

February 26, 2018

APPROVED

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

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Jim Shalleck, President
Nahid Khozeimih, Vice President
Mary Ann Keeffe, Secretary
Alexander Vincent
David Naimon
Jacqueline Phillips
Alan Banov

Board Attorney:
Kevin Karpinski

Staff:

Margaret Jurgensen, Election Director
Alysoun McLaughlin, Deputy Director
Lisa Merino, Office Services Coordinator
Marjorie Roher, Management and Budget Specialist III
Janet Ross, Information Technology Manager
Christine Rzeszut, Operations Manager
Jessica White, Voter Services Manager
Gilberto Zelaya, Outreach Coordinator

Guests:

Barbara Bessel
Paul Bessel
Chris Bradbury
Diana Conway
Nancy Farrar
Lorna Forde
Bernad Garrots
Sandra Hawks
Dolly Kildee
David Lipscomb

Linda Mahoney
Danielle Meitiv
Barbara Noveau
Fran Rothstein
Barbara Sanders
Michael Subin
R. Sullivan
Ajija Van Gieson
Greg Wims
Brenda Wolff

Audio of the meeting may be found at the link below:

<https://youtu.be/9AxGGqx8N50>

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Convene the Board Meeting and Declare a Quorum Present

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

Approval of the January 22, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Khozeimeh moved to accept the January 22, 2018, Board meeting minutes as submitted by Ms. Merino. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vincent.

Mr. Naimon moved to amend Mrs. Khozeimeh's motion to include the changes submitted by Mr. Banov and himself. The motion was seconded by Mr. Banov.

Mr. Naimon stated that there was an established process for approving the minutes and, even though they were distributed a little late, he responded with his changes by the established deadline. He stated that he added very little to the length of the text and that the changes that he submitted were for the Board's protection as additional explanation was added in a couple areas as needed. Mr. Naimon then provided some examples of why he believed it was necessary to include the suggested changes. Mrs. Khozeimeh responded that the information in the minutes was sufficient and that if people wanted additional information, they could listen to the audio of the meeting. Mrs. Keeffe stated that, in this case, she agreed with Mr. Naimon's edits as they brought the minutes into conformance with the Board's discussion. She supports Mr. Naimon's motion.

Mr. Shalleck stated that he has no quarrel with the substance of the requested changes. He noted that two years ago, the Board decided to put on the website that people can listen to the audio of the meeting, and that the minutes would serve as a roadmap of the meeting, so that if more detail was needed, they could access the audio. His objections are to the overall length of the minutes. Mr. Naimon questioned the harm in having longer minutes and noted there were substantive reasons for all the changes he suggested. Mr. Vincent stated that he doesn't believe that all details of the meeting need to be incorporated into the minutes. Mr. Shalleck stated that he will support Mr. Naimon's motion this time but would like to see future minutes be more succinct.

The Board voted on Mr. Naimon's motion to amend Mrs. Khozeimeh's motion to include the changes submitted by Mr. Banov and himself. The motion carried, three to two, with both Mrs. Khozeimeh and Mr. Vincent abstaining.

The Board voted on Mrs. Khozeimeh's amended motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2018, Board meeting as amended by by Mr. Naimon and Mr. Banov. The motion carried, four to one, with Mrs. Khozeimeh abstaining.

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Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Shalleck stated there were no additions or changes to the agenda.

Public Comments

Danielle Meitiv, introduced herself as a candidate for the Montgomery County Council at Large and a member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee from District 20, spoke to the Board regarding her opposition to any cuts to voter outreach. Ms. Meitiv's comments are incorporated as Attachment A.

Chris Bradbury, introduced himself as an at Large member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, addressed the Board regarding budget cuts to voter outreach. He appreciates that the Korea Times was added and believes that is a good use of funding. Mr. Vincent explained that the proposal being considered is a staff proposal and that the Committee has made no decision.

Paul Bessell shared with the Board that he was concerned that the Russians had tried to impact Maryland elections. He hopes the Board takes this seriously and takes extra steps to ensure that a foreign government cannot interfere with our elections.

Ajija Van Gieson, speaking on her own behalf, stated that she is concerned with the proposed cuts to outreach and referenced the 2014 Montgomery County Voter Rights Task Force.

Diana Conway, introduced herself as a 25-year county resident and representing her husband who is running for Montgomery County Council at Large, urged the Board not to cut the voter outreach budget but instead provide more outreach.

Fran Rothstein, introduced herself as the President of the Women's Democratic Club of Montgomery County. Ms. Rothstein stated that if we do not take action to inform the voters about who is on the ballot, where they vote, and why they should vote in a way they can understand and access, we are not acting in the way she would hope our County would act, she urged the Board not to cut the voter outreach budget.

