

# BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

John M. Brown, Jr.  
Chairman

M.W. Sevak  
Secretary



Robbyn Tumey  
Member

Amy Huston  
Coordinator

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

## MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

August 15, 2011

Commission members present: John Brown, Jr., Mike Sevak, and Robbyn Tumey

Others present: County Clerk Tena O'Brien, Christine Southard, Sharon Rose, Dana Ferguson, Duane Neal, and Jim McCarthy.

Media: Tom Sissom, Benton County Daily Record

Commissioner John Brown called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

An organizational meeting was held with Robbyn Tumey making a motion to nominate John Brown as Chairman of the Election Commission, seconded by Commissioner Sevak. Motion carried by voice vote. (2 yeas) (1 abstain: Brown). The other members of the commission are Commissioner Mike Sevak, Secretary, and Robbyn Tumey, Third Member.

### **Minutes:**

Chairman Brown asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of July 27, 2011.

Commissioner Tumey asked John Brown to read out loud the write-in candidate information contained in the minutes. Jim McCarthy stated that the spelling of a write-in candidate's name on a ballot, is at the discretion of the commissioners. They are to determine what the voter intent is. Chairman Brown made a motion that the minutes from the July 27, 2011 meeting be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Public Comment:**

None

**New Business:**

- (A) Rogers Bond Issue Election (September 13, 2011): Chairman Brown asked County Clerk Tena O'Brien the status of the Rogers Bond Issue Election. County Clerk O'Brien reported that Precinct 56, Open Door Baptist Church, is no longer available for elections and therefore, Precinct 56 has been moved to the Rogers Christian Church. County Clerk O'Brien stated that there are eighteen (18) polling locations for this election and that all election officials are in place. The commissioners approved and signed the orders to establish polling sites and election officials for the Rogers Bond Issue Election. Chairman Brown asked Sharon Rose the status of the Rogers Election. Sharon reported that the IvoTronics are ready to be staged for media and L & A testing. County Clerk O'Brien handed out a copy of the time-line that has been developed for this election to the commissioners.
- (B) Annual School Election (September 20, 2011): Chairman Brown asked County Clerk Tena O'Brien the status of the Annual School Election. County Clerk O'Brien reported that the election officials are not complete and that she is waiting to hear from six (6) precincts. Chairman Brown stated the "Order Appointing Election Officials" will be signed when completed. County Clerk O'Brien reported that the polling locations have been confirmed. The commissioners signed the "Order Establishing the Polling Sites".
- (C) Discussion: JP Redistricting: Duane Neal stated that he spoke with Dana Ferguson and Jeff Hawkins on the redistricting maps. The maps show the new districts for the county's Justices of the Peace for the 2012 election. Duane stated that the Benton County's population has grown and the number of Justices of the Peace on the Benton County Quorum Court will increase from 13 to 15. Duane stated that he would like the commissioners to consider making the constables and the township lines the same as the JP lines to keep down on splits. Duane reported that he should have a proposal within two (2) weeks and would like to meet with the Quorum Court and possibly conduct a public hearing at the same time. He also stated he would like the maps to be finalized as quickly as possible so the public could be informed. Dana showed two (2) polling location maps: (1) current polling locations by precinct and; (2) polling location by city. Chairman Brown stated at this time, he is removing himself from the redistricting committee.

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Sevak, Secretary  
Prepared by Sharon Rose, Election Commission Staff