

October 18, 2010

# MEETING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 18753-210 North Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland

### In Attendance:

#### **Board Members:**

Jerrold Garson, President John Sullivan, Vice President Nancy Dacek, Secretary Rosalyn Pelles Nahid Khozeimeh Mary Kiraly Lucia Nazarian

#### Staff:

Margaret Jurgensen, Director Sara Harris, Deputy Election Director Betty Ann Lucey, Registration Manager Marjorie Roher, Management and Budget Specialist III Christine Rzeszut, Operations Manager Kevin Karpinski, Legal Counsel Renee Adams, Election Aide

#### Guests:

Bryan Hunt, Office of Management and Budget Barbara Sanders, League of Women Voters of Montgomery County

Mr. Garson called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present at 2:30 p.m.

#### **Public Comments**

Ms. Roher stated that no one requested to address the Board.

## Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Ms. Jurgensen stated that there is an addition of an Executive Session to discuss minutes and canvasses following New Business.

## Approval of August 16, and 31, 2010, Minutes

Minutes from the August 16 and 31, 2010, meetings were distributed for review. A motion was made by Mrs. Dacek to approve both August 16, and 31, 2010, minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pelles and carried unanimously.

## **Election Director Status Reports**

## Budget

Ms. Jurgensen reported that the budget for this fiscal year is on track. She stated that each department was asked to provide personnel names to Sara or Margie to verify their overtime is credited properly.

Ms. Roher discussed the FY11 Budget spreadsheet distributed in the Board meeting packets. She stated that the spreadsheet is not current – the payroll information is as of the end of August, the print shop and mail information is zero because they have not been able to interface it with the new financial system yet, and there is no way to know what the status of the other line items is. Ms. Roher reported that staff has been informed that a comprehensive monthly reporting document will be available sometime in November.

## Voter Registration

Ms. Jurgensen reported that Voter Registration is closed and reported that 11 persons walked into the office after 6:00 p.m. on October 12, 2010. She explained that there were 1,377 pending provisional voters: 500 plus with no ID provided and 800 plus that had no verification.

Ms. Jurgensen reported that the delivery of absentee ballots were proofed, inventoried then mailed out Friday, Saturday, and Monday. She stated that all requests entered through Thursday were mailed over these three days with 9,000 going out this morning. Ms. Jurgensen reported that absentee names were released to the candidates on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. She stated that the military/overseas mailings and second ballot mailings were sent to 1,300 qualified overseas/military voters on October 8, 2010, via SBE private mail service contract.

#### **State Board of Elections**

Ms. Jurgensen reported that the software upgrade for the EPBs has not been received, but stated that Mr. Quarshie is on his way to pick it up from the SBE. She discussed the last minute instructions for Election Judges distributed in the Board packets. Ms. Jurgensen reported that there would be a public test of the software upgrade to address synching of EPBs statewide in a "live" setting for the Republican Party and any interested parties on Tuesday, October 19 at 11:00 a.m. in the Board Room, as well as in Annapolis. She stated that the precinct register data pull was completed on Sunday morning.

#### **Facility Issues**

Ms. Roher reported that the generator was brought in for the primary election with full tanks and placed on slanted surface w/out leveling and there was significant leaking from one generator. Ms. Roher stated that there was damage to the asphalt caused by the diesel fuel and weight of the generators. The landlord has filed a claim against the county, however an agreement has been reached. Ms. Roher reported that she has a meeting scheduled with Paul Klinedinst and Steve Hayes to discuss further details regarding the pavement and future placement of the generators.

Ms. Roher updated the Board on the air conditioning system. She stated that the HVAC maintenance/repair is being contracted to an outside company as the county HVAC staff is unable to provide the service. She reported that there is an appointment tomorrow to show one of the bidding contractors the system so that they may develop a bid.

Mrs. Harris discussed a modification to the traffic flow for dropping supplies on election night. She stated that there will be two lanes with two or more people collecting supplies from the election judges.

## **Board Attorney Report**

Mr. Karpinski updated the Board on the MOVAC lawsuit - they are requesting two deadlines be extended. He reported that the ballot sent by SBE did not include State or local offices. Mr. Karpinski stated that the SBE filed a motion to dismiss and noted that the plaintiffs responded today and the SBE has until October 21, 2010, to respond. He reported that questions related to the petition cases are on the ballot.

#### **Old Business**

#### Logic and Accuracy Testing

Ms. Jurgensen requested a motion to direct the Election Director to begin the process to perform the logic and accuracy testing for the General Election. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to direct the Election Director to begin the process to perform the logic and accuracy testing for the General Election. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Khozeimeh and carried unanimously.

#### **New Business**

**Election Day Preparations** 

## **Election Judge Update**

Ms. Jurgensen requested a motion to appoint election judges for Election Day & Early Voting. A motion was made by Mrs. Dacek to appoint the election judges. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Pelles and carried unanimously.

## Section 203 Update

Ms. Jurgensen reported that all Spanish speaking election judge positions are filled along with other languages as needed.

#### **Future Voters**

Ms. Jurgensen reported that students and parents are ready to assist in the General Election in dual precincts.

## **Ballot Preparations**

Ms. Jurgensen reported that since Thursday, the Board received ballots and reviewed them for quality and quantity, then prepared them for distribution.