Linda Mahoney, introduced herself as a member of the Democratic Central Committee for District 19, expressed concern regarding the proposed cuts. She stated the importance of involving everybody in our democratic system. She urged the Board to consider this before making any cuts.

Barb Noveau, introduced herself as a member of the Women's Democratic Club and representing *Do the Most Good Montgomery County*, stated that any reduction in outreach information will be a serious setback to spreading the word and closing the gap in the County.

Brenda Wolff, introduced herself as the District 14 representative for the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, and also here on behalf of the Women's Democratic Club, stated that she is here to lend her voice to those who do not want the funding cut. Mr. Naimon stated that if the Board is able to get an increase from the County Council for the General Election,

we would be able to expand to many more outlets. He encouraged everyone present to speak to the County Council regarding this issue at the appropriate time.

Greg Wims, representing District 15 up-county on the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, stated that he wanted to echo the comments of the first speaker, Danielle Meitiv, and the last speaker, Brenda Wolf. Mr. Wims offered to help the Board, stating that he works closely with African American Churches, and would be glad to provide assistance.

Reardon Sullivan stated that he received an 8.7% increase to his property tax. While outreach may 'feel good', it costs money. Mr. Sullivan noted that he did not want to pay any more taxes. At some point, we have to cut some place; we want to involve people, that's great, but Mr. Sullivan doesn't want any more money taken from him for things that other people think are 'feel good.'

Ms. Keeffe suggested that, in light of all the people who came to the meeting, the issue of the advertising budget be moved up on the agenda and be discussed at this time. Mr. Shalleck agreed.

Old Business

Communications Committee Report

Ms. Keeffe stated that she currently serves with Mrs. Khozeimeh on the Budget Committee and worked diligently on all areas of the budget. She explained the lengthy process that the Board goes through each year to develop the budget and indicated that each year one of the primary things discussed is outreach money versus media advertising. This media money is one part of the outreach effort, the other outreach is overseen by Outreach Coordinator Gilberto Zelaya involving schools, students, public events, and organization meetings, where he recruits election judges, registers voters, and distributes material announcing Early Voting sites, election dates, and demos the voting systems. Ms. Keeffe stated that over the weekend, she communicated with members of the Board, including the two members of the Communications Committee, Messrs. Vincent and Naimon. The problem is that the Department's budget was reduced, rather than receiving additional funding from the County Executive or County Council. The Department was required to identify a 2% reduction. When that happens, the Board scrambles to see where the funds can be taken from as our overall budget is small. Ms. Keeffe stated that she spent quite a bit of time going over the budget to see where money could be taken from, indicating there is a \$7,000 difference between media expenditures for 2016 and this year. She noted that she met with Marjorie Roher, the Budget Specialist, this morning to share her suggestions. Three areas were identified where some money could be taken to make up for the shortfall in advertising. Ms. Keeffe stated that she proposes that the Board reallocate the funds to retain the amount spent in 2016, with the addition of the extra money for the Korean Times. She stated that the recommendation would be no cuts in Spanish media. Ms. Keeffe noted that the Board is currently working on the FY19 budget which will provide money for the General Election. The funds being discussed today are only for Primary Election.

Mr. Shalleck introduced Mike Subin, the County Executive's liaison to the Board of Elections, and asked him if he wanted to add anything to the conversation. Mr. Subin stated that

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no final decisions have been made on FY19 funding. The Board met with the County Executive and requested additional funding for advertising. Mr. Subin noted that there had been required savings plans submitted by all departments and noted the relevance between this year's budget and the savings plan and what may be left over after last year. Mr. Shalleck stated that Mr. Leggett has always been a friend to this Board. Ms. Phillips introduced Outreach Coordinator Gilberto Zelaya and encouraged those in the room to reach out to him and make him aware of outreach events and opportunities in the community. Mr. Zelaya provided his contact information (240-777-8532) to those in attendance.

Ms. Keeffe recommended moving \$3,500 from PO Box Rental, \$3,500 from Charges for Facility Maintenance, and \$720 from Non-Metropolitan Travel. She thanked Ms. Roher for talking through these areas and making it work.

Mrs. Khozeimeh made a motion to move \$7,720, from the accounts noted above to the Advertising account. Ms. Keeffe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Ms. Keeffe moved that the additional funds be allocated in a way that will bring the funding for the individual items equal to the allocation in the last election cycle, plus the addition of the new monies for the Korean Times.

Mr. Naimon noted that there was insufficient funding to do that; there was a need for an additional \$500. Ms. Roher suggested that the Board reduce Comcast by \$500 to accommodate the funds for Korea Times. Ms. Keeffe agreed as long as it doesn't come from the Spanish portion. Mr. Shalleck asked Ms. Roher if an additional \$500 could be found in the budget. Ms. Roher stated that \$4,000 (rather than \$3,500) could be taken from the PO Box Rental account to accommodate this request.

