

Marion County Election Board Meeting Minutes
8/05/2004

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

Others present: Robert Vane, Administrator; Jennifer Handlon, Chief Clerk; Jennifer Pruitt, Deputy Clerk; Jay Cahill, Republican Headquarters; LaDonna Freeman, Voter Registration; Joel Miller, Democrat Headquarters; Ed Treacy, Democratic Headquarters; Jamie Rough, ES&S; Toby McClamroch, ES&S Attorney.

- I. **Chairman Marendt called the meeting to order.**

- II. **Ballot Issues:** Chairman Marendt stated the Board was here today to make the decisions of the 2004 Presidential election ballot and asked Secretary Sadler to go through the different ballots types and styles.
 - A. **Choice of Ballot:** Secretary Sadler discussed the different types of ballots that had been presented to the Board previously and made comment to the ballot types that could create problems. Administrator Vane stated to the Board that the lines that ran through the titles had been removed. Secretary Sadler stated that Mr. Jamie Rough, the new project manager provided by ES&S, was present to answer any questions the Board members may have. Chairman Marendt asked Mr. Rough if he had the chance to review the 17-inch ballot. Mr. Rough stated no. Secretary Sadler stated she had spoken with Linda Bennett of ES&S and she stated the 17-inch ballot could be tabulated and used with the certified software. Secretary Sadler also stated that she had recently sent a letter to ES&S regarding reimbursement of cost that pertained to the ballot litigation lawsuit on behalf of the Clerk and not the Election Board and ES&S had sent representation on this matter. Mr. McClamroch confirmed that a letter had been sent to his client for reimbursement of payment and stated he strongly objects to any allegations against his client and had advised his client not to attend today's meeting. Vice Chairman Eichholtz stated he did appreciate the work but is concerned about the 17-inch ballot tabulating. Mr. Eichholtz stated it had been his understanding this ballot could be tabulated, does comply with the appeal and based on prior representation the 17-inch ballot is practicable and can be utilized without ballot issues arising this fall. Vice Chairman Eichholtz made a motion to adopt the 17-inch party column ballot style. Secretary Sadler seconded. Unanimous vote passed. Chairman Marendt stated that she would

appreciate it, if the ballot is not able to be tabulated, that the Board be notified immediately (or any other issue with this ballot).

B. Choice of printing option: Secretary Sadler stated that the Election Board in the past three elections has printed the ballots by precinct (precinct specific) but the Marion County Election Review Task Force recently recommended the Election Board print ballots by style. Secretary Sadler stated the Board will be printing ballots for one hundred percent of the registered voters in each precinct and recommends the Board make the decision to print by style also and suggested that at the next meeting the Board discuss the procedural issues. Chairman Marendt made a motion to print the ballots by style and not by precinct. Vice Chairman Eichholtz seconded. Unanimous vote passed.

C. Vote to put precincts on ballot: Vice Chairman Eichholtz made a motion to print the precincts on each ballot for precinct verification. Secretary Sadler seconded. Unanimous vote passed.

D. Other Business: Vice Chairman Eichholtz stated that there were some people at the meeting today who would like the Board to address the task force recommendations but due to him not receiving the recommendations from the task force until the evening before he nor any of the other Board members have had time to review the recommendations and would like to address that issue at another meeting.

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