Meeting Minutes Monday, June 27, 2022 MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS Virtual Board Meeting via Zoom



In Attendance Virtually:

Board Members:

Nahid Khozeimeh, President
Diane Nash Dillon, Vice President
David A. Naimon, Secretary
Amoretta Hoeber
Dr. Elisse W. Barnes
Alexander Vincent
Alan Banov

Board Attorney:

Kevin Karpinski

Staff:

Alysoun McLaughlin, Acting Director
Janet Ross, Acting Deputy Director
Boris Brajkovic, Voter Services Manager
Christine Rzeszut, Operations Manager
Lisa Merino-Dean, Administrative Specialist

Audio video of the meeting may be found on YouTube at the link below: https://youtu.be/XrTlUqncNaU

[00:43] Convene Board Meeting and Declare Quorum Present

Mrs. Khozeimeh convened the meeting at 2:30pm.

President Remarks

Mrs. Khozeimeh had no remarks.

[1:00] Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Additional agenda items -

- Executive Sessions immediately following this meeting
 - Security at drop boxes
 - o Personnel matter

Add to New Business -

Early Voting

Board correspondence



Public Comments

Alexis Jones submitted a request but did not appear.

[03:30] Paul Geller, a candidate for County Council, did not sign in, but was given an opportunity to speak. He spoke about his experience in trying to access the Public Election Fund and requested assistance from the Montgomery County Board of Elections. Alysoun McLaughlin will speak with Mr. Geller after the meeting.

[09:28] Campaign Contributions

Amoretta Haeber –

\$200.00 Reardon Sullivan \$100.00 Kathy Gugulis \$200.00 Dan Cuda \$1000.00 Kelly Schulz

Diane Nash Dillon

\$100.00 Jim Shalleck

[11:05] Election Director Status Report

The full Acting Election Director's Report for June 2022 may be found here.

Action items from last meeting -

- The State Administrator confirmed that the appearance of candidate names on the ballot should reflect what is submitted in the paperwork filed by the candidate.
- Board canvass schedule sign up is active.
- Governor Hogan vetoed SB163, so the canvass process will begin on the Thursday after Election Day.
- Scheduling conflicts for the canvass at Watkins Mill High School have been identified as well as larger questions raised regarding the Montgomery County Public School system's legal mandate to provide space for elections. Alternative space has been reserved at Montgomery College's Germantown campus to replace the Watkins Mill High School location.

[15:18] Mr. Naimon raised questions about the canvass schedule. It was agreed that Mr. Karpinski will work with Board members on the schedule.

[34:05] Regarding usage of MCPS buildings, Mr. Naimon referred to Section 10-101(b)(3) of the Maryland Election Law Article –

"In Montgomery County, the County Board of Education shall make available the space and custodial service as needed for the proper conduct of elections upon application by the local board."



Noting that "the proper conduct of elections" includes early voting and canvassing, the board requests clarification on MCPS's reliability to provide space according to state law. Mr. Karpinski stated the Maryland state law takes priority over MCPS contract terms.

[44:40] The staff will further research alternatives to Watkins Mill High School for the canvass and report back to the Board.

[48:00] Montgomery County Board of Elections' new high-speed ballot sorting and data transfer machine is up and running. Ms. McLaughlin expressed appreciation to Boris Brajkovic and the Voter Registration staff team for their work to integrate the machine into the process of modernizing operations.

[49:15] Drop boxes have been installed, and daily pick up began on the morning on Monday, June 13. All drop boxes have video surveillance. Details about security protocols will be discussed in executive session. There have been no instances of vandalism or security violations.

[1:08:50] Mr. Banov requested Board members receive a copy of the manual for Chief Judges.

[1:11:35] Mr. Banov moved acceptance of the election judges that have been approved to date. Ms. Dillon seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

[1:12:03] Board Attorney Report

Mr. Karpinski gave an update of the MOUs in process for several sites. There was a discussion about reaching out to Montgomery County Police for assistance with traffic control and parking at several early voting sites.

[1:16:15] Mr. Naimon requested clarification about Board members and early voting location assignments. Ms. McLaughlin reported that Montgomery County Board of Elections' staff will be present for opening and closing at all the early voting locations. Board members are not assigned to specific sites so they are able to circulate among the sites on their own schedule.

[1:22:55] Mr. Naimon asked about correspondence sent to the Board regarding parking at the Potomac Community Center. Ms. Rzeszut spoke about asking judges to park their cars away from the building's parking lot, in the gravel lot and asking police to help judges return to their cars at the end of the day. Mr. Naimon also asked about a letter from the Republican Women of Charles County claiming widespread fraud in Maryland elections. Ms. McLaughlin shared that the letter was sent to all Maryland counties. She will locate and share the coordinated response from the state. Mr. Karpinski will draft a response to another communication on the topic of voting machines.

Mr. Naimon expressed interest in a standard protocol on how to handle messages sent to the general mailbox and following the policy of sharing non-routine communications sent to that mailbox with Board members. Alysoun will review the process with staff.

[1:48:28] Approval of the minutes



Ms. Dillon moved to accept the April 25, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Banov and passed with one abstention.

Ms. Dillon moved to accept the April 28, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously.

Ms. Dillon moved to accept the May 12, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously.

Ms. Dillon moved to accept the May 17, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously.

Ms. Dillon moved to accept the May 23, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously.

Next meeting - July 11, 2022

[1:56.53] Ms. Dillon moved to adjourn the public meeting and immediately move into executive session. Seconded by Mr. Banov and passed unanimously.

The public meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Merino-Dean

Administrative Specialist II

APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Nahid Khozeimeh,

Board President