

# Marion County Election Board Meeting Minutes

## August 20, 2008

Members Present: Chairman Mark Sullivan; Vice Chairman Patrick Dietrick; Secretary Elizabeth "Beth" White

Others Present: Andy Mallon, Director of Elections; Tenley Drescher-Rhoades, Counsel to the Election Board; Cindy Mowery, Voter's Registration (VR) Board Member; Jennifer Handlon, VR; Michael Weiseman, Deputy Director of Elections; Myla Eldridge, Deputy Director of Elections; John Riordan, VR Board Member; Pam Elliot, WISH-TV; Jason Harris, WISH-TV; Rose Clindinst-Houff, LWV; Steve Neff; Virginia Davis, Obama Campaign; Timothy Macguire, potential candidate; Kurt St. Angelo, potential candidate; LaDonna Freeman, VR; Angela Nussmeyer, Clerk's Office Public Information Officer; Jennifer Troutman, Election Board Program Coordinator.

- I. Call to Order:** Chairman Sullivan called the meeting to order and introduced agenda
  
- II. Filing Issues:** Mr. Mallon stated that three libertarian parties Tim McGuire, Kurt San-Angelo and Chris Ward filed to be candidates. Each filed in the initial appropriate time but they each failed to announce which office they desired. Accordingly they were not mentioned on the list of candidates; subsequently each candidate filed an amendment. Tim McGuire for Pike Township Advisory Board District 2, Kurt San-Angelo for Center Township Advisory Board District 4, and Chris Ward for Lawrence Township Advisory Board District 1. The issue presented before the Board is whether to accept the amended filings after the statutory deadline.

Tim McGuire was present and stated his position by submitting Libertarian party meeting minutes as well as his CFA-1 form where it was stated the position he desired. As well as introducing the clerical differences between the 2007 and 2008 forms as to his overlooking of the query at hand. He stated that as soon as he was alerted to the discrepancy he quickly took the necessary steps to ratify this.

Kurt San-Angelo was also present and stated his position being that it was a simple oversight but unlike the other candidates he was not informed to his mistake.

Counsel Tenley Drescher-Rhoades announced that Indiana Code IC -5-4-1.9 states that the Board does not have discretion to accept a late filing.

After much discussion and deliberation Chairman Sullivan moved that these amended filings not be accepted by the Board due to the late filings and

improper filings. Madame Clerk White seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Clerk Office Personell Openings:** Mr. Mallon announced that the position of Program Coordinator was available due to the loss of Mr. Dan Fair to the State Democratic Caucus. He stated that Jennifer Troutman was a candidate for employment and spoke of his support in accepting her to this position. This now leaves the position of Lead Election Clerk open to be filled. Madame Clerk White moved that the Board approve the promotion of Jennifer Troutman to Program Coordinator. Vice-Chairman Dietrich seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### III **Contract Approvals:**

- ***Issue- Inspector Recruitment Consultant:*** It was stated how this position is highly favored being that they are able to focus solely on keeping the inspectors on track during elections. Madame Clerk White moved that the contract be approved, Chairman Sullivan seconded and it passed unanimously.
- ***Absentee Process Consultant:*** This position is to assist the Program Coordinator in running the Absentee Program. This position is to be filled by Morgan Decker who was the law intern as well as being a hand in getting the new Program Coordinator up to speed on the responsibilities and nuances of the position of Program Coordinator. Madame Clerk White motioned to approve this contract which passed unanimously.
- ***Early Voting Coordinator:*** Point person regarding the new project of satellite voting. This person would recruit staff, seasonal election board staff to ensure that satellite voting can run smoothly, i.e materials, database, staff, & coordination with political parties to ensure bi-partisan support staff. A query was posed by Vice-Chair Dietrich as to whether or not a bi-partisan co-consultant position would be necessary being that this satellite voting program is very new. It was resolved that only one consultant position would suffice being that they are reporting directly back to the Board. Madame Clerk motioned to approve this contract, Chairman Sullivan seconded. It did not pass unanimously.
- ***Elect Staffing:*** Handled Election Day mechanical work with the IvoTronic machines. A point was made that the cost for using Elect Staffing vs. E.S& S was close to half the price. Madame Clerk White moved that this contract be approved. It was passed unanimously.

**III Ratification of Ballot Questions:** Necessary to approve language submitted by auditor. First issue dealing with Tenant 1, second dealing with Bond Issues, Third issue dealing with a submission by the town of Crow's Nest that was not submitted in due form with the statutory law. Madame Clerk White motioned to approve ratification of questions 1 and 2 which passed unanimously. Madame Clerk White motioned to table public question 3 to better determine the legal ramifications. This passed unanimously

**IIII Election Vendor Contract Update:** Issue at hand is that at the end of November elections 2 portions of the contract expire, those being: Hardware Maintenance Agreement and the Professional Services agreement. It is up to question whether an alternative company would be viable after the expiration of ES&S. No ruling was needed, this was just an update.

**A 5 minute recess was called.**

**IVII General Updates:** Announced by Madam Clerk White

- ***Special Electives***
  - Friends of Democracy, which is a way to award and acknowledge those external parties that heavily aid with elections.
  - Y Vote, a way to bring a mock elections process to the youth in high schools.
  - Outreach, postcard to every household of registered voters with all the necessary information.
  - ListServe A way to keep the community informed with the changes and updates regarding the election. [www.indy.gov/election08](http://www.indy.gov/election08)
- ***Budget Presentation***
  - Referendums

**VII Voter Registration Update:** Mr. Mallon announced that there was an investigation regarding the voter registration issues. Some inaccuracies were noticed and there was a scare regarding whether a location was outside the precinct which brought forth alerts to double check and ensure that the precinct key was in tact. Also inaccuracies were noted with the informative postcards to the public. Mr. Mallon noted that the problems have been dealt with and resolved. Chairman Sullivan moved that the investigation be closed. Madame Clerk asked for an amendment to be that Mr. Mallon prepare a document of findings to be later reviewed by the Board. Chairman Sullivan accepted the amendment to the motion, Madame Clerk seconded and a motion to close passed unanimously.

(A side discussion ensued regarding the Satellite Voting budget.)

**VIII Adjournment:** Chairman Sullivan motioned for adjournment and closed today's meeting.

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Chairman, Mark K. Sullivan

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Vice Chairman, Patrick Dietrich

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Secretary, Elizabeth L. White