

Marion County Election Board
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2003

Members Present: Chairperson Candace Marendt; Vice Chairman Steve Eichholtz; Secretary, Doris Anne Sadler

Attending: Dan Ladendorf (Election Board Attorney); Robert Vane (Election Board Administrator); Jennifer Walda, (Election Board Chief Clerk); David Woo (Election Board Supervisor); Jackie Cissell; John Miller; Bob Hinshaw; Beuford Hall; Allan Yackey; Wendy Orange (ES&S representative).

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marendt.
- II. The Board approved the minutes from the Election Board meeting held on 07/31/2003.
- III. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Voter outreach update:** Ms. Cissell was happy to announce the delivery of voting machines to the Marion County Public Libraries. Ms. Cissell informed the board and public the machines will be available for public use, and that machine demonstration can be scheduled for the libraries. Anyone who is interested is urged to contact the Marion County Election Board at 327-2051. Ms. Cissell listed others events we plan to attend with the machines including the “Back to School Carnival” at School #110 on August 28, the HobNob on September 25. She also stated that a P.S.A. is being taped for distribution to local electronic media.
 - B. **Service Center Update:** Mr. Woo informed the board that six technicians from ES&S have been out to the Service Center to perform warranty checks on the machines. Mr. Woo stated there were a few machines that were in need of maintenance and all reporting tape in the machines has been replaced. Mr. Woo reported the voting machines are ready and prepared for the November election. Chairman Marendt asked Mr. Woo for an update on the opening of the ballot transfer cases for the

- C. Campaign Finance Update:** Mr. Robert Vane informed the board there was an updated list of fines that have been paid included in their meeting packet. Mr. Vane stated the Election Board is still receiving calls on disputes of fines owed and has directed all committees that owe fines to pay their fine as soon as possible. Mr. Vane stated there will be two letters sent out next week; one to candidates who lost in the Primary election and may disband their committees; and another letter to remind committees who are on the 2003 ballot that the pre-general report is due on October, 17, 2003 at noon. Mr. Vane informed the board that all letters sent by the Election Board will be sent by certified mail and the money for this will come from the Campaign Finance Enforcement Fund.
- D. Designation of replacement Election Day Holiday:** Secretary Sadler requested the board revise the holiday schedule for the Election Board Administrator, Robert Vane, and the Election Board Service Center Supervisor, David Woo, due to being exempt from receiving any compensation time for holidays they work during the election season. The proposed designation of holidays for these persons are as follows: Columbus Day (October 13th) their observed holiday will be November 26, 2003; Election Day (November 4th) their observed holiday will be December 24, 2003 and for Veterans Day (November 11th) their observed holiday will be December 26, 2003. Secretary Sadler made a motion to designate and accept these proposed holidays for the Administrator and Service Center Supervisor. Chairman Marendt seconded. Unanimous vote passed.
- E. Adoption of Central Count Resolution:** Mr. Ladendorf explained to the board the reasoning for central count and how it would effect the absentee voting process. Mr. Ladendorf explained that using the M650 machine would reduce the opening of envelopes, counting of the ballots, and unnecessary handling of the ballots. He also stated funds were included in

- F. Wynnedale Election:** Attorney Ladendorf informed the board that Wynnedale had contacted the Marion County Election Board to change their town board from seven to six members. Mr. Ladendorf stated the Marion County Election Board only recognizes a five-member board due to the original resolution for expansion was not approved as a ballot question. The board will ask Wynnedale to resubmit their resolution for the next Election (if they so choose). Mr. Ladendorf stated the Election Board would run the Municipal General 2003 Election as a vote for five (5) candidates.
- G. Clermont Election:** Attorney Ladendorf summarized the disputes in the town of Clermont. Mr. Ladendorf stated that in the November 2002 election the town of Clermont adopted a new ordinance (and approved by the voters in Clermont) to expand the Clermont Board from three (3) to five (5) members. Mr. Ladendorf stated that at the same time Clermont was redistricting the town and did not notify the board of its new districts in a timely manner. The Board agreed and made a motion at the Election Board meeting held on March 24, 2003 that the Board will run the Clermont election by the 1999 districts due to the Election Board not being notified in a timely manner.

Regarding the council expansion, the board passed a motion in March that declared candidates who filed candidacy by March 31, 2003 would be placed on the ballot. The Clermont attorney, Mr. Yackey, and the town asked Mr. Ladendorf for something in writing regarding this and a letter was written by Mr. Ladendorf on June 13, 2003 detailing his appraisal of the Situation. Mr. Ladendorf then stated that the deadline for filing a vacancy was June 30, 2003 and the Marion County Republican Party filled the two Clermont at-large positions as required by statute. Mr. Ladendorf acknowledged this issue

was very challenging and thanked the residents of Clermont for their patience and understanding. Mr. Ladendorf proposed that due to the unanimous vote taken in March, the Board did not need to make a motion for the placement of candidates on the ballot. So that the citizens of Clermont and the Election Board were clear, Secretary Sadler made a motion that the two at-large positions had been filed in a timely manner by the Marion County Republican Party, and will be placed on the November 2003 ballot. Chairman Marendt seconded. Unanimous vote passed.

- H. Other Business:** Attorney Ladendorf informed the Board that a judgment in the Ogden case will need to be entered and an executive session will need to be held for discussion and a solution.

- I. Other Business:** Secretary Sadler informed the Board that she presented the 2004 Election Board budget to the City-County Council committee. Mrs. Sadler stated that in the 2004 budget there was a reduction of 4.9% due to a cut in printing costs. She also stated the federal reimbursement from the state should be received by early next year, so the Election Board will be able to repay the bond of just under three (3) million dollars by March 1, 2004.

There being no further business to come in front of the Marion County Election Board, Chairman Marendt adjourned the meeting.

The next Election Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2003 in Room 107.

Candace Marendt, Chairman

Steven Eichholtz, Vice Chairman

Doris Anne Sadler, Secretary