

BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

E. J. Miller
Chairman

M.W. Sevak
Secretary



Bill Williams
Member

Amy Huston
Coordinator

Office (479) 271-1013 - Fax (479) 271-1019
election@co.benton.ar.us

MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

June 29, 2011

Commission members present: E. J. Miller, Chairman, and Mike Sevak, Secretary
Commissioner members absent: Bill Williams, Member

Others present: County Clerk Tena O'Brien, Kris James, Sharon Rose, Kim Umphres, and Duane Neal

Media: Tom Sissom, Benton County Daily Record

Chairman E. J. Miller called the June 29, 2011 Election Commission meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Minutes:

Chairman E. J. Miller made a motion that the minutes from the June 22, 2011 meeting be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Sevak. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

- (A) Refund of G&A Expenses: Chairman Miller stated that Order C2011-218 was signed by County Judge Robert Clinard authorizing the reimbursement for G&A Expenses in the amount of \$31,466.04. Chairman Miller asked for any comments, additions or deletions. Chairman Miller stated that the order was filed on June 6, 2011 and County Clerk Tena O'Brien stated that the checks were mailed on June 7, 2011.
- (B) Status of election billing for NWACC: Chairman Miller continued on the status for the NWACC billing. County Clerk Tena O'Brien stated that she included in the commissioner's packets copies of the receipts for the City of Siloam Springs and NWACC along with a copy of the checks. Chairman Miller asked Commissioner Sevak if he had any comments. Commissioner Sevak responded "no".

New Business:

- (A) Annual School Election (September 20, 2011): Chairman Miller reported that the Annual School Election will be September 20, 2011 and that County Clerk Tena O'Brien has provided a calendar of events and communication from the State for the school election. Chairman Miller stated the next activity for the school election is July 15, 2011, which is the first day for candidates to file their

petitions, affidavit of eligibility, and political practices pledge for the school election with the county clerk's office. County Clerk Tena O'Brien asked Chairman Miller what time the ballot draw would be on July 27, 2011. Chairman Miller stated that the write-in candidates have until noon on July 27, 2011 to file and there will be a commissioners meeting that day at 11:00 AM. Chairman Miller asked County Clerk Tena O'Brien if her office could call at 12:00 P.M. to notify the commissioners of any additional filings. Chairman Miller also asked for a listing of names for persons filing up to that point. Chairman Miller stated that the drawing would be at noon and it should be public knowledge for the procedure of the day. Chairman Miller asked Commissioner Sevak and County Clerk Tena O'Brien if that met with their approval. Commissioner Sevak and County Clerk Tena O'Brien agreed. Kris James from the county clerk's office stated that if a candidate is filing late, there would not be enough time for them to be present for the ballot draw at the Election Commission Office. Chairman Miller stated since it would be publicized early, that is how the draw will be done and there should be no questions.

- (B) Resubmission of list of Poll Workers from May, 2010 Primary Election: Chairman Miller stated at the June 22, 2011 meeting, the commissioners asked for a revised listing of poll workers from the May, 2010 Primary and Run-Off Elections that could be resubmitted to the State. Chairman Miller stated that he compiled a list of precincts that were involved and in which there were more poll workers than the SBEC would allow. Chairman Miller stated that this is not a state statute but an SBEC rule in the commissioner's manual. Chairman Miller stated that he had forwarded his list to Legal Counsel Tim Humphries and Director Susie Storms via email the number of registered voters in those precincts which would serve as the county's justification for exceeding the maximum six (6) workers per precinct. Chairman Miller stated that County Clerk Tena O'Brien's office has prepared a revised list by precinct, the poll workers as they have been realigned. Chairman Miller stated he was satisfied with the way the resubmission had been presented, and that it is his recommendation that the revised listing be approved minus the Benton County G&A Expense, along with the document he prepared showing the precincts and the number of registered voters. Chairman Miller asked County Clerk Tena O'Brien to fill in the figures from the actual expenses summary documents as they appear without the G&A Expense and the commissioners will sign this document to be resubmitted to the State. Commissioner Sevak stated that he has some questions regarding the mileage that was reported. Chairman Miller stated that some of the Election Sheriffs makes two (2) round trips which is a total of four (4) trips. Chairman Miller stated that the sheriffs have never been questioned about their mileage and that they sign the bottom of the Benton County Election Commission pay sheet where they certify their mileage. Chairman Miller suggested for the School Election, that a letter be prepared and attached to the pay sheet, to review the mileage request and submit it accordingly. Commissioner Sevak stated they should be given a mileage sheet, so there would be a record to verify. County Clerk Tena O'Brien stated that she has a mileage sheet that is used for the commissioners, and the Quorum Court. Chairman Miller asked County Clerk O'Brien to prepare a letter for the commissioners to sign for an official request of the sheriff's mileage.

Other Business:

County Clerk Tena O'Brien reported that she sent out a memorandum along with a sample ballot for no millage change to the school superintendents. She reported to date, her office has received responses from Pea Ridge, Siloam Springs, and Gentry schools that they will not be requesting a millage change. Chairman Miller asked County Clerk O'Brien how many school districts were remaining. County Clerk O'Brien reported Bentonville, Rogers, Decatur, and Gravette.

Announcements:

Chairman Miller announced that the next meeting will be held on July 13, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. and that there will also be a meeting on July 27, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. with the ballot draw to follow at 12:00 P.M. Chairman Miller stated for the ballot draw, the commission needed notoriety in the media of the final deadline for candidates to file. Chairman Miller stated that July 27 – August 5, 2011, is the dates that layout proofs are due back to the county. County Clerk Tena O'Brien asked Kim Umphres if the batteries for the screens were being charged. Kim stated "yes" and it is an ongoing process.

Chairman Miller apologized to Duane Neal for not having him on the agenda but at the previous meeting it was stated that the Redistricting Committee is on hold until the State House and State Senate districts lines are in place. Mr. Neal had nothing to report.

Adjournment:

Chairman Miller made motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sevak. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Sevak, Secretary

Prepared by Sharon Rose, Election Commission Staff