



BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION BOARD MINUTES

March 19, 2010

Present: E. J. Miller, Chairman
Tim Hutchinson, Secretary
Bill Williams, Member
Helen Peltier, Coordinator
Kathy Mahmens, Staff
Amy Huston, Staff
Tabatha Hunter, Press
Kris James, Clerk's Office
Christine Southard, Clerk's Office

TENA O'BRIEN
CO. & PROBATE CLERK
BENTON COUNTY, ARK

2010 APR -6 AM 8:38

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The media was notified.

Chairman E. J. Miller called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM

Minutes from March 15, 2010 meeting were approved.

Helen Peltier gave an update on the newly received DRE's. She stated that 50 machines were received on March 12, 2010. 20 of the new machines were tested the following week. 30 were tested to be used in the Bentonville school election. In summary it was noted that there were 5 bad voting machine frames and 6 batteries that will not charge. Peltier has spoken with Washington County and they are having some issues with batteries charging also. The commission will continue to work with Mark from ES&S on the issue of quality. Peltier presented an invoice from ES&S. Chairman Miller made a motion to pay 75% of the amount owed and withhold the remaining payment till the quality issues are resolved. Tim Hutchinson second. All voted yes.

Peltier gave an update on coming Bentonville School District election. She reported that all of the L&A testing was completed and checked out. Peltier gave a certification of L&A testing to Miller for signature and it will be filed with the County Clerk's office.

The commissioners signed the order to appoint Election Officials for the April 13th election, to be posted by the Clerk's office.

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Peltier stated she has received calls from confused voters on where to vote in the up April 13 Bentonville School Election. Kris James said the Clerk's office has made changes to the web site to better direct voters.

A revision to policy #10-003 is needed to remove "Gravette" from the order. Peltier will bring the order to the next meeting.

Peltier provided a list of minimum supplies needed for the early voting satellite locations. It was given as something to think about for the next meeting. At that time she will let the board know what is going to be needed. Bill Williams made a logistics suggestion to rent trucks from Budget to move equipment. The board will review this at the next meeting. Hours of operation for the early voting satellite sites will be 8 AM to 4 PM Monday thru Friday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday. Williams reports that things are moving forward with IT for the 6 computers requested for the early voting sites. They are looking into net books.

Peltier reported that she has received calls from voters complaining about changes in polling locations. The commissioners stated the change was made to keep the voters in the same JP districts. Redistricting will happen next year following the census, and this will be the opportunity to evaluate polling locations.

The Chain of Custody procedure sheet was discussed. Kathy Mahmens added anything of the Election Commission inventory going out should be on the form. Peltier will make changes to the form. Williams reported on the voter registration drive at NWACC. He stated that they received a large list of volunteers to help at the Election Commission.

Peltier reported on the ballot preparation. She stated all the input for the ballots was entered to ES&S on March 18th. She is waiting on the ballot proofs from ES&S for approval. Final deadline is March 29th.

There was a discussion of the training schedule letter sent to the Sheriffs and how training is going to be conducted and logistics of multiple machines being transported by the Sheriffs.

There will be no separate ballot for the Fire Department Election. If a voter only wishes to vote on the Fire Department Question, they may select any of the 3 ballots. (Democrat - Republican - Nonpartisan Judicial)

Poll workers are still needed. Anyone interested should call the Election Commission.

Peltier stated that NWACC had called wanting to know what a Board of Directors Election would cost, Peltier gave an estimated range of \$1200-\$4000. The Board will need more information on how NWACC wants to conduct the election. NWACC will have an election in September 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM

The next regular meeting will be April 2, 2010 at 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Timothy Hutchinson, Secretary



Prepared by Amy Huston, Benton County Election Commission staff

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TERA O'BRIEN
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