

Howard County Board of Elections
9770 Patuxent Woods Drive
Columbia, MD 21046
October 24, 2011

Persons Present:

Board: Ann M. Balcerzak, President
Donna K. Thewes, Vice-President
Raymond M. Rankin, Member
Donna L. Rice, Substitute
Charles M. Coles, Jr. Substitute*
Michael S. Molinaro, Board Attorney

Staff: Guy C. Mickley, Director

Excused: Vivian L. Dixon, Secretary

Guests: None

Ms. Balcerzak called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance it was noted that Members present, constituted a quorum. Acknowledged and expressed thanks to the staff for getting the Boardroom back in order following the damaged caused by the hurricane. President noted that Mr. Cole would be late.*

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the August 27, 2011 Minutes was made by Mr. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Thewes and unanimously approved and signed. Motion to approve September 26, 2011 Minutes, with corrections, was made by Ms. Thewes, seconded by Mr. Rankin and unanimously approved.

Changes to Agenda: Bylaws

Correspondence:

- Thank-you from applicant, Edward F. Dyer
- Copy of June 5, 2004 letter from M.P. Rebne Thomsen

President:

- Board was provided labels to send donations to the Jeffrey Nordaas Scholarship Fund, in memory of Betty L. Nordaas, retired Director of HCBE.
- President cited the attendance and continued support of Mary K. Sigaty.
- Ms. Balcerzak read the Proclamation issued by Governor Martin O'Malley, for Ms. Nordaas' years of service to State of Maryland. (Board to extend invitation to Ms. Nordaas' family and formally present Proclamation)

- Mr. Rankin informed the Board that he had submitted suggested redistricting plans to the Redistricting Commission and provided the Board a written notice that his actions were personal and not from the Board, as a collective body.
- If the School Board Study Commission's recommendations were enacted, they would have affected how precinct lines were drawn. However the legislation was withdrawn. *(President was in attendance)*
(Atty. Molinaro added that Local Issues are not subject to referendum)

Director's Report:

- Demonstrated the "Totems" for posting signs in polling places.
- Constitution Party no longer exists and all members were notified.
- New MVA records being updated.
- Letters to Judges being sent this week.
- About 15% of the Judges may need to be hired, based on attrition.
- Budget overview report.
- Request from Thurgood Marshall Democratic Club request for Voter Registration Volunteer (VRV), training, date not confirmed. *(President suggested offering to give training at HCBE location and if Board Members wished to attend, notify Director)*
- Redistricting class taught at State Board with 47-slide presentation, using correct street files, what a tract is what constitutes a ghost precinct, etc.
- Additional VRV classes will be considered.
- Reported time off to use comp-time. Will be at November Meeting and all assignment have been given.

Attorney's Report:

- Mr. Molinaro expects to have a response in early 2012, from Court of Special Appeals for Swatek/Tag appeal.

New Business: Bylaws

Old Business: Redistricting

Action: None

The next meeting of the Howard County Board of Elections is scheduled for November 28, 2011 at 4:00 PM in the Howard County Board of Elections Boardroom. There being no further business, Ms. Thewes' motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. Rice and unanimously agreed upon. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian L. Dixon, Nov. 28, 2011
Vivian L. Dixon, Board Secretary

Ann M. Balcerzak, Nov. 28, 2011
Ann M. Balcerzak, Board President

