

BOARD MEMBERS

MICHAEL W. DETMER
PRESIDENT

THOMAS M. CORKRAN
VICE PRESIDENT

RALPH C. LEWIS JR.
SECRETARY

WILLIAM E. BATSON
SUBSTITUTE

ROBIN A. WILLEY
SUBSTITUTE



**DORCHESTER COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

GWENDOLYN H. DALES
ELECTION DIRECTOR

BRITTANY M. PHILLIPS
DATA APPLICATION SPECIALIST

JESSICA R. NORANBROCK
DATA APPLICATION SPECIALIST

KIMBERLY K. JONES
ELECTION INFORMATION
SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

HUBERT H. WRIGHT, IV
ATTORNEY

ATTENDEES: Michael W. Detmer, President
Thomas M. Corkran, Vice President
Ralph C. Lewis, Secretary
William E. Batson, Substitute
Robin A. Willey, Substitute
Hubert H. Wright, IV, Attorney
Gwendolyn H. Dales, Election Director
Jessica Noranbrock, Data Apps. II

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Paul Noranbrock, Jr., Queen Anne's County Board of Elections

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING April 23, 2019

Call to Order and Determine Quorum:

Vice-President Corkran called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM; quorum was determined.

Welcome any Guests:

Paul Noranbrock, Jr.

Report any Board or Staff Absences:

None

Approval of Minutes:

February 26, 2019 Minutes – Mr. Lewis motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Batson, approved.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Election Director's Report:

• **Budget: FY 2019– February and March 2019 year/date/monthly expenditures.**
Director Dales distributed the monthly budget. Ms. Dales wanted to make sure the Board was aware the State Reimbursement was estimated at \$78,000, so far in the 3rd quarter, totaling \$90,000. Ms. Dales requested an estimate from the State for the 4th quarter. The estimate is \$9,000 - \$12,000, totaling over \$100,000, which makes us about \$20,000 over budget. Ms. Willey confirmed Director Dales that she budgeted based on what the State

gave her. Ms. Dales informed the Board that the County gives a 10% window per line item, and that it will be close. Mr. Corkran asked if there has been any communication with the Finance Department. Ms. Dales confirmed she spoke with Vicky from Finance and she said they treat it like a “bucket”, we may be 3 – 4% over budget, total.

Old Business:

- **MAEO – May 21st – May 23rd**
Director Dales reminded everyone they are booked with their own name, and that May 22nd and May 23rd are the main days to be there.
- **SB651 – As of June 1, 2019 and Legislative Wrap Up**
Director Dales informed the Board that SB651 passed, and as of June 1st, they will all be full time Board Members. A legislative wrap up was distributed that separated Bills by what passed and what failed.
- **Early Voting Electioneering – Sheriff’s Dept.**
Director Dales informed the Board that we checked with the Sheriff’s Department to see if they had any documentation from the evening of the incident, they do not. Mr. Lewis asked if anyone from the office had been summonsed, Ms. Dales said no. Mr. Lewis then asked if anyone was going to observe, Ms. Dales said no. Mr. Corkran asked if there was a court date. Ms. Dales said that it is scheduled for June 10. Mr. Wright suggested taking pictures of all signs at polling places from now on.

New Business:

- **Electronic Pollbook Battery Testing**
Director Dales informed the Board we have tested all pollbook batteries. This is because the batteries for pollbooks are expensive and SBE wanted everyone to see how long a life the batteries had. Ours all surpassed the minimum of 2 hours. Mr. Corkran asked what the purpose of this test was. Ms. Dales explained that the pollbooks have been around for a long time, if we need new printers we have to get all new ones because we can’t get the old ones anymore. If we need new batteries it could take months to get them in. Ms. Dales feels confident the batteries will last, but what worries her the most are the ports.
- **Wireless connectivity Testing to come**
Director Dales informed the Board Same Day Registration Bills have passed. SBE is starting to look at connectivity in all of our polling places. We are having conversations with the Board of Education and polling places. Mr. Corkran asked what we will be sending over this wireless connection. Ms. Dales said it would be the connection to SBE on Election Day like we have during Early Voting.

Mr. Lewis asked about training for the poll workers. Ms. Dales has put it in the budget for one person to do SDR at each polling place. We are waiting for guidelines from SBE for training.

President Detmer asked who the Legislators designated to implement this process. Ms. Dales said SBE was designated to implement and send mandates to LBEs. Mr. Detmer said we should be involved if they are looking for ideas for polling places with no

connectivity. Ms. Dales said that if an opportunity comes up we will volunteer. Right now, SBE is asking how many schools have signal blockers and if we'll have access to the facilities to test connectivity. There could be a work around, we have so few SDR transactions, if they have one, the Chief can call our office and maybe we can update SBE in office.

Mr. Detmer asked which polling places don't have service. It was deduced that most likely the following polling places do not have service: Salem Church, Neck District, Bucktown Church, Hoopers Island Fire Hall, Elliott Island Church, and Lakes and Straits Fire Hall. Mr. Corkran said we might have to increase pay to polling places. Mr. Detmer said this testing may bump up some of our rural polling places in the Rural Broadband Initiative list. Mr. Detmer said he is concerned about security of connecting using WIFI. Mr. Corkran asked when this will be implemented. Ms. Dales said it will be implemented in 2020.

FYI:

- **ES&S Security Letter**

Director Dales informed the Board that usually, about this time, ES&S starts sending information on security and how on top of things they are.

- **Articles (Lieutenant Governor Selection, Amber McReynolds)**

The Articles were distributed, and Ms. Dales informed the Board that Amber McReynolds is one of the speakers at the MAEO Conference.

Additions to the Agenda:

None

Public Comment:

None

Confirmation of Next Meeting:

Director Dales reminded the Board they have within 20 days of June 1, 2019 to be sworn in as the new Board. Mr. Detmer would like his children to be able to come to that meeting, he will email the best date for the next meeting. **Next Meeting: TBD**

Closed Session:

There was no need for a closed session.

Adjournment:

Ms. Willey motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Corkran. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

APPROVED:

Michael Detner

Tom H. G.

R. C. L.

Robin A. Willey
William C. Bateson

jrn