

BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

John M. Brown, Jr.
Chairman

Russell J. Anzalone
Secretary



Robbyn Tumey
Member

Kim Dennison
Election Coordinator

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MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

October 11, 2013

Commission members present: John Brown, Jr., and Robbyn Tumey
Absent: Russell J. Anzalone

Others present: Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Sharon Rose, Tiffany Underwood,
Elections/Voter Administrator Dana Caler, and Centerton City Mayor Bill Edwards

Media: Tom Sissom, Benton County Record

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and welcomed everyone.

Minutes:

Chairman Brown stated that Commissioner Anzalone was not present to sign the minutes, but he and Commissioner Tumey could approve the minutes as submitted. Chairman Brown asked Commissioner Tumey if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the July 23, July 26, August 16, August 22, August 27, September 6, and September 20, 2013 meetings. There being no corrections or comments, Chairman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business:

Kim Dennison stated that Comptroller Sarah Daniels requested that the Election Commission look at reducing their original proposed budget. Kim stated that she was able to reduce the original budget by \$50,000 in reducing Election Service line items to include; (1) Elections, (2) Training, (3) Telephone, (4) Postage, and (5) Advertisement. Commissioner Tumey stated that she would like to see the staff increased to handle the greater workload in having more precincts, and the work needed in a general election year. Commissioner Tumey stated that Benton County is operating with two-and-a-half people and is the second largest county in Arkansas. Commissioner Tumey stated she would like to avoid long lines in 2014. Kim stated that the early vote sites could be increased to six (6) locations and this will give voters more of an opportunity to vote before Election Day.

Dana Caler asked if the Election Commission had Programming Your Own (PYO) software, could the smaller elections be prepared by the Election Commission and let ES&S take care of the larger Primary and General Elections. Commissioner Tumey stated that she was not sure if it would be cost effective if it was not used for the large elections.

New Business:

- A. Certification of Election Results for the Annual School Run-Off Election held on October 8, 2013: Chairman Brown asked Commissioner Tumey to review the results for the Annual School Run-Off Election for Pea Ridge School District #109. Chairman Brown asked for discussion. There being no discussion, Chairman Brown made a motion to approve the Annual School Run-Off Election held on October 8, 2013, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman Brown stated that he and Commissioner Tumey will sign a letter to Mr. Braxton Hurst congratulating him on winning, Position 3 in the Pea Ridge School District.

- B. Discussion of 15 new voting precincts being proposed due to Act 1211 of 2013: Chairman Brown stated that preliminary approval of the map showing the new precincts is needed in order for Deputy County Clerk Tiffany Underwood to start on the legal descriptions. Tiffany discussed the new map and showed Centerton City Mayor Edwards that there would be two (2) additional precincts in Centerton. Commissioner Tumey asked Tiffany how many precincts would there be. Tiffany responded, seventy-three (73). Mayor Edwards stated that he would like to have a map for his office. Election Coordinator Kim Dennison stated that she would like to have the new polling locations in place by December 16, 2013 in order to help the County Clerk's Office meet their deadline of January 21, 2014 for mailing out voter information cards to those affected by the changes. Chairman Brown made a motion to give the County Clerk's Office preliminary approval of the draft a map showing the new precincts in order to have the legal descriptions prepared, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote.

Other Business:

None

Public Comments:

Chairman Brown recognized Centerton City Mayor Bill Edwards. Mayor Edwards stated that he appreciates the hard work of the Election Commission and looks forward to the upcoming election year. Chairman Brown stated that he appreciated the help that Mayor Edwards has shown in assisting the commission.

Commissioner Tumey stated that if Super Polling Sites were approved and available on election days, it would help with crowding and would allow all voters to cast their ballot at any of the Super Site locations. Chairman Brown stated that one requirement is to have instant access to the County Clerk's voter registration database, which allows poll workers to quickly process and check in voters.

Election Coordinator Kim Dennison commented that ES&S is having issues with the IPower for use on Election Day and the state has withdrawn its approval, until the software issues are resolved.

Commissioner Tumey asked Kim who would be responsible for purchasing the electronic poll books. Kim stated that the electronic poll books are in the Election Commission budget.

Adjournment:

Chairman Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell J. Anzalone, Secretary
Prepared by Sharon Rose
Benton County Election Commission