

**Mecklenburg County Electoral Board**

**January 22, 2019**

**Approved Minutes**

Present were Robert P. Chadeayne Secretary, Yvonne Alexander, and Jason Corwin Registrar

The meeting was called to order by Yvonne Alexander at 9:00 AM EST. Ms. Alexander led us in a brief prayer.

The proposed agenda was agreed to without modification.

The minutes of December 4, 2018 were approved as presented.

Ms. Alexander was welcomed as our newest board member.

Mr. Corwin briefed the board on the annual meeting of Virginia Electoral Board Association (VEBA) scheduled for March 8 to 10, 2019 at the Homestead. Mr. Corwin indicated that he was not attending this year.

Mr. Corwin announced that he is in the process of updating our website. The Board of Electors will be added. There was brief discussion about the other elected offices needing to be updated. Mr. Corwin will address those changes.

Potential June, 2019 primary. Mr. Corwin announced that the office of State Senator may be a contested office this year. As of this date, he has not seen any candidate filing paperwork. Also, he indicated that one or both parties may opt for a nominating convention opposed to a primary however, we have funds in our budget if a primary is to be held.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Chadeayne indicated that at the December meeting a consensus was not reached regarding Mr. Corwin's proposed end of election night Precinct Chief's return process. Mr. Chadeayne expressed his concern that people will be tired from a very long day and because of fatigue this new process may be counterproductive. In the confusion of recovering 23 precincts reports and equipment it will be difficult to document accurately any discrepancies encountered and the remedy applied. From a logistical point of view, it most likely will create congestion and turmoil in the limited office space as the board verifies the contents of the reports. Mr. Corwin agreed to write a process flow of his proposed change to be reviewed at the next meeting.

The board reviewed a draft of the Election Day Guide for Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs that is being rewritten. Mr. Corwin advised the board that he has taken a complete new set of pictures for the manual. At the conclusion of this project there will be both an Election Day Guide for Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs in addition to an Election Day Guide for Officers of Election. This is a work in process to be carried into future meetings.

Mr. Corwin submitted the revised CAP Statement Of Results for approval. The form was approved with the additional requirement to attach a zero tape to be consistent with precinct SORs

## **New Business**

Mr. Corwin put forward a proposal to provide all curbside voters an Annual Absentee Ballot Application and a letter informing the voter of their eligibility to vote absentee and how to apply. This package would be given to curbside voters after they had voted at curbside. A motion to approve was passed.

Mr. Corwin submitted a new simplified form for registered voters to update their information, e.g. address change or name change due to marriage, to be used instead of the new voter registration form. He advised that under the National Voter Registration Act, (NVRA), local forms are permissible. Motion to approve passed.

Mr. Corwin advised the board that under the NVRA the Commonwealth of Virginia will be removing inactive voters from the registration roll on January 28, 2019. The only action required is that the General Registrar of Voters send a copy of the removal list to the Political Party Chairs via certified mail and post a copy in the court house. Motion approved to send the letters to the Political Parties.

Mr. Corwin submitted a proposed change of the Board of Elections letterhead. Motion to approve passed.

Relocation of the Registrar's office to the former Regional Library. Mr. Corwin advised that he has met with the County Administrator to discuss the letter of request that will be forthcoming. Mr. Carter indicated he was unaware of the degree of deterioration in our current location. Mr. Corwin suggested a slight modification to the letter. Motion to approve the revised package and forward it to the County Supervisors passed.

The next election will be a local election. Mr. Corwin advised that in many ways this can be more problematic than a presidential election because the registrar's office and the Board of Elections are the focal point for complaints. Our role is significant in the candidate filing process and the follow-up reporting. Discussion was held regarding requirements of filing and reporting, which are available on the State website. A consensus was reached whereby the Mecklenburg County elections web site will contain a section on local elections and have links to the state web site.

November 6, 2018 Post Election Report issued by the State Board of Elections was discussed.

Table Top Meeting, April 16, 2019. This is a training program for registrars and staff. Mr. Corwin indicated he would like to close the office on that date so that he and Ms. Terry can attend. No objection.

The two associations, Registrars and Boards, are sponsoring four Legislative Breakfasts. Mr. Corwin is planning to attend two of the breakfasts. There are several issues the two associations have taken a position on and will discuss with legislators at the breakfasts.

The board had planned to meet with selected Precinct Chiefs to review the November 6, 2018 election from the Chiefs perspective with the aim of improving the experience. However, none of the invited Chiefs were present.

As there is no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on February 12, 2019 at 1:00 PM EST. Deferred items for the February agenda are: Elect Board Chair etc., Appoint Officers of Election, and Security Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert P. Chadeayne

Secretary