

Goochland County Electoral Board

~~DRAFT~~ Minutes 7/10/2017

The Goochland County Electoral Board convened at 9:13 am in the Director of Elections' conference room. Present: Chair Keith Flannagan, Secretary Robin Lind, and Director of Elections Frances Ragland; Vice Chair Wanda Taylor participated by telephone.

On a motion by the vice chair, seconded by the secretary, the minutes for 4-17-17, 5-22-17, and 6-14-17 were approved as submitted.

The secretary reported on a meeting of the Virginia Code Commission on June 26 in Richmond at which the Commission suggested a re-codification of §24.2, the Elections Laws, might be scheduled to begin in 2022 and be completed by 2024. In the meantime, Commission Chair Sen. John Edwards invited VEBA and VRAV representatives to submit proposals for immediate legislative action to remove old, archaic and conflicting language from the Code.

The secretary then reported on the meeting of the State Board of Elections at the Capitol on June 27 at which the "State Solution" electronic poll book was certified by the board. He also related the lack of response to the 2016 GREB WorkGroup report which has been delayed yet again, but related Secretary Singleton McAllister's request for a formal recommendation from the Department of Elections staff.

The director of elections reported the cost of the June Dual Primary amounted to over \$26,000 — \$5.73 per vote. A copy of that summary is hereby included in these minutes.

The chair reported on discussions with the county administration on cyber security. He will ask for a formal recommendation on what steps, if any, need be taken by the electoral board members.

Old Business:

The director of elections was asked to follow-up with the Commonwealth's Attorney on the matter leading to a provisional ballot being cast in the primary.

Discussion ensued on duplicate registration applications that continue to be sluiced into the VERIS hopper from DMV. Further discussion ensued on registration applications submitted by the New Virginia Majority organizing group which netted only one valid application out of more than 50 submitted.

Discussion ensued on equipment maintenance. On a motion by the secretary, seconded by the vice chair, the board voted unanimously to authorize the chair to sign a contract for a Pro-Rated Term with ES&S.

The secretary reported on the training offered by the Department of Elections June 20-21-22; his critique was not positive.

Discussion ensued on space requirement for the Director of Elections office. The director's engagement with the administration is ongoing.

The secretary described the county's legislative agenda and said the administration was supportive of a renewed request for full reimbursement of expenses and mileage as required by Code.

The secretary also described the change in Code that became effective July 1 requiring all future nominees to Electoral Boards to sign an Affirmation of Eligibility that acknowledges the Duties and Responsibilities of electoral board service. On a motion by the secretary, seconded by the chair, the board voted unanimously to sign the affirmation voluntarily and forward it to the Circuit Court.

At 10:12 am, on a motion by the chair, seconded by the secretary, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss the annual performance evaluation of the Director of Elections.

At 10:29 am the board voted unanimously to come out of executive session. The vice chair left the meeting.

The chair summoned the Director of Elections, her Performance Evaluation was discussed, earning an exceptional rating — the highest possible, and the required completion form signed by the chair and secretary for transmission to the Department of Elections upon receipt of the vice chair's signature.

Discussion ensued on the need for advance planning for possible polling location changes after the next decennial census. The chair agreed to investigate possible alternate sites.

There being no further business the board adjourned at 11:08 am.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robin Lind".

Robin Lind, Secretary

From: **Robin Lind** robin.lind@hopespringsva.us
Subject: RE: St. Mary's as Potential Polling Place
Date: August 11, 2017 at 11:09 AM
To: Weezie Blanchard wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org
Cc: Frances Ragland fragland@co.goochland.va.us, Keith Flannagan kfelectoralboard@gmail.com, wandat@chemtreat.com



The Rev. Louise Blanchard, Rector
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238

Dear Weezie,

As I mentioned briefly on Tuesday, the Goochland County Electoral Board would like to know if St. Mary's Episcopal Church would be willing to serve as a polling place for Goochland voters. We conducted a survey of the facilities in 2010 and the vestry at that time was amenable but the electoral board subsequently chose another location.

Following every decennial census political boundaries are redrawn to reflect new population distributions. This affects Federal Representatives, State Senators, Delegates, and local county supervisors. It often also affects the location of our local polling places.

At present, Goochland County's District Five has two polling places: one in Dover Baptist Church Heritage Hall on Manakin Road, and a second at the Collegiate School Athletic Fields on Blair Road.

Any change would not likely take place until after 2021 but if a change in location is recommended, we would like to know if St. Mary's is still available.

Currently half our polling places are located at churches in the county: County Line Baptist Church, Hadensville; Smyrna Baptist Church, Three Square; Grace Chinese Baptist Church, Shallowell; St. Matthews Unity Methodist Church, Centerville; and Dover Baptist Church, Manakin.

Elections are conducted on Tuesdays. County staff delivers a large wheeled cart of equipment on Mondays and retrieves it on the following Wednesday. Officers of Election arrive shortly before 5 am and depart about 8 pm. Voters are coming and going from 6 am until 7 pm.

We hold elections every November. We hold Presidential Primaries in the first week of March every four years. We often hold state or federal office primary elections in the second week of June. Very occasionally a special election is called by the court to fill an unanticipated vacancy in local office. So this is an annual commitment, occasionally twice a year, and possibly three times in presidential election years.

We seek polling places that are safe, well-lit, clean and easily accessible to the public. St. Mary's fits all these requirements. I believe it to be a noble exercise of civic engagement and a special ministry of outreach to the community. I hope you and the vestry will agree.

With appreciation for your consideration,

Robin Lind
Secretary, Goochland County Electoral Board
Virginia's Highest Percentage Voter Turnout 2008, 2012, 2014
804-784-3713