Mrs. Khozeimeh amended her motion to move \$8,220 to the Advertising account as follows: \$4,000 from PO Box Rental, \$3,500 from Charges for Facility Maintenance, and \$720 from Non-Metropolitan Area Travel. Ms. Keeffe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mrs. Keeffe restated her motion to allocate the advertising funds to match the FY17 allocation with the addition of \$500 for Korea Times. (A spreadsheet detailing the final allocation is incorporated as Attachment B.) Mr. Banov seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Shalleck thanked Ms. Keeffe, Mrs. Khozeimeh, and Ms. Roher for their efforts.

Ms. Phillips asked if there was any information on the efficiency of the advertising that we have placed in the past. Ms. Roher stated that some of the media outlets provide information, but all outlets have not done this. She stated that she intends to make this a part of future contracts so that a better analysis may be made.

Mr. Naimon raised the question of FY19 funding. He stated that when the Committee met, he indicated his preference that the Board wait until it is known how much funding will be allocated prior to making a decision. Mr. Naimon suggested that the Board consider the use of digital outreach in the future and requested that staff conduct some research

Mr. Vincent stated there is an issue that he wanted to raise but would prefer to wait until later in the meeting.

Election Director Status Report (Incorporated as Attachment C)

Personnel

Ms. Jurgensen stated that ads for Election Aides are posted on the County website and Facebook. Staff has begun interviews and hiring, filling IT, recruiter, and trainer positions.

Budget (Incorporated as Attachment D)

Ms. Roher stated that the budget spreadsheet detailing the final FY18 expenditures was sent in advance. She noted that as of the end of January, the Board has spent 30.39% of the budget and everything appears to be tracking properly. She noted that the addition of temporary employees will begin to have a significant impact on the budget.

Voter Registration

Ms. Jurgensen stated that Ms. White and Ms. Woods will be on the County Government's Mosaic television program to discuss voter registration and the need for election judges. She also noted that, in response to complaints received, she and Mrs. Rzeszut had spoken with the complainants and the Pastor of Cedar Lane Unitarian Church (13-26) and the issue regarding the polling location has been resolved.

Ms. Roher returned to the budget report, stating that the County Council's Government Operations Committee would be hearing the Board of Election's FY19 budget request on April 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the 7th floor hearing room of the Council Office Building. She noted that this could change and she would keep the Board informed. She apologized for omitting that from her report.

Ms. White stated that there are currently 644,279 active registrants and 81,113 inactive registrants for a total of 725,392. In addition to processing registrations and absentee ballot applications, staff has been working with the IT Section on street file updates to ensure that new buildings and roads are incorporated accurately. Staff is also processing returned mail, and sending out confirmation cards in an attempt to obtain current address information. A lot of requests for registrar training have been received. Anyone who will be 18 by the date of the General Election may be trained to register voters; staff conducts classes here in the building on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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State Board of Elections

Ms. Jurgensen reported that the State Board of Elections declined to come to the meeting to address security concerns, stating this had been discussed at the Biennial meeting and there is no new information available. She referenced several comments from Deputy Administrator Nikki Charlson which are contained in the Director's Report previously incorporated as part of these minutes. Ms. Jurgensen also distributed information to the Board late Friday that referenced recent articles regarding potential hacking and security issues. There is a meeting with the State Board on March 8 and she hopes to receive additional information at that time.

Ms. Keeffe expressed frustration about SBE's response to this Board's request to have someone from the SBE speak to them, which could be done in Executive Session if necessary, by simply saying this was addressed at the last Biennial Meeting. Ms. Keeffe expressed her view that SBE's response is not sufficient. There is no interaction at those presentations, no ability to question the speakers, and the ability to have a back and forth discussion doesn't exist in those venues. The Board Members are constantly being asked about this issue. Ms. Keeffe doesn't know what can be done, but the response from the State Board is not sufficient. She suggested a very strong letter to the State Board. Ms. Phillips suggested contacting people on our own, outside of the State Board of Elections. Mr. Karpinski suggested reaching out to the Chair of the State Board to see if he would ask SBE staff to come to the meeting. In addition to concerns from the public, this Board is a defendant in the Judicial Watch case and it would be appropriate for the SBE to provide additional information.

