

MINUTES

August 14, 2014

Baltimore County Board of Elections
Board Meeting
106 Bloomsbury Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

ATTENDEES:

Bruce Harris	President
Leronia Josey	Vice President
Joseph Karey	Secretary
Jeanne Turnock	Substitute Board Member
Timothy Hickman	Substitute Board Member
Andrew Bailey	Board Counsel
Katie A. Brown	Director
Ruie Marie Lavoie	Administrative Officer

ABSENT:

Rena' Waggoner	Deputy Director
Nancy Stratton	Administrative Officer

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

Bruce Harris called the Meeting to order at 9:50 am.

ADDITIONS AND OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Harris asked for changes or additions to the Agenda. Tim Hickman requested a follow-up discussion about the "Regional Manager" be added to the Agenda, and Mr. Harris included the item under Old Business.

Ms. Brown asked to include the need for a polling place change under New Business.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- **June 9, 2014** Leronia Josey made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. On a second by Jeanne Turnock, the Minutes of the June 9, 2014 Board meeting were unanimously approved as written.
- **June 24, 2104** Leronia Josey made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. On a second by Jeanne Turnock, the Minutes of the June 24, 2014 Primary Election Day Board meeting were unanimously approved as written.
- **June 26, 2014** Joseph Karey made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. On a second by Leronia Josey, the Minutes of the 1st Absentee Canvass on June 26, 2014 were unanimously approved as written.
- **July 2, 2014** Leronia Josey made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. On a second by Joseph Karey, the Minutes of the Provisional Canvass on July 2, 2014 were unanimously approved as written.

- **July 7, 2014** Joseph Karey made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. On a second by Leronia Josey, the Minutes of the 2nd Absentee Canvass on July 7, 2014 were unanimously approved as written.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Meetings:

- **Early Voting Lessons Learned** – July 29, 2014, Katie Brown met with her Early Voting staff to review procedures and discuss judge performance. Ms. Brown advised that she has developed strategies which will hopefully eliminate parking issues at several centers. To promote Early Voting and advertise the locations, she has ordered signs and banners for each Early Voting center.
- **MAEO Conference Planning Meeting** – August 1, 2014, Ruie Lavoie and Danna Williams attended by conference call.
- **Directors' Call** – August 7, 2014, Rena' Waggoner and Ruie Lavoie attended by conference call. Minutes available through County Support by email.

2. Important Dates:

- **MAEO Board Meeting** – August 21, 2014 in the Anne Arundel County Election annex.
- **Election Technology Committee Meeting** – August 27, 2014 in the Howard County Election office.
- **Voter Registration Committee Meeting** – August 27, 2014 in the Calvert County Election office.
- **Absentee Canvass II** – Monday, July 7, 2014

3. **Work/Staff Status** – Ms. Brown advised of the continued need for Election Judges although judges who were unable to work in the June Primary have been placed for the General Election. Refresher Judge Training will be conducted in 5 locations; The Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park, Oregon Ridge Lodge, Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center, Back River Community Center and in the Bloomsbury Community Center to begin August 23, 2014 in Cockeysville.

Registration Maintenance is current. The Absentee and Provisional Departments are preparing for the General Election.

Ms. Brown advised she has processed the request to post the open Data Application Specialist positions and anticipates the post will appear on the Maryland Department of Budget and Management website in the next few weeks. She further advised one temporary employee is off for 3 weeks and the other two remaining temporary employees will work through November. She will recruit more temporary staff in October to assist with the election cycle.

4. **Correspondence** – Confidentiality request received from Lawrence Katz was denied. Ms. Brown sent notice to Mr. Katz.

For review, Ms. Brown provided the Board with a notebook which included all letters and emails received from judges and voters regarding their experience during the Primary Election. Several judges were dismissed and approximately 18 judges will receive counseling prior to their service in November. A copy of the response from Ms. Brown was included in the notebook.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Ballot Questions – Andrew Bailey reported the County Attorney is responsible to draft the ballot questions. The deadline is Monday, August 18, 2014.

Leronia Josey and Katie Brown extended sincere appreciation to Mr. Bailey for the extraordinary team work he continually displays. Above and beyond his duties as Board Counsel, he always pitches in and works along side of Ms. Brown and her staff. Mr. Bailey is a true asset to the Baltimore County Board of Elections.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Regional Manager** – After discussion, Ms. Josey made a motion to invite Keith Ross from State Board of Elections to the next meeting to discuss the following:
 - a. Clarify role of Regional Manager as it impacts the Baltimore County Election office.
 - b. Outline the proportion of money expensed compared to time spent in and for Baltimore County Election office.
 - c. Request the Regional Manager be more accountable and helpful to the Baltimore County Election office.
 - d. Discuss the anticipated new voting system.
2. **Board Compensation & Membership** – A response from the letter sent to Kevin Kamenetz has not been received. Ms. Brown will include the increase in the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.
3. **Office Move** – Ms. Brown reported she is waiting to set a meeting with OIT to discuss office security. Discussion held on the necessity of sufficient security. Ms. Brown will keep the Board updated. No other new information is available.
4. **Background Checks**- All background checks are completed on SBE hired staff to assist with L&A.
5. **Voter cards for 16 years old** – Letter to State Board of Elections outlining the Board's opinion was signed by Mr. Harris.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Primary Election and Recount

- **Primary Election** – Discussion held regarding the issues and problems regarding political signs left at polling places. The Election office has received many complaints and unfortunately County officials are not enforcing the removal of signs.

Discussion held regarding problem with candidates and electioneers on Primary Election Day.

- **Recount** – The Board thanked and praised Ms. Brown for her organization, planning and strategy used for the Recount. Andrew Bailey and Katie Brown will meet with Nikki Charlson by conference call to complete a Lessons Learned. Timothy Hickman made a Motion for the Board to send a letter of appreciation to OIT for the outstanding job in printing the ballots for the recount. On a second by Joseph Karey, the Board unanimously agreed.

2. **Polling Place Change** – Ms. Brown reported the Eastwood Center (12-01) will be demolished. Ms. Brown will combine this precinct with Berkshire Elementary School (12-02) and a letter to Linda Lamone at State Board of Elections will be sent advising of precinct change in an Election cycle.

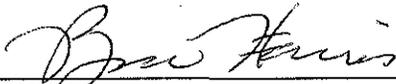
NEXT MEETING

Mr. Harris announced the next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 9:45 am.

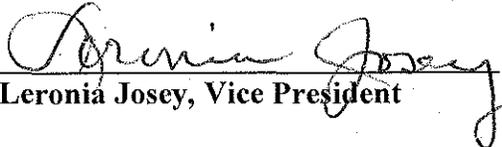
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Laronia Josey, and on a Second by Mr. Joseph Karey, the Board unanimously adjourned the Meeting at 11:12 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce Harris, President



Leronia Josey, Vice President



Joseph Karey, Secretary