

# Benton County Election Commission

1204 SW 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 6, P.O. Box 1481, Bentonville, AR 72712

Russell J. Anzalone  
Chairman

M. W. Sevak  
Member



John M. Brown, Jr.  
Secretary

Kim Dennison  
Coordinator

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## MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

April 1, 2016

Election Commission members present: Chairman Russell Anzalone, and John M. Brown, Jr.,  
Absent: Mike Sevak

Others present: Election Coordinator Kim Dennison and Sharon Rose

Media: No Media Present

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

### **Minutes:**

Chairman Anzalone asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 7 and 8, 2016 minutes. There being none, Chairman Anzalone made a motion that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Unfinished Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

- A. Certification of the Republican Primary Run-Off Election held March 22, 2016: Chairman Anzalone stated that the number of outstanding absentee ballots of overseas voters is thirty (30), and of the four (4) Provisional Ballots, only three (3) were counted. Chairman Anzalone asked for discussion. There being no discussion, Chairman Anzalone made a motion to approve the Certification of the Republican Primary Run-Off Election held on March 22, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. Notice of Ballot Draw for the Annual School Election to be held July 12, 2016: Chairman Anzalone set Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. at the Election Commission Office located at 1204 SW 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 6, Bentonville for the Annual School Election ballot draw. Chairman Anzalone asked for discussion. There being no discussion, Chairman Anzalone made a motion to accept July 12, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. as the date, time, and location for the ballot draw for the Annual School Election to be held on September 20, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Other Business:**

Chairman Anzalone asked Election Coordinator Kim Dennison to give an overview of the process she follows in updating election results on election day. Kim stated that the current software was created to be read per precinct and not as a vote center. Kim added that the new equipment from ES&S is designed to update individual vote centers. Kim explained that at the present time, the flash card from each Ivotronic is read and collects the votes which allows for updates during election night. If the new equipment is used as a tabulator, the poll sheriff has one (1) thumb drive to open and close their vote center and it is designed to give updates after the thumb drive is read into the system. Chairman Anzalone asked Kim if an update could be done after each thumb drive was read. Kim responded yes, but with the current system, reading results from the flash cards will not allow her to make updates during the night from each vote center.

Kim also discussed the stylus that is attached to the Express Poll Tablets. She stated that the tips are made of rubber, tear easily, and could damage the screens on the Express Poll Tablets. Kim presented a different stylus with the tip made of cloth and asked the commission to purchase new styluses for the next election. Chairman Anzalone asked Kim the price of each stylus. Kim stated that each pack contained four (4) styluses and four (4) replacement heads at \$9.49 each. The commissioners examined the stylus and agreed to the purchase. Commissioner Brown made a motion for Kim to purchase the new stylus at \$9.49 per 4-pack, seconded by Chairman Anzalone. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman Anzalone stated that he spoke with Benton County Clerk Tena O'Brien with matters relating to advertising address changes prior to an election using additional media. Chairman Anzalone continued saying that County Clerk O'Brien is willing to do some additional advertising. Chairman Anzalone suggested to County Clerk O'Brien that the Election Commission provide cell phones for the County Clerk's staff and assign the vote centers a certain number to call for address changes, which could free her telephone lines to conduct other business. Chairman Anzalone also addressed the use of paper ballots on election day. County Clerk O'Brien stated that the number of telephone calls that were being received and the huge number of voters in the office on Election Day made it very difficult to hear. Chairman Anzalone suggested that he would like to use the auditorium at the Extension Office and use poll workers for the purpose of voting paper ballots only on Election Day and Commissioner Brown agreed.

Kim stated that additional Express Poll Tablets could be used. Kim added that all the tablets were used at the Preferential Primary & Nonpartisan Election. She suggested that the commission may want to consider purchasing additional tablets for the General Election which will be held on November 8, 2016. Commissioner Brown suggested that Kim present a proposal on the number and cost of additional Express Poll Tablets she feels the commission needs. Kim responded that she would prepare a proposal.

### **Public Comments:**

None

### **Announcements:**

None

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Anzalone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Brown, Jr., Secretary  
Prepared by Sharon Rose  
Benton County Election Commission