

Augusta County Electoral Board Meeting
Augusta County Government Center
Registrar's Office Board Room
March 1, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. Present are Ruth Talmage, chair; Cliff Garstang, vice chair; Tom Long, secretary; Connie Messick, general registrar; and Robin Moyer, chief assistant general registrar.

Cliff moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting. Ruth seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Cliff moved that Ruth Talmage be elected chair, Cliff Garstang elected vice chair, and Tom Long elected secretary of the Augusta County Electoral Board for a one year term commencing immediately. Ruth seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Connie reported that the Voting Systems Security Plan required by ELECT has been updated to reflect the new Unisyn voting equipment and the new vendor, ESO. The certification was signed by the board and will be sent to ELECT. The board had a brief discussion about security of equipment and noted that training and communications with chief officers of election must stress the importance of voting systems security.

Connie recently met with Misty Cook, Jennifer Whetzel, and Tim Fitzgerald about the Electoral Board budget for 2018-19. Included in the discussion was the anticipated purchase of new electronic pollbooks to replace the aging laptops prior to November, 2018. Board members will have an opportunity to learn more about the available products at the VEBA Conference this weekend. Also discussed was the compliance with the DOJ consent decree. Connie will coordinate with the county administrator to attend our next meeting during the last week of March to continue that discussion.

The Code of Virginia requires posting of the Notice of Ordering a Primary on the Augusta County website and at ten public locations in the county. It has been posted online and Connie will work with the five high schools, the public library locations, the Circuit and District courts, and the Government Center to assure it is posted as required.

Connie is exploring options for low cost lights for privacy screens at some polling places. Board members need to advise her of which locations need additional lighting.

Connie and Ruth will write to Garland Brooks about the yellow cart used by the office to transport equipment and supplies in the building. Based on records from the Finance Office, it appears Garland was reimbursed for materials for building the cart between 2004-06.

Connie provided dates related to the June Primary:

April 25 – CAP L&A

May 21 – move equipment to South Board Room

May 22 – L&A testing (with ESO assistance)

June 4 and 5 – training for chiefs and assistants (times to be determined)

June 11 – distribution of equipment to chiefs

June 12 – Dual Primary

June 13-15 – Official canvass of the votes

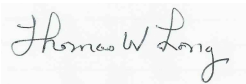
ELECT's annual training is tentatively scheduled for June 25 and 26, location TBA.

The Election Officer Survey with the Political Science Department at Skidmore College will be available for email distribution to our officers on March 6. We expect a report on the results by the end of April.

The board discussed the number of officers needed at each precinct, student help for equipment return, and other issues related to the June primary. We will revisit the topic at our next meeting during the last week of March. Names of officers working in June primary need to be submitted to the office by the end of April.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Long, secretary