Albemarle County Electoral Board

In-person and Virtual Meeting

October 1, 2024

Location: Albemarle County Office Building, 5th Street
Attendance: Jim Heilman, Clara Belle Wheeler, Erin Davis, Lauren Eddy, Jeania Pace, and Jonathan Gil
Guests: Rick Garnett, Bucky Walsh, Doug Earle, Sally Hudson, Lewis Johnson, Nancy Muir, Laren Juul-Nielsen, Laurie Jones, and various Zoom attendees.

The meeting began at 1:00 pm.
Sylvia Flood made the following statement: Guests will have a maximum of three minutes to speak, either at the beginning or end of the meeting. The Board may waive the three-minute rule.

The agenda was unanimously approved.

November 5 Preparation.

- Training sessions were discussed. Jim asked if Captain Marden of the Police Department was going to speak at the Chief/Assistant Chief training. The answer was yes – for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Clara Belle agreed to call Richard Banko to see if he is willing to do a brief presentation on Chief expectations. Lauren will send us the slide deck for regular election officer training. Jonathan said that we will have a demonstration machine available for new officer training. It was determined that there will be three hands-on trainings on provisional ballots on October 30 at 10 am, 2 pm, and 6 pm. Lauren announced that there will be hands-on basic electronic pollbook operation training on October 21 through 24.
- Statement of Results (SoR): Clara Belle moved to accept the newly revised SoR for use on November 5. The motion passed unanimously.
- Electronic Pollbook (EPB) tape: Clara Belle moved that Lauren should program the EPBs to produce a truncated "Polls Closed" tape for each precinct that does not show all the precincts – in order to reduce confusion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Early Voting: Jim noted that the number of early-in-person voters is running close to what it was in 2020. Lauren noted that as of this morning 4,082 voters had voted early and over 8,000 ballots have been mailed out. About 400 ballots have been emailed to certain overseas voters. She also noted that there have been no significant problems with mail delivery.
- Mail ballots: Laurie asked if mail ballot envelopes that have been ripped and then taped will be accepted in pre-processing. Lauren said that they will.

List Maintenance. Lauren reported that as of September 24, we have 87,861 registered voters. This includes a net increase of 743 registrations since August 24. She then explained how registrants that are determined to likely be non-citizens are removed from the rolls.

Provisional Ballot Meeting – Sylvia said that she would like to see a calendar of what days the Board will be holding provisional ballot meetings after November 5.

Questions/Comments from Guests:

- Nancy asked if all election officers have been assigned. The answer was – mostly.
- Rick asked if Republican Chair John Lowry has been sent the latest election officer rosters. Jonathan said that he will send him a redacted version.
- Doug asked if the quoted cost of $40,000 for implementing Ranked Choice Voting was for just one magisterial district or for the whole county. Lauren replied that it is an estimate for the entire county.
- Bucky asked that EPB training address how to "flag" a voter as provisional if the voter has been issued a mail ballot but comes to the polling place without it.
- Lewis suggested that the Board should have a parliamentarian to help move the meetings along more efficiently.

Executive Session. Sylvia moved the following: RESOLVED, that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and consideration of the appointment, assignment, and performance of one or more current and prospective Albemarle County election officers for the election cycle that began on March 1, 2024 as provided by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously. The Board went into executive session at 3:19 pm.

The Board came out of executive session at 4:35 pm. (Board members and staff participated in the executive session.) Sylvia moved the following: RESOLVED, that to the best knowledge of each member of this Board, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of Chapter 37 (Virginia Freedom of Information Act) of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which today's executive session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim moved the appointment of 25 new officers of election for the term of one year beginning March 1, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heilman

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Secretary, Albemarle County Electoral Board