Mr. Naimon stated that part of his concern is there is no interaction with the SBE at all. He described a recent issue with a registered voter and assistance he had from Ms. White to resolve it. Mr. Naimon noted that Ms. White reached out to Ms. Wagner at the State Board and to date has not received a response. Ms. White described the process staff takes to update registration information and the issues that can arise. Mr. Naimon stated there are a lot of things the Board is not able to do, but we can encourage voters to let us know when there are problems so that the cause may be determined and resolved. In this instance, when staff tried to follow up, there is a default response that it is the voter's fault. Ms. White stated that the SBE does now send correspondence to voters to notify them of changes being made to their record to provide them with an opportunity to contact them if the change is in error.

Mr. Shalleck stated that he will contact Mr. McManus to see if they can get someone here. He noted that there will be a discussion at next month's meeting regarding physical security here at the BOE and protocols for polling place disruptions. Ms. Phillips relayed a conversation she had with a voter who received no response from the State Board when she had an issue in Baltimore City. Mr. Banov questioned how the Board is supposed to provide assurance to the public when the Board cannot receive assurance from the State. Ms. Phillips suggested that someone from the Federal Government come in to provide information. Ms. Jurgensen pointed out that for an outside expert to come in and discuss this issue, they would have to learn about our systems and the SBE is not likely to turn this type of information over to anyone.

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Ms. Jurgensen noted that the contract with the absentee mail vendor is with SBE and staff has been told that they will receive additional information on March 8. When she tried to reach out to the vendor, most of the questions asked were referred to the State Board of Elections. Ms. Jurgensen noted that if the Board members have any questions, they should put them in writing and she will take them to the March 8 meeting.

Ms. Keeffe asked if this involved the issue of the pollbooks and updating. Ms. Jurgensen stated that the pollbooks are being tested now; the tablets that they were going to use will now not be utilized. Ms. Keeffe added that there were several bugs in the tablet pilot in other counties. Ms. Jurgensen confirmed that information.

Ms. Jurgensen stated that 75 of the DS200 scanners were delivered, and the balance will be delivered in 7 days. The Runbeck ballot duplication software was modified but still does not meet our needs. There would be an additional \$2,000 cost to make the software work and Ms. Jurgensen felt that the change is not cost effective and declined to participate at this time.

Legislative Update

Ms. McLaughlin updated the Board members on legislation. She briefly spoke on House Bill 767, House Bill 1278, Senate Bill 333, and Senate Bill 532. The Board took no position on the Bills discussed. Mr. Shalleck requested that Ms. McLaughlin circulate legislation information in advance of the hearing dates. Ms. McLaughlin offered to provide a link to the Board members.

Ms. Phillips suggested that the Board address the ever-changing technological changes and how statutes and COMAR regulations do not get adapted to those changes. She is suggesting that the Board prepare a draft letter to the Governor to establish a task force on the modernization of statutes that impact elections. Mr. Shalleck stated that he would reach out to other Board Presidents on the issue.

Ms. Jurgensen noted that the Board requested that Election Judge training be provided in Damascus and classes have been scheduled at the Damascus Senior Center.

Board Attorney Report

Judicial Watch

Mr. Karpinski reported that the Judicial Watch lawsuit is still pending.

Mr. Karpinski noted that the Board has received an inquiry on circulating a petition on a Charter Amendment.

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Polling Place Update

Precinct 13-46

January's Public Comment speaker, Carol Petzold, withdrew her request to use English Manor Elementary School for Precinct 13-46.

Precinct 04-30

The Board requested that staff visit and revisit sites proposed at the January Board meeting. Ms. Jurgensen stated that Woodmont County Club, Green Acres School, Faith United Methodist Church, Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, and Montrose Community Center have declined the use of their facilities as a polling place. The suggested use of Landow and Ring House do not provide sufficient parking. Rollins Congressional Club of Rockville has not been responsive to inquiries, and the only comment received from a staff member of the club is that the Bylaws indicate that they do not hold political activities, although our staff indicated that we are really not a political activity. The staff recommends the use of Richard Montgomery High School to be used for Precinct 04-30. To alleviate any confusion at the polling place, staff is recommending that two staff personnel assist voters once they have checked in at the pollbook and direct them to the appropriate side of the room to cast their vote. Ms. Jurgensen noted that summer school will also be held in the school. Mr. Naimon expressed concern about the distance voters will have to travel to Richard Montgomery High School, and suggested postponing this issue until next month's meeting to explore further the use of Rollins Congressional Club in Rockville, within the precinct.

Ms. Khozeimeh made a motion to approve Richard Montgomery High School as a polling place for precinct 04-30. The motion was seconded by Ms. Phillips. The Board took a vote, Mr. Shalleck, Mrs. Khozeimeh, and Mr. Vincent voted for the motion, Ms. Keeffe and Mr. Naimon voted against the motion, the motion passed.

Mrs. Khozeimeh requested that sufficient staff be available to direct voters; Ms. Jurgensen agreed.

