

MINUTES
Howard County Board of Elections
8900 100 Parkway
Columbia, Maryland 21045
October 27, 2008

Present:

Board:

Ann M. Balcerzak, President
Donna K. Thewes, Vice-President
Raymond M. Rankin Member
Donna L. Rice, Alternate
Charles M. Coles, Jr., Alternate
Michael S. Molinaro, Board Attorney
Vivian L. Dixon, Board Secretary

Staff:

Betty L. Nordaas, Election Director

Guests: Margaret Rappaport, Circuit Court Clerk

Ms Balcerzak called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm. Four (4) members present, constituted a quorum. Pledge of allegiance was followed. The meeting was held in the dining area inasmuch as the Electronic Poll Books fully occupied the Boardroom. Ms Balcerzak welcomed and acknowledged Ms. Margaret Rappaport and apologized for the absence of one Board Member.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Balcerzak asked if the Board had any corrections or additions of minutes September 29, 2008 Board Meeting (advance copy provided). Ms. Thewes' motion for approval as presented, was seconded by Mr. Rankin and unanimously approved.

Upon the arrival of Ms. Rice, a 10-minute break was followed by the Official Swearing in of the 2008 Board of Canvassers, Ann Balcerzak, Donna Thewes, Raymond Rankin, Charles Coles, Jr. and Donna Rice; the Board's Counsel Michael Molinaro and Board Secretary, Vivian Dixon. Board returned to official session.

Agenda Addition: None

President Requested Updates on Election Preparedness:

(Betty Nordaas, Donna Thewes and Raymond Rankin contributed to discussion)

- Report on Nursing Home Absentee Voting
- Poll Visitation Schedules set-up
- Communication plans, Poll set-up, roll of Board Member, fine tuning of schedules
- Set-up Scheduled for Mon November 3rd from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.
- Election Judges have all been trained. An Open House training session is currently running from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM and will run from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Friday October 31st. This gives Judges an opportunity to refresh/sharpen their skills.
- Voting Units will be delivered through Monday, Rovers will follow trucks and all locations will be secured.
- Anticipated Election impact based on voter HC Voter registration of 175,000

New Business: Board Member, Raymond Rankin raised issue of having ID photo badge, that would allow access to the staff/secured office area. Following full board discussion, Mr. Rankin made motion to have badges for Members/Substitutes. Motion was seconded by Substitute Member, Donna Rice; Raymond Rankin and Ann Balcerzak voted “yea” and Donna Thewes, voted “nay.” Motion passed by majority vote. Badges will be returned and deactivated at end of Canvass.

Attorney’s Report:

To date no action has been taken, State/Local level, on Double-Voting Issue. Counsel to continue follow-up on this matter.

Actions: Personnel matter to be reported in Executive Session Minutes.

The next meeting of the Howard County Board of Elections is scheduled for February 13, 2009 at 4:00 PM in the Howard County Board of Elections Boardroom. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously agreed upon. Meeting Adjourned at 5:52 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Signed 12/01/08 _____

Vivian L. Dixon, Board Secretary

Signed 12/01/08 _____

Ann M. Balcerzak, President