Howard County Board of Elections
8900 Columbia 100 Parkway
Columbia, MD 21045
March 24, 2008

Present:

Ann M. Balcerzak, President
Raymond M. Rankin, Democratic Member
Donna K. Thewes, Republican Member
Charles M. Coles, Jr., Republican Substitute Member
Democratic Substitute Member - Vacant
Vivian L. Dixon, Board Secretary
Michael S. Molinaro, Board Counsel

Staff: Betty L. Nordaas, Director
Guy Mickley, Deputy Director

Visitors: None

Ms. Balcerzak called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. All members were present, constituting a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2008:
Ms. Balcerzak asked if the Board had any additions or corrections to Minutes. Motion to approve was made by Ms. Thewes, seconded by Mr. Rankin and unanimously approved.

Requests for Additions or Changes to Agenda:

Correspondence:

- Confirmation for MAEO Conference attendance discussed and noted.
- Letter of thanks, sent to individuals and agencies for Primary support, shared.
- Letter dated March 17, 2008 – Edward C. Cezar (discussed after Director's Report.)

President's Report: Nothing at this time

Director's Report:

- Primary issues of concern were discussed at March 11th Meeting with Mr. Chuck Parvis, Howard County Public Schools System (HCPSS). It was determined that the River Hill matter was one that the Howard County Police Department could have handled. Only two (2) schools had concerns over signs not being removed. Overall meeting was very productive and some follow-up items will be addressed.
- We the People HCPSS Program: Staff is continuing to participate in the program, including Deputy Director, Guy Mickley, Donna Thewes and Charles Coles, Jr.

Board Member/Substitute respectfully and Secretary to the Board, Vivian Dixon.

- Primary Judges Recognition: Certificates were sent to the 17-year old Judges, as well as those persons not able to serve in the November General Election. Letters from the Governor were sent, and thank-you letters also accompanied their paychecks.

Attorney's Report: None at this time

Old Business:

- Canvass Board Secretary, Raymond Rankin, provided the Board with copies of Minutes from, February 14th - 1st Absentee, February 19th Provisional, and February 22nd - 2nd Absentee Canvasses. Changes/corrections were noted. (President, on behalf of the Board, voiced appreciation tedious job, "well-done!")

(Canvassing Board will convene for Post Certifications Approval of the Minutes at the April 28th Board Meeting. Final Certification figures from the State will be entered at that time.)

New Business:

- **Letter dated March 17, 2008 – Edward C. Cezar: The letter questions the legal residence of Howard County Sheriff, James S. Fitzgerald. Mr. Cezar reports having sent a similar letter to the Howard County Executive, Howard County Council Members, Howard County States Attorney's Office and the Maryland Attorney General.**
- **Dario Broccolino, Acting State Attorney, Howard County, will prepare a joint response, if the Board is interested.**
- **Ms. Nordaas will notify Mr. Broccolino that the Board agrees to a joint response, assist where needed and will obtain copy of response.**
- **Budget FY2009 submitted and approved at February meeting was based on historical budget review from the State. Copy of FY2009/Revised, shows an increase created by 2007-Invoices that were not processed. A revised budget was sent immediately to County Budget Advisor, Mr. Mullenix. His recommendation is** that a way to cover that billing in FY08 be sought or with money not used in FY09. Actual invoices not yet received. We are assured however, that sufficient funds will be available to cover our "primary mission."

Action: Canvassing Board convened at 5:08 PM and unanimously voted to reject absentee ballots.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, adjournment was unanimously agreed upon. Session closed at 5:09 PM. The next regular meeting will be held April 28, 2008 at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

. Vivian L. Dixon, April 02, 2008 . . Ann Balcerzak, April 28, 2008

Vivian L. Dixon, Board Secretary

Ann M. Balcerzak, President