Communications Committee

Mr. Vincent requested that this item be discussed in Executive Session, as statements have been made that affect his character and reputation. Mr. Shalleck agreed to discuss the item further in Executive Session.

New Business

Board Calendar

Ms. Jurgensen presented the Board with a draft calendar of event dates in preparation of the Primary Election. She requested that the Board provide any comments to the dates to Ms. Merino.

Polling Place 13-46

Mrs. Khozeimeh moved to make Bauer Community Recreation Center the polling place for Precinct 13-46. The motion was seconded by Ms. Keeffe and passed unanimously.

Future Meetings

The next Board meeting will be on March 19, 2018.

Communications Meeting

Mr. Shalleck thanked staff and those involved in resolving the budget resolution so that no media outlets were cut. Mr. Vincent echoed his comments and thanked Ms. Keeffe for the proposal. He added that there is nothing much to discuss regarding the communications meeting since there is a resolution. Mr. Vincent advised that he was withdrawing his request for an Executive Session to openly discuss his concerns. Mr. Vincent added that he would like to discuss a very disturbing statement that was brought to his attention made on *Facebook*, by Julian Haffner, a Democratic candidate for District 17 Delegate who wrote the following: "*The Montgomery County Board of Elections is in the process of determining its Advertising and Outreach Budget for this year's election. Predictably, the Republicans led by member Alex Vincent propose making cuts that will hinder outreach efforts to Spanish-language speakers, and voters of color.*"

Democrats believe in ensuring as many voters participate in elections, particularly those who have historically and systematically been discouraged and prevented from doing so.

Please help us fight against Republican attempts to disenfranchise Montgomery County voters!"

Mr. Vincent stated that this is an outrageous attack on him, and that Mr. Haffner is basically accusing him of being a racist. Mr. Vincent added that he questions how Mr. Haffner knew that Mr. Vincent was involved at all. Mr. Vincent recalled that a Communication meeting was held. It was confidential and confidence was breached. He added that if this is the order of the day, it will prevent committee members from having discussion of issues and a frank exchange of views. He stated that he has no interest in participating if he is going to be dragged through the mud.

Mr. Naimon stated that there was no breach of a confidential meeting, noting that Mr. Vincent provided his support of the proposed cut on the record in the January Board meeting. He stated that the proposal recommended did decrease advertising in areas. Mr. Vincent stated that no decision had been made at the January Board meeting. Mr. Vincent added that he wanted the full Board to discuss the proposal. Mr. Naimon stated that Mr. Vincent's issue is with Mr. Haffner and that he would be happy to connect them if needed. Mrs. Khozeimeh and Mr. Vincent inquired how the members of the public who attended today, had possession of the document from the Budget sub-committee and how could they know that there was any particular money being considered at all. Mr. Naimon stated that Mr. Vincent endorsed the proposal at the January meeting. Mr. Vincent agreed that he endorsed the position but that the staff recommended the proposal, he only gave his personal view. The statement given by Mr. Haffner states, that the Republicans lead by Mr. Vincent want to disenfranchise minority voters, which is not accurate.

Ms. Keeffe stated that as a member of the minority and majority side, she has always left her politics at the parking lot. It is a disgusting display of partiality politics and is very upsetting. Ms. Keeffe added that Mr. Vincent has the right to be upset with the accusation; Mr. Naimon agreed. Mr. Vincent clarified that he never proposed a cut, as there was less money allocated from the previous fiscal year.

Mr. Naimon offered to ask Mr. Haffner to issue a correction, but said he didn't think it was his responsibility.

Ms. Philips agreed with Ms. Keeffe's comments, asking if there is something that could be done to address the issue.

The Board suggested that a press release be done to advise the public regarding the reinstatement and increased funding to the media advertising. The Board asked Ms. Roher her opinion; she responded that she is not opposed to a media advisory. Ms. Roher added that she feels a slight attack secondary to Mr. Vincent because of what has been written is not the reality because as everything was cut due to mandatory County budget reductions. Ms. Roher noted that no specific ethnicity was singled out with the proposal.

Ms. Khozeimeh added that in earlier years when the Board was composed of majority Democrat the Board members has always historically worked together as a unified body in a bipartisan way; and now that the Board is majority Republican suddenly there is so much controversy. She added that Board members historically worked in a bipartisan manner on all board issues. Ms. Khozeimeh added that unfortunately this is not the first time that the Democrats have attacked the Republican Board members and insinuating minority discrimination. She added that the Democrats owe the Board an apology for the inaccurate accusations, the goal of the Board has always been to work in a bipartisan manner for all the voters of Montgomery County.

