayes to 0 nays.

Bill Duffy informed the Board that he had begun working on the 2013 budget. He is going to include a separate capital item for replacement parts for the voting machines. He also informed the Board that they are having difficulty finding replacement touch screens.

The Board asked for an update on the new warehouse which the voting machines were moved to after the Primary Election. Bill stated that there was no progress on the restroom, and that there was a problem with the climate control in the office but was working well in the warehouse itself. Bill also informed the Board that Avante was actually making progress in correcting the bowing of the voting machine sides.

Bill informed the Board that the old Eagle optical scanners are now in the auction trailer. He has spoken with Chris Pessolano of purchasing and Chris idea was to attempt to sell these machines via an online auction. The Board asked Bill to check with the state to make sure this was not a problem.

The minutes of March 20, 2012 were approved unanimously on a motion by Mr. Stead with the amendment that "Mr. Brown had seconded the motion to accept the changes to the voting districts" and seconded by Mr. Brown.

The Board requested that Bill Duffy put together a list of dates for the Board to meet in the Fall and send to them.

The meeting was adjourn at 10:25 AM