Ms. Jurgensen stated that it is unknown at this time if SBE will extend the second absentee canvass to include ballots received through November 22, 2010. She reported that SBE has not done so as of yet. Staff is tentatively planning to conclude on Friday, November 12, or Saturday, November 13. Ms. Jurgensen stated that the new issue will be two ballots for voters and duplicating the ballot.

#### **Polling Places**

#### **Status Update**

Maps of Precincts 4-13 and 4-18 which displayed the suggested electioneering limit changes were reviewed with the Board. Mrs. Rzeszut requested that the Board approve the suggested changes. The Board agreed to accept and approve the map for Precincts 4-13 and 4-18 as submitted. A motion was made by Mrs. Khozeimeh to approve changes made to Precincts 4-13 and 4-18. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sullivan and carried unanimously.

#### Sample Ballot Status

Mrs. Harris explained the sample ballot mailing schedule stating that the first mailing of 600,000 will go out today. She reported that changes of addresses will be returned to the BOE.

#### Early Voting

Ms. Jurgensen stated that preparations for early voting are underway. She reported that the Silver Spring Civic Center is scheduled to be a rally point for the Rock the Vote rally. The Board discussed whether or not it is necessary for Board members to follow the truck to BOE from the early voting center. The Board agreed that it was not necessary to follow the truck to BOE because they were comfortable with the security measures in place. The Board members will attend the closing of the Early Voting centers and confirm that security seals on trucks.

## **Absentee Voting**

Ms. Jurgensen stated that the ballots came in and staff has begun mailing them. She reported that 9,900 domestic ballots went out today, and approximately 1,400 ballots were mailed on Saturday.

#### **Election Task Force**

Ms. Jurgensen updated the Board on the previous Election Task Force meeting. She reported that the Montgomery County Schools are concerned by the amount of trash left by candidates at the schools. She stated that it was agreed to send a letter to candidates and political parties informing them that when BOE leaves the facility, their political paraphernalia needs to be gone and BOE is advising the building services coordinator to remove signs and trash them. She noted that the signs are a safety hazard for students by blocking the view of parents dropping them off at school the next morning.

## Media

Ms. Roher reported the following media coverage on October 22: At 9:00 a.m. media/candidate briefing at Silver Spring atrium with Mrs. Dacek, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Karpinski; 9:30 a.m. media in polling room for photography; 10:00 a.m. media in polling room observing; 10:00 – 10:30 – media questions in atrium outside of polling room; and at 1:00 p.m. there will be public testing at BOE. She stated that additional contact has been made with major local stations to encourage attendance – no confirmation has been received at this point. Ms. Roher reported that press releases are on schedule with 4 remaining.

Ms. Roher reported that she is working on scheduling the following groups for Election Day Visits: State Department – Foreign Press Corps (confirmed), college groups, Election Protection, Argentinean delegation, IFES delegation (confirmed), and exit polling by Edison Research @ 13-19 (SBE confirmed).

## Report on the Executive Session

The Montgomery County Board of Elections convened in Executive Session at 4:10 p.m., pursuant to State Government Article, Sections 10-508(a), 10-508(a)(13), and 10-508(a)(14) to review minutes from the previous Executive Session, and to discuss absentee and provisional canvasses.

The Montgomery County Board of Elections met in closed session on this date. The following members of the Board and staff were in attendance: Jerrold Garson, John Sullivan, Nancy Dacek, Rosalyn Pelles, Nahid Khozeimeh, Mary Kiraly, Lucia Nazarian, Margaret A. Jurgensen, Sara Harris, Marjorie Roher, Kevin Karpinski, and Renee Adams.

#### **Executive Session Minutes**

Ms. Roher distributed minutes from the August 13, 16, and 31, 2010, Executive Sessions for review.

## **Absentee and Provisional Canvass**

The Board discussed absentee and provisional procedures.

There were no other items discussed in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Khozeimeh to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene in regular session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sullivan and carried unanimously, with the Board reconvening in regular session at 4:43 p.m.

#### **Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made by Mrs. Dacek to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the August 13, 16, and 31, 2010, meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Khozeimeh and carried unanimously.

## **Future Meetings**

- A. October 22, 2010
  - 1. 9:00 a.m. Candidate/Media Briefing- Silver Spring Civic Building
  - 2. 9:30 a.m. Early Voting Media Kick-off Silver Spring Civic Building
  - 3. 1:00 p.m. Public Testing BOE
- B. October 22-28, 2010 Early Voting 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. daily (except Sunday)\*
- C. October 29, 2010 4:00 p.m. Supply Bag Check
- D. November 1, 2010 Polling Place Check
- E. November 2, 2010- Election Day
- F. November 4, 2010 10:00 a.m. Absentee Canvass
- G. November 10, 2010 10:00 a.m. Provisional Canvass
- H. November 12, 2010 10:00 a.m. Absentee II Canvass
- I. November 15, 2010 2:30 p.m. tentative

Ms. Roher confirmed the Board's preference for meetings on the third Monday of each month and noted that a 2011 calendar would be provided in November.

## Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Khozeimeh to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sullivan and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjoie M. Roher

Marjorie M. Roher Management & Budget Specialist III

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

Jerrold S. Garson Board President