

BOARD MEMBERS

THOMAS M. CORKRAN
ACTING PRESIDENT

RALPH C. LEWIS JR.
SECRETARY

WILLIAM E. BATSON
BOARD MEMBER

ROBIN A. WILLEY
BOARD MEMBER



**DORCHESTER COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

HUBERT H. WRIGHT, IV
ATTORNEY

GWENDOLYN H. DALES
ELECTION DIRECTOR

BRITTANY M. PHILLIPS
ELECTION PROGRAM ASSISTANT

JESSICA R. NORANBROCK
ELECTION PROGRAM ASSISTANT

KIMBERLY K. JONES
ELECTION PROGRAM IT SPECIALIST II

SLOANE P. HURLEY
ELECTION PROGRAM ASSISTANT

ATTENDEES: Thomas M. Corkran, Acting President Gwendolyn H. Dales, Election Director
Ralph C. Lewis, Secretary Jessica Noranbrock, Election Asst.
William Batson, Member Brittany Phillips, Election Asst.
Hubert H. Wright, IV, Attorney

ABSENT: Robin Connolly, Member

GUESTS: None

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING March 22, 2022

Call to Order and Determine Quorum:

Acting President Corkran called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM; quorum was determined.

Welcome any Guests:

None.

Report any Board or Staff Absences:

Robin Connolly, Member

Additions to Agenda:

Director Dales distributed a copy of Michael W. Detmer's resignation letter. Mr. Corkran would like to wait for everyone to be present before holding an election to fill the vacancy.

Ms. Dales would like to discuss the effects of the recent Primary Election date change to July 19, 2022 by the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Approval of Minutes:

- **2.22.2022 Minutes**
Mr. Lewis motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Corkran. The minutes were approved.

Election Director's Report:

- **Budget: FY2022 –December 2021 and January 2022 year/date/monthly expenditures**
Director Dales distributed the monthly budgets.

Old Business:

• **Financial Disclosures due by April 30th**

Director Dales said we will remind Mrs. Connolly, while the rest of the Board's has been completed.

• **Redistricting: Approve current changes from County and Legislature**

Mrs. Phillips presented the changes to precincts based off of Legislative and Councilmanic redistricting. Although the Legislative maps are still held up in lawsuits, we would like to have our redistricting approved as-is, in the hope that they don't change. Mrs. Phillips presented the following changes to the Board:

- 240 voters from precinct 02-001 will move to precinct 02-002 due to a change in their Legislative District, and their polling place will change from Warwick Elementary School to North Dorchester Middle School.
- 2 voters from precinct 07-003 will move to precinct 07-010 due to a change in their Legislative District, this does not change their polling place.
- 819 voters in precinct 07-004 will move from Councilmanic District 2 to Councilmanic District 1, this does not change their polling place.
- 104 voters in precinct 07-004 will move to precinct 07-008 due to a Councilmanic District change for the rest of precinct 07-004.
- 330 voters in precinct 07-005 will move from Councilmanic District 1 to Councilmanic District 3, this does not change their polling place.
- 82 voters in precinct 07-008 will move to precinct 07-004 due to a change in their Legislative District, this does not change their polling place.
- 598 voters in precinct 07-009 will move from Councilmanic District 3 to Councilmanic District 2, and will subsequently move them to precinct 07-008. Their polling place will change from St. Paul's Church Hall to Cambridge – South Dorchester High School.
- 94 voters in precinct 14-001 will move from Councilmanic District 5 to Councilmanic District 1, and will subsequently move them to precinct 14-003. This does not change their polling place.
- 275 voters in precinct 14-003 will move to precinct 14-004 due to a change in their Legislative District, this does not change their polling place.
- 491 voters in precinct 14-003 will move from Councilmanic District 1 to Councilmanic District 5, and will subsequently move them to precinct 14-001. This does not change their polling place.
- 660 voters in precinct 15-001 will move to precinct 15-003 due to a change in their Legislative District, this does not change their polling place.

Mr. Corkran motioned to approve current redistricting changes as they stand, seconded by Mr. Batson. The changes were approved.

- **Redistricting Lawsuit – Decisions expected by April 14th**
Director Dales updated the Board on the Legislative Redistricting lawsuits.

New Business:

- **Approve Election Judge List.**
Director Dales distributed the list of election judges. Mr. Corkran motioned to approved the list, seconded by Mr. Lewis. This list of election judges was approved.

FYI:

- **Mail-In Ballot Request Form Status**
Mrs. Noranbrock informed the Board that the office has received approximately 1,500 mail-in ballot requests, so far.
- **Candidate Filing Deadline moved to April 15th**
Director Dales informed the Board that the Maryland Court of Appeals has moved the Primary Election date to July 19, and extended the candidate filing deadline to April 15th, due to the current lawsuits regarding redistricting. Ms. Dales said this may not be the final date change, but we will keep everyone updated. Mr. Lewis asked if the election was pushed back to August would the candidate filing deadline be extended again. Ms. Dales said that was most likely.

Ms. Dales presented the early voting agreement amendment to the Board and the revised reservation request for the early voting site and election judge training. Ms. Dales said that there could be eight (8) schools effected by this date change and that Mrs. Noranbrock is looking into alternatives if we are unable to use them. Our contact at the Board of Education will let us know soon if they are not available for the July 19 date.

Ms. Dales informed the Board that the day before the meeting we asked the finance department about moving or reserving funds from FY22 to pay for the primary election that will now fall in FY23. There is approximately \$90,000 in the FY22 budget allocated to pay for election judges, polling places, etc.

Mr. Lewis asked how our pay scale for judges compares to other counties. Ms. Dales said that every couple of years we all do a survey, and we are usually somewhere in the upper-middle. There are counties that pay more and counties that pay less. Mr. Corkran asked if the bill that includes minimum pay for judges has passed. Ms. Dales said that it hasn't passed yet, but we are close to what it requires. The only bill affecting us that has passed so far is the one codifying the 50/50 cost split with the State. This bill also included an amendment that states we can not have less polling places in 2022 than what we had in 2018. This means no vote centers.

- **Election Judge Manual Status**
Director Dales informed the Board the manual was sent to the printers on March 14th, and the proofs were received back from them on March 21st, so we should have them soon and before training starts. Due to the paper shortage, we prepaid for manuals so they could procure the paper they needed.

- **Drop Box in Hurlock at Veterans Memorial which is under surveillance**
Director Dales informed the Board of where the second drop box will be located in Hurlock.

Closed Session:

None.

Confirmation of Next Meeting:

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 10:00 AM, in Room 110 of the Dorchester County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, MD 21613.

Adjournment:

Mr. Lewis motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Corkran. The meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM.

APPROVED:






