

Augusta County Electoral Board Meeting
Augusta County Government Center
Registrar's Office Board Room
March 27, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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.

Ruth moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2018 meeting. Cliff seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Connie explained the long term advantages to scanning all the Alpha Cards into VERIS. Currently, paper copies of applications create additional work including updates of records, making notations, and necessitating mailing of copies to other Registrar's Offices. Once scanned, the process would be streamlined resulting in reduced manpower and mailing expenses. Scanning will require the purchase of two scanners and other equipment to accomplish scanning of existing records and to facilitate scanning new applications. Connie is working with Waynesboro and Rockingham registrars, who have completed the scanning, to learn more about the process and the equipment required.

Cliff moved to continue the process for DOJ submissions with the county. Ruth seconded. After discussion about the shared responsibility for polling places and the consent decree, the motion passed unanimously. Board members discussed submitting photographs and documentation in a timely manner.

The board discussed the number of officers at precincts for the June 12 Primary. Connie provided the data from the 2017 primary. Recruiting of officers should be completed by the end of April. The board also discussed the new ballot design ideas recently promulgated by State Board of Elections. At this time there are few details available.

Concerning the June 12 Primary, Cliff moved to order Democratic ballots equal to 20% of registered voters, Republican ballots equal to 25% of registered voters, and 150 ballots of each party for central absentee. We will continue to order ballots in packages of 50. Ruth seconded and, after discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Connie suggested that during equipment and supply distribution chiefs will confirm the ballot package count before sealing the box. The board concurred.

Discussed office staffing during equipment distribution, on primary day, and securing student help for the return of voting equipment. Connie is working on help for Monday and Tuesday and Tom will contact FDHS to recruit six students for equipment return.

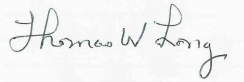
The board discussed opportunities and challenges of conducting education and voter registration in the five county high schools. The discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

The board, along with Connie and Robin, moved to Smith's Transfer West to meet with Election Services Online (ESO) representatives for a demonstration of Knowink electronic poll book equipment and software. Board members expressed the desire to purchase the entire system including the printer and supporting computer hardware. ESO will consult with Connie and with Knowink to submit a proposal for the number of poll books required and the cost.

The board will meet on April 25 at 9:00 a.m. L&A testing of the Central Absentee voting equipment will be conducted at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. Long". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Tom Long, secretary