

Marion County Election Board Meeting Minutes
3/23/2004

Members present: Chairman, Candace Marendt, Vice Chairman, Steve Eichholtz, Secretary, Doris Anne Sadler

Others present: Robert Vane, Administrator; David Woo, Service Center Supervisor; Jennifer Walda, Chief Clerk; Jennifer Pruitt, Deputy Clerk; Wendy Orange, ES&S; Joel Miller, Democratic Headquarters; Patrice Abdullah, City County Councilor; Mr. Swartz, Patrice Abdullah attorney; David Coatie, candidate 2003; Ron Sullivan, candidate 2003; Aaron Haith, attorney for City County Council; April Sellers, Office of Corporation Counsel

- I. Chairman Marendt called meeting to order.
- II. Chairman Marendt informed the public of the executive session the Board had previous to this meeting. Secretary Sadler made a motion proposing that the Marion County Election Board affirm the hiring of Kroger Gardis Law Firm to represent the Election Board in the appeals process. Chairman Marendt seconded. Vice Chairman Eichholtz questioned Secretary Sadler on the hiring of Kroger Gardis, protested, and chose not to vote on matter. Vote passed due to majority.
- III. **Approval of meeting minutes:** Vice Chairman Eichholtz made a motion to approve the minutes of February 25. Secretary Sadler second. Unanimous vote passed. Secretary Sadler asked that the format of the March 10 meeting minutes be changed and brought to the next Board meeting for approval. Board agreed.
- IV. **Administrator's Update:** Administrator, Robert Vane, updated the Board on the Election Board office. Mr. Vane stated that the ballots are in the process of being proofed with a crew of 8-10 people and we will meet Thursday's deadline to send out absentee ballots to those persons who have applied. Mr. Vane stated that the ballots this primary election will not have color on them for distinction. Secretary Sadler asked Mrs. Orange from ES&S to speak on the matter of not having color on the ballots for the primary. Mrs. Orange stated that she had discussed the requirement of color with Mr. Vane and discovered that under law the primary ballots do not have to have color, but must be distinguished in some way. Mrs. Orange stated that due to this being a primary election the ballots would be distinguished by the party they represent. Mrs.

rd, 2004 in the Public Assembly Room at 9 a.m. for the public and a provisional ballot seminar will be held on Tuesday, April 13th at 9 a.m. Mr. Vane stated that the inspector hotline options will change this year. Option number 4 will put you in touch with the Election Board or any questions on provisional ballots.

- V. **Service Center Update:** Mr. Woo stated that he has been working with Corporation Counsel to lock in all polling site contracts. He is also working on regional sites for inspector pick-up and drop-off. Center Townships supply pick-up and drop-off has changed this year due to all the trouble the inspectors were having last year getting into the City County Building. The new location will be at Tech High School. Mr. Woo stated that the Service Center is moving on and gearing up for the primary by getting 25 M100 units some service that needs to be done and the staff is getting ready to make inspector kits and forms are being ordered.
- VI. **Affirmation of location for the Election Day Election Board meeting and location for counting provisional ballots:** Secretary Sadler stated that due to not having a central count (hand count) this year that the Board would not need to meet at the Service Center on Election Day but will need to meet at the Service Center the next day, Wednesday, May 5th 2004 at 8 a.m. to begin the counting of provisional ballots. Chairman Marendt requested that Voter Registration stay open an hour or more after the polls close on Election Day due to the new laws for provisional ballots.
- VII. **Campaign Finance: Brad Klopfenstein's complaint on Patrice Abdullah:** This complaint has been tabled twice and will be heard today.

- A. Paul Mannweiler: Mr. Vane had received notice that someone was going to appear on Mr. Mannweiler's behalf for a wavier. No one present.
- B. Rickie Clark: Mr. Clark had appeared at the last meeting held for Campaign Finance and after that meeting Mr. Clark had disbanded his committee. Vice Chairman Eichholtz made a motion to reduce Mr. Clark's fine to \$50. Secretary Sadler seconded. Unanimous vote passed.
- C. David Coatie: Mr. Coatie was tabled to this meeting and was present. Vice Chairman Eichholtz asked Mr. Coatie to come in compliance and disband his committee and the Board would hear this matter. Mr. Coatie did go to the Election Board office and disband his committee. Secretary Sadler made a motion to reduce Mr. Coatie's fine to \$50. Vice Chairman Eichholtz seconded. Unanimous vote passed.
- D. Ron Sullivan: Mr. Sullivan was tabled to this meeting and was present. Mr. Sullivan stated he had mailed his reports in on the 4th of November but did not have file stamped copy of his reports. Secretary Sadler asked Mr. Sullivan to go to the Election Board office and file a disband on his committee and the Board would reduced his fine that is currently set at \$2000. Mr. Sullivan did come in compliance and filed his disband with the Election Board office. Secretary Sadler made a

- E. Amber Watkins: Ms. Watkins had submitted a letter to the Election Board office to request a wavier of her fine and she was not present at this meeting. Vice Chairman Eichholtz made a motion to reduce Ms. Watkins fine to \$50. Chairman Marendt seconded. Unanimous vote passed.
- F. Muata Rameses: Mr. Rameses had submitted a letter to the Election Board office to request a wavier of his fine and he was not present at this meeting. The Board reviewed the letter. Chairman Marendt made a motion to deny any reduction or wavier of Mr. Rameses fine. Vice Chairman Eichholtz seconded. Unanimous vote passed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Marendt made a motion to adjourn. Unanimous vote passed.

Chairman, Candace Marendt

Vice Chairman, Steve Eichholtz

Secretary, Doris Anne Sadler