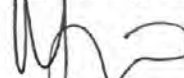
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Ms. Keeffe suggested that she and Mr. Shalleck come together and reach out to Mr. Haffner, reinforcing that the Board of Elections operates in a nonpartisan manner.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Khozeimeh made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 5:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Keeffe and passed unanimously.

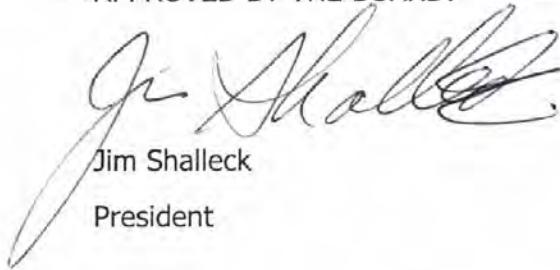
Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa Merino

Office Services Coordinator

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:



Jim Shalleck
President

My name is Danielle Meitiv. I am a candidate for Montgomery County Council At-Large and a member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee from District 20. As a party official and a candidate, I strongly oppose any cuts to voter outreach, especially outreach aimed at communities of color and non-English speaking voters.

There is no good time for such cuts, but the timing is especially bad in an election with more candidates than ever before. The ballot will be very complex and all voters will need more information. Since the last election, Montgomery County has lost a number of major media outlets, which means there will be less public discussion of this election. Instead of cutting back, the BoE must do more voter outreach. The BoE has an obligation to produce and distribute materials that speak to all potential voters. This includes timely and accurate information to inform voters of their right to participate in the democratic process. They need to know about important registration deadlines, locations of early voting sites, and the basic mechanics for registering to vote.

Montgomery County is a majority-minority county and more than one-third of our residents come from other countries. Our diverse county needs to ensure voter outreach efforts include communities of color. It is essential to reach out to all members of our community, including historically disenfranchised immigrant communities and African Americans. Budget decisions send important messages about which voices get to be heard during election time, and we **MUST** prioritize inclusion and justice. The Board of Elections must provide the needed information about how to participate fully in the electoral process. This must be in a variety of languages and culturally appropriate formats.

Many immigrants come to this country to experience freedoms that were denied to them in their homelands. We need to welcome them into the process in as many ways as possible and encourage them to vote.

For many Maryland voters, the Motor Vehicle Administration is the point of contact for voter registration. This is not as much the case in immigrant communities and communities of color, as these residents are less likely to own cars. The BoE must fill the gap.

In an era of easily distributed fake news, it is critical for us to get out the correct information. Democracy itself is under attack now. Our response should be to do our utmost to increase voter education and engagement. Thank you.

2018 Advertising Recommendation Gubernatorial Elections (as approved 2/26/18)

<u>MEDIA OUTLET</u>	<u>FY17</u>	<u>FY18 #1</u>
Comcast: Advertising with Comcast is split 70/30 English and Spanish	\$8,376	\$8,376
Radio America	\$3,000	\$3,000
Washington Chinese News (print & online)	\$1,500	\$1,500
Korea Times NEW FY 18	\$0	\$500
Telemundo	\$3,500	\$3,500
Washington Post:		
El Tiempo Latino (2 ads)	\$744	\$744
Express Newsletter (1 ads)	\$636	\$636
Living Local – Montgomery Edition (1 ad)	\$1,000	\$1,000
Facebook:	\$2,000	\$2,000
WMAL	\$2,500	\$2,500
WPGC	\$2,000	\$2,000
iHeart Media (WASH)	<u>\$2,500</u>	<u>\$2,500</u>
TOTAL PROPOSAL	\$27,756	\$28,256
Difference from FY17		\$500

February 23, 2018

Election Director Status report

Notice of the meeting posted February 16, 2018

Public Comments: No one has contacted the staff to speak to the Board.

Additions/Changes- not at this time

V. Status Report – Margaret Jurgensen

- A. Personnel – Ads for Election Aides are up on the County Website and Facebook. Interviews and hiring has started, filling IT staff, recruiter positions and trainers.
- B. Budget – Marjorie Roher
- C. Voter Registration – Jessica White
 - a) Jessica White and Leslie Woods will be on MOSIAC, county based television program to discuss voter services and need for Election Judges.
 - b) Voter Services and IT are updating the street file for the 2018 election cycle.
 - c) List Maintenance
 - d) Registrar Training
 - e) Complaint received about Polling Place change at Precinct 13-26. Issue resolved.
- D. State Board of Elections
 - 1. Security
 - a) Response to NBC Story – sent February 13 to Board via e-mail, SBE staff person Nikki Trella comments are highlighted:

“Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- There is no **new** information in this story. All of the information in the report has already been reported - many times.
- DHS identified Maryland's online voter registration system as one of the 21 systems that had activity linked to the Russian government. DHS officially notified us in September 2017, but we were aware of the activity (not the source) when it happened and provided the federal government with information that helped them come to this conclusion.
- Maryland's online voter registration system was **not** one of the "hacked" voter registration systems. While there is evidence that Maryland's online voter registration system was "scanned" or "probed," there is **no** evidence that the system was breached. We provided transaction log files to an agency of the federal government, one of the State's cybersecurity contractors, and a private company, and all three entities reviewed the logs and found no evidence of improper or unauthorized transactions.
- SBE and the vendor that hosts the online voter registration system immediately identified the "scanning" or "probing" activity when it occurred, and the IP addresses associated with the activity were immediately blocked.
- During the 2017 biennial meeting, we shared information on how we protect and monitor our systems to reduce the likelihood of a system breach and alert system administrators if suspicious activity is discovered. These efforts continue and we continue to identify other ways to protect these systems. Attached are two documents (also distributed at the biennial meeting) that summarize the security features and best practices we follow for the voting system, online voter registration, and MDVOTERS. (These documents can be distributed if you wish.)"

Article from The Hill – Feb 20

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/374600-homeland-security-chief-touts-effort-on-election-cybersecurity>

Article from NY Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/19/us/elections-states-hacking.html?register=google>

Statement of the National Assoc. of Secretaries of State reg: NBC Story

<http://www.nass.org/node/1317>

2. Absentee/Mail Vendor

- a) Discussion with vendor was limited as SBE controls the contract. Election Directors and Deputies will receive a briefing at the Director's meeting on March 8, 2018.

We did learn that mailing will be USPS 1st class, probably mailed from the company location in Texas. Montgomery County staff described the number of issues faced over the years with the previous vendor. Most of our questions were unanswered because we were directed to ask the State Board of Elections staff.

3. Legislative Update – Alysoun McLaughlin
4. IT – Approximately 75 units of the DS 200 scanners were delivered to the Board on Friday. The balance of the units are expected in the next seven days. The units are to insure nearly all precincts have two scanners at the location.
5. State Board asked the Local Boards to send to all local candidates and staff sent the following: “What Every Campaign Candidate/Staff Should Know About Cybersecurity.”
<https://www.belfercenter.org/cyberplaybook>

VI. Board Attorney Report – Kevin Karpinski

VII. Old Business

A. Polling Place Update – Chris Rzeszut

1. Precinct 04-30 – New location for 2018
Staff recommends Richard Montgomery High School

Response from other locations:

- Woodmont Country Club—declined, used for members only
- Faith United Methodist Church—declined
- Green Acres School—declined
- Charles Smith Jewish Day School—declined
- Bnai Israel Congregation and School—both declined
- Ring House on Jefferson Street—declined
- Landow House—did not contact because it is part of the Nursing Home Program and there is absolutely no parking
- Montrose Community Center owned by the City of Rockville—declined because the pre-school program is in session 12 months a year, no parking, inaccessible and room is too small.
- Rollins Congressional Club—could not reach (left several messages, email and phone, and visited the location twice), one staff member told me their by-laws prohibit political activities

2. Precinct 13-26 – request withdrawn by Mrs.
Carol Petzold, and Board notified February 20th.

B. Communications Committee Report –
Alexander Vincent and David Naimon

VIII. New Business – Lisa Merino
Board calendar

IX. Future meetings – Lisa Merino

FY18 OPERATING BUDGET SPREADSHEET
 (Through January 31, 2018, as of February 5, 2018)

