

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

April 30, 2014

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

Others present: Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler

Media: Tom Sissom, Benton County Daily Record

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

Unfinished Business:

None

Minutes:

Chairman Brown asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January 27 and February 11, 2014 minutes. There being none, Chairman Brown made a motion that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Anzalone. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business:

- A. **Discussion: Arkansas Voter Identification Law:** Chairman Brown stated that Pulaski County Circuit Judge Tim Fox found the voter identification law unconstitutional, but this only affects Pulaski County. Chairman Brown stated that Arkansas Attorney General Dustin McDaniel announced his plans to appeal the decision to the Arkansas Supreme Court, and that his office along with the State Republican Party has asked for a stay of Pulaski County Circuit Judge Tim Fox's ruling. Also, Secretary of State Mark Martin's office has asked Pulaski County Circuit Judge Tim Fox to be excused from hearing the second lawsuit against the voter identification law because of the conflict of interest. Chairman Brown stated that the advice given by County Attorney George Spence is that the Benton County Election Commission should follow Act 595 of 2013 that a voter must show a photo ID before voting. Chairman Brown stated that if a voter does not have a photo ID, they would have to vote a provisional ballot. He stated that during early voting for the Preferential Primary and Nonpartisan Election, voting a provisional ballot would take place only at the County Clerk's offices in Bentonville, Rogers, or Siloam Springs. Chairman Brown asked Commissioners Anzalone and Tumey for further discussion. Commissioner Anzalone suggested PSA's to radio stations KURM or KBVA to help in getting the voter ID word out. There being no further discussion, Chairman Brown made motion that the Benton County Election Commission follow Act 595 of 2013 until a decision is ruled on by the Supreme Court, seconded by Commissioner Anzalone. Motion carried by voice vote.

Other Business:

None

Public Comments:

None

Announcements:

None

Adjournment:

Chairman Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Anzalone. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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