

Marion County Election Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2008

Members Present: Chairman Mark Sullivan; Vice Chairman Robert Vain as proxy for Vice Chairman Patrick Dietrich; Secretary Elizabeth "Beth" White

Others Present: Andy Mallon, Director of Elections; Tenley Drescher-Rhoades, Counsel to the Election Board. Jennifer Handlon, Andy Mowery, Drew Carlson, LaDonna Freeman, Angela Nussmeyer, Jennifer Troutman, Myla Eldridge, Michael Weisman

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Sullivan called the meeting to order and introduced agenda
- II. **Campaign Financing Issues:** Mr. Mallon explained how this would be a follow up to last month's meeting dealing with Campaign Finance Issues. Mr. Mallon introduced Patrick Russell's letter requesting to waive a \$1000 fine for filing a late CFA4. His reason being that during his first attempt at filing, the application was incomplete due to an overlooking of the date thus leading to the need to re-file which led to it being late. Clerk White moved to waive the fine for Mr. Russell, which passed unanimously.

After reviewing the procedure to which campaign financing waivers occurred prompted by the questioning of Vice-Chairman proxy Robert Vain, Chairman Sullivan proposed to waive the fines for the remaining individuals who realized the error on their behalves and took initiative to come into the office to explain the situation at hand and/or send a letter explaining and requesting a waiver of the fine accessed. This passed unanimously.

- III. **SVAC Satellite Voting Issue:** Mr. Mallon described the significance of satellite voting which is an effort to create opportunities for the public to vote in person prior to Election Day at another location besides the clerk's office in the City County Building. Mr. Mallon discussed the points of consensus reached and ideas discussed by the SVAC committee, which were as follows: proposal of 4 new satellite voting sites to be spread out for geographical convenience, J. Everett Light Career Center at North Central High School (North side), Southport Community Center (south side) Warren Township Government Center (East side) & Wayne Township Fire Training Center (West side). All in the committee proposal was the idea to have voting start 14 days before the Election Day and to end the Sunday before Election Day which would make the dates October 20, 2008 to November 2, 2008. The hrs of operation would be between 11am -7pm 7 days a week.

The committee discussed the possibility of the traditional paper ballot cards vs. the electronic voting touch screen machine. With the option of having both present on Election Day with use to be determined by the voter. While taking

into consideration community drawbacks to such abrupt changes. This proposal did not include a budget.

Proxy Bain stated his opinions and support of the SVAC proposals and argues against the accuracy of the paper ballot counting.

Madame Clerk White stated concerns regarding the central count. She stated that she is not supportive of the proposal of 4 satellite sites and suggests the use of only 3 sites total including the central location of the City County Building. Madame Clerk suggested that the Board make a decision today because time was running down and take into account that the Committee views are full of integrity and strength and that it seemed unlikely that positions would change.

Chairman Sullivan stated his agreement with Mr. Vain in support of using satellite voting and electronic methods in the future but he also understood the stance of the community now in hesitating against such aggressive changes so soon in the midst of a historical election time. At this point Chairman Sullivan called for a recess.

The meeting resumed and Madame Clerk White stated staff considerations to refer to the recommendations of the community regarding the SVAC committee options for two specific satellite sites: North location (J. Everett Light Career Center) and the South location (Southport Community Center)

Madame Clerk motioned the recommendation that there be a satellite voting program in Marion County using two of the opted locations presented by the Committee being the North (J. Everett Light Career Center) and the South (Southport Community Center) in addition to the Clerks Office location, with voting to begin on October 23rd and end on November 2nd; hours of operation to be 11am to 7pm everyday including weekends. Chairman Sullivan seconded the motion to approve this resolution. It passed unanimously.

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

Chairman, Mark K. Sullivan

Vice Chairman, Patrick Dietrich

Secretary, Elizabeth L. White