LINE ITEM	FY18 APPROVED	FY18 YEAR TO DATE*
PERSONNEL COSTS	4,206,270	1,593,747
5A001 - Salaries & Wages	3,420,715	1,240,066
50010 - Full Time Salaries	2,200,927	1,131,828
50012 - Part Time Salaries (Part-Time Permanent Employees)	130,936	50,883
50020 - Seasonal Temps (Part-Time Temporary Employees)	636,987	54,560
60168 - Temporary Office Clerical (moved from OP for clarity)	201,329	728
SUBTOTAL FOR TEMPORARY PERSONNEL	838,316	55,288
50324 - Overtime (includes emergency, multi-lingual & holiday)	250,536	2,067
5A002 - FICA	239,603	88,825
5A003 - Group Insurance	357,768	166,892
5A004 - Group Retirement	188,184	97,964
OPERATING EXPENSES	4,691,315	1,109,883
6A001 - Services and Contracts	1,625,953	373,066
60060 - Legal/Attorney Services	75,000	37,562
60066 - SBE Program Management	541,133	227,674
60304 - Maintenance - Electrical	0	1,301
60314 - Maint - Computer Systems**	25,000	2,892
60326 - Repair/Maint Agmts - Office Equip	11,000	3,636
60412 - Moving Services	25,500	0
60414 - Building Construction	0	0
60530 - Other Professional Services - EJ Stipend	913,820	0
60532 - Other Non-Professional Services (includes EJ mod.)	34,500	100,000
6A002 - Maintenance	249,497	99,497
61010 - Computer Equip Repairs/Maint (EPB)	249,497	99,497
6A003 - Rentals/Leases	1,902,495	352,944
61902 - Furniture Rentals (Polling Place)	7,000	0
61924 - Other Equipment Rentals (MDVoters)	398,073	88,058
61926 - Bldg or Space Rental/Leases (Pol. Place)	40,305	1,250
61932 - Other Rentals/Leases (Voting System)	1,457,117	263,636
6A004 - Office Supplies & Equipment (<\$5,000)	141,684	80,707
62010 - General Office Supplies+	72,315	10,167
62016 - Computer Supplies	5,000	2,266
62018 - Computer Equip (<\$5,000)**	28,000	12,109
62022 - Paper and Supplies for Copiers	0	82
62028 - Other Supplies & Equipment	36,369	56,083
6A011 - Books, Videos, and Subscriptions	3,500	3,406
62700 - Books/Reference Materials	2,500	598
62712 - Other Books, Videos, and Subscriptions	1,000	2,809
6A012 - Other Supplies/Materials/Equipment	154,651	79,227
62826 - Keys and Locks	265	402
62848 - Tools	0	96
62896 - Parking Meters	0	0
62946 - Charges from SBE	154,386	78,729
6A013 - Printing/Central Duplicating Services	143,054	43,470
63016 - Imaging	10,000	4,088
63018 - Document Shredding	0	42
63020 - Office Mach. Cop. Leasing	11,760	10,738
63022 - Other Central Dup Svc - Printing (all printing costs)	121,294	28,602
Mandated Legal Requirements		
Charges from SBE		
Election Specific Costs		
Personnel Charges		
Temporary Personnel Charges		
Overtime Costs		
Benefits		

FY18 OPERATING BUDGET SPREADSHEET
(Through January 31, 2018, as of February 5, 2018)

LINE ITEM	FY18 APPROVED	FY18 YEAR TO DATE*
6A014 - Outside Printing	100,550	0
63100 - Outside Printing/Copying	550	0
63104 - Sample Ballot Printing	100,000	0
6A015 - Mail	138,361	36,786
63200 - Central Dup - Postage - Bulk (services, NO postage)	36,530	32,458
63202 - Central Dup - Postage - Individual (PO Box rental)	21,081	1,739
63206 - Inter-Office Mail/Pony Charge	750	2,589
63208 - Other - Mail (Sample Ballot Postage)	80,000	0
6A016 - Outside Postage and Mail	90,500	25
63300 - Outside Mail Services (VNCs and all other postage)	90,000	0
63304 - Other Outside Mail Services	500	25
6A017 - Motor Pool	41,243	14,653
63500 - Assigned Motor Pool Vehicles	31,318	13,703
63504 - Daily Rental Motor Pool	9,925	930
63508 - MP EZPASS Charges	0	20
6A018 - Communications Services	33,670	11,400
63604 - Cellular Phone Line Charges	2,800	0
63618 - Blackberry Charges (smart phones)	9,000	4,449
63624 - Communication Circuits	0	0
63626 - Communication Modems (SBE)	4,870	0
63634 - Other Communication Services (PP Phone Lines)	17,000	6,950
6A020 - Charges from Others	5,000	0
63810 - Charges for Facility Maintenance	5,000	0
6A021 - Travel	23,996	6,323
64010 - Metropolitan Area Travel	17,996	3,635
64012 - Non-Metropolitan Area Travel	6,000	2,688
6A022 - Education, Tuition, and Training	10,125	5,345
64100 - Local Conference Related	2,000	0
64102 - Non-Local Conference Related	0	0
64120 - Other Education, Tuition, & Training	8,125	5,345
6A023 - Dues/Memberships	2,000	2,185
64200 - Professional Memberships (Individual)	2,000	2,185
6A024 - Advertising	20,036	0
64300 - Advertising - Jobs	0	0
64304 - Advertising - Marketing/Sales	20,036	0
6A099 - Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	5,000	849
69999 - Other Misc Operating Expenses	5,000	849
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	8,897,584	2,703,630
* Included prior year encumbrances		
+ Includes office supplies, polling place supplies, and office furniture		
** \$3,860 moved from each line item to 46304 per Board Directive		
Mandated Legal Requirements		
Charges from SBE		
Election Specific Costs		
Personnel Charges		
Temporary Personnel Charges		
Overtime Costs		
Benefits		