

BOARD MEMBERS

THOMAS M. CORKRAN
PRESIDENT

RALPH C. LEWIS JR.
VICE-PRESIDENT

WILLIAM E. BATSON
SECRETARY

ROBIN A. CONNOLLY
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, President
Ralph C. Lewis, Vice-President
William Batson, Secretary
Robin Connolly, Member
Hubert H. Wright, IV, Attorney

Gwendolyn H. Dales, Election Director
Jessica Noranbrock, Election Asst.

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: None

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING August 23, 2022

Call to Order and Determine Quorum:

President Corkran called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM; quorum was determined.

Welcome any Guests:

None.

Report any Board or Staff Absences:

None.

Additions to Agenda:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

• **6.28.2022 Minutes**

Mr. Lewis motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Connolly. The minutes were approved.

Election Director's Report:

• **Budget: FY2022 –July 2022 year/date/monthly expenditures**

Director Dales distributed the monthly budget.

Old Business:

- **Approve Board of Canvassers Minutes (3 sets)**
The Board of Canvassers convened at 2:05 PM.
 - **Mail-In Ballot 1 Canvass Minutes:** Mr. Corkran motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Batson. The minutes were approved.
 - **Provisional Canvass Minutes:** Mr. Corkran motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Batson. The minutes were approved.
 - **Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass Minutes:** Mr. Corkran motioned to approve the minutes seconded by Mr. Batson. The minutes were approved.
- **Untimely Mail-In Ballots Received**
Four (4) Mail-In Ballots presented were received untimely. Mr. Corkran motioned to reject all four (4) ballots, seconded by Mr. Batson. The untimely Mail-In Ballots were rejected.
- The meeting of the Board of Canvassers closed at 2:10 PM.

New Business:

- **Sept. 22nd MAEO 1 Day Conference – Live Stream**
Director Dales reminded the Board about the MAEO Conference and will provide the Board with a link for the livestream once it is available.
- **Polling Place Discussion**
The Board approved the following polling place decisions for the 2022 Gubernatorial General Election in November:
 - Precincts 02-002 and 02-004 will remain at the North Dorchester High School Cafeteria
 - Precinct 07-002 will return to Choptank Elementary School
 - Precincts 12-001 and 12-002 will vote at the Hurlock Fire Hall
 - Precincts 15-001, 15-002, 15-003, and 15-004 will vote at the Hurlock Elementary School Cafeteria(See attached document)
- **Judges Pay Discussion**
Director Dales mentioned that she was aware of a few judges that approached Board Members during early voting asking about an increase in pay. We currently pay our Chief Judges \$225.00 and our Election Judges \$175.00, per day plus training. Ms. Dales mentioned there was legislation present during the 2022 legislative session which would make the base pay for election judges \$200.00; that legislation didn't pass but she expects to see it again in 2023.

Mr. Corkran asked Ms. Dales what amount she suggested. Ms. Dales mentioned the \$200 base pay, that would give Election Judges a \$25.00 increase, and then increase the Chief Judge pay \$25.00. Mr. Corkran suggested at least \$300.00. Mr. Lewis suggested \$225.00 to be the base rate for Election Judges. That would be a \$50.00 increase. Mr. Corkran asked for a motion to pay Election Judge \$225.00 per day. Mrs. Connolly asked Mr. Corkran to wait until they discuss Chief Judge pay before asking for a motion.

Mr. Corkran asked the Board if they wanted to give the Chief Judges a \$50.00 increase, as well. Ms. Dales said she would budget for the increase in fiscal year 2024, unless the Board wanted to increase judges pay for the 2022 General Election. Mrs. Noranbrock

said the increase would be approximately \$8,500.00. Mrs. Connolly said she would rather do it now to keep our judges. Mr. Lewis asked if the Board wanted to do it now or wait until 2024. Mrs. Connolly motioned to raise the pay for Election Judges and Chief Judges \$50.00 each for the 2022 General Election, seconded by Mr. Batson. The motion was approved.

FYI:

- **Clear Ballot – Post-Election Tabulation Audit**

Director Dales presented the audit and explained variances were less than the state threshold.

- **CTCL Grant Lawsuit**

Director Dales reviewed the grant the County received in 2020 from the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL). There is currently a lawsuit based on the organization that funded the grants. Mr. Corkran asked what they are asking for. Ms. Dales said documentation, and that we will keep them informed of any new information.

Additions to the Agenda:

None.

Confirmation of Next Meeting:

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25th, at 10:00 AM, at the Dorchester County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Room 100.

Adjournment:

Mr. Lewis motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Batson. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM.

APPROVED:



Rh.C. L. /

Robin Connolly

William E. Batson
