

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 03-02-2021

Chairman Bill Freytag called the meeting to order on the Zoom platform at 3:14 P.M. on Tuesday March 2nd, 2021. The Roll Call was as follows: Bill Freytag, present, Joseph H. Mudra, present, Lydia Reid, present, and Megan Whatman, present. Also present at this meeting were Paulette Hankins and Jane Zimmermann.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the 2-09-2021 board meeting. Mr. Mudra made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Reid. The motion passed by voice vote of 3-0-1, with Mrs. Whatman abstaining since she wasn't a board member at the time of that meeting.

Chairman Freytag asked for a review of the monthly financial reports. Director Hankins explained that the total paid from the General Fund in the period totaled \$4419.32 and explained each expenditure. Ms. Hankins stated that 2 items had been reimbursed to her from the Security Grant Fund, including the purchase of a sweeper for the locked rooms in the office in the amount of \$171.19 and a second wheelchair purchase for early voting in the amount of \$199.76. She added that the two payrolls in the period amounted to \$28,377.08 for the regular staff. A motion to approve the payment for these expenditures was made by Mr. Mudra, seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

There were no items on the agenda under Old Business.

The first item on the agenda for New Business was to certify the Shelby Council candidates and the City of Ontario Charter candidates who had a later filing deadline of February 18th. Director Hankins informed the board members that 17 candidates had filed to be a member of the Ontario Charter Commission, and 2 withdrew, leaving 15 to be placed on the ballot within the Charter Issue Question. Fifteen are to be elected to the Charter Commission. A motion to certify these 15 candidates to the May 4th Special Election ballot in the City of Ontario precincts was made by Mr. Mudra, seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0. Director Hankins next informed the board that Steve McLaughlin had filed a valid petition for the Shelby at Large seat, Charles Roub had filed for the Shelby 1st Ward, Derrin Roberts for Shelby 2nd Ward, Dominic Ewing and Garland John Gates for Shelby 3rd Ward, and Nathan Martin for Shelby 4th Ward. Ms. Hankins stated that according to the ORC and the Shelby Charter, since not more than twice the number of candidates had filed for any seat, these candidates should be nominated on through to the General Election without a Primary. Mr. Mudra made the motion to that effect, which was seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0. Next on the agenda was the certification of any write-ins. Director Hankins informed the board that no write-ins had filed for the Primary, but a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In on the November 2021 ballot had been filed by a Chad Wilford for the Ontario Council at Large seat. A motion to certify Mr. Wilford as a write-in candidate for November was made by Mr. Mudra. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of moving the polling location for the May 2021 Election only for the 15 voters in the Washington Township split of Jeff-A precinct and the approximately 200 voters in the Washington Township portion of Lex-B precinct. Director Hankins stated that the Resurrection Parish Vote Center could accommodate these voters from both precincts and had plenty of parking and interior space available. A letter to the voters in each precinct split was displayed, and it was announced that press releases and social media notifications would also be provided. A motion to approve this temporary move in order to save funds by not opening a precinct for those few voters was made by Mr. Mudra. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

The document listing the PEO Training Schedule for the May Primary/Special was displayed next. Director Hankins informed the board that this was added to agenda later, as it must be approved by the board and submitted to the Secretary of State's office by March 10th. A motion to approve the training schedule for the 16th, 17th and 19th of April for the hours listed was made by Mr. Mudra, seconded by Mrs. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

For informational purposes only, two documents were displayed next. The first document listed the precincts which were open for the May 4th, 2021 Primary/Special Election. The second document listed the polling locations which would be open for this Election.

Under Other Business, Deputy Director Zimmermann informed the board that she had received an extension for the Accessibility and Security Grant until April 16th, and that she was in the process of finalizing an order for shelving for the DRE room to expend the remainder of the funds left in that account. She stated that an updated expenditure form would be provided for review at the next meeting.

With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Mudra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Whatman, and passed by voice vote 4-0. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 3:29 P.M.

Date approved _____

Bill Freytag

Joseph H. Mudra

Lydia J. Reid

Megan Whatman

Attest:

Paulette Hankins

Jane Zimmermann