

Minutes
Hamilton County Election Commission
November 26, 2001

Upon call duly made and notice given Chairman Waller called the meeting to order with all members present.

The meeting was adjourned to the kitchen where the projector was set up to present the re-districting. The maps were set up and they were going to go district by district in numerical order 1-9 and go through each precinct. The Administrator will explain the changes. The legal descriptions have not been received from the county commission at this point.

The Chairman called on Mr. William Cotton who stated that the numbers in district # 4, using the census figures for the total population, his concern is how we count those of voter age and then we turn around and purge them because they may not have voted in 2 November elections. He feels this makes the numbers wrong in his district. He wants clarification on this. The Administrator explained that the numbers the Election Commission uses for re-precincting and re-districting are the numbers that come from the census. The Census Bureau is doing what they are mandated to do. We must use those numbers. The Election Commission has no control over that and when we purge we are purging by law. The Administrator explained that there was a provision in the law that you can go back and have another re-districting.

The meeting was recessed into the kitchen for the re-districting. The Administrator started with City Hall. City Hall was split and the people were moved to Highland Park. This is the area right by National Cemetery and this added to the population of Highland Park. They will vote at the Highland Park Neighborhood Center.

The county commission split the Clifton Hills precinct. This is an area off Dodds Avenue and they were moved out of Clifton Hills into East Lake.

There was area that was left out by the county commission in the Concord area and these people were placed in Concord 2 precinct.

The county commission split and area in Lupton City precinct and these people were moved into the Dupont precinct.

East Chattanooga was split into two precincts. East Chattanooga 1 and 2. They will vote at the same location, but Commissioner Cotton will represent East Chattanooga # 1 and Commissioner Favors will represent East Chattanooga # 2.

The county commission split the Glenwood precinct and part of the people will be moved to Orchard Knob precinct and part of the people will be moved to Avondale precinct. Those going to Avondale are to the left of Dodson Avenue.

The Mountain Creek precinct was split in half because of the size and total numbers of voters. There will be Mountain Creek # 1 and # 2.

The county commission split the Harrison precinct and they will be moved into Harrison # 3. Those people above Vincent Road will be moved into Harrison # 2.

The Summit precinct closet to Lee Highway those people were put into Tyner # 2.

The Dallas precinct was split because of population and it will become Dallas North and Dallas South.

The county commission split the Falling Water precinct and the one that are in Commission Skillern's district were to go to Mowbray. The Election Commission felt that this was to far for these people to go so they recommended to create another precinct and call it Falling Water # 1 and # 2.

The Westview 2 precinct at the Eastern end will go to Apison.

Valley View West precinct was in Commissioner Casavants district is now in Commission Ben Miller district.

Administrator Jackson the Commission to critique what has been done and let her know if they propose anything else. We are going form 103 precincts to 109.

Commissioner Lane made the statement that is the last 2-3 weeks the Election Commission has had egg spread all over their faces. Basically, from the county commission. He said it appears that the county commission is trying to make decisions that the Election Commission should be making. Example, we voted to pay the longevity pay to the employees in this office. He feels they have the authority to do that. He said the county paid in three increments, on evaluation, on job descriptions and responsibility of the job.

The County Executive called it what is really was and that was a bonus for years of service. Because the Election Commission chose not to go with that because it would have cost \$ 5000.00 the employees were paying the price. Mr. Lane suggested to the Commission that they go ahead and pay this, but there was a letter written to the county commission asking them to pay this. Mr. Lane said that the authority belongs to the Election Commission. He said that he felt very strongly about this and is very concerned. He said that the county commission is to fund this office and if it does not then the law says go to Chancery Court. Mr. Lane made a motion to pay the longevity pay and to instruct the Administrator to do so the next pay period. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Lane talked about the verification process. He said that some of this money involves re-districting. He said that at the seminar he found out that some counties contracted this work out to someone else and got it for .16 cents each. He feels the Election Commission should put a hold on everything for a couple of weeks and give them an opportunity to go to some of the different counties and find out what they might be doing differently in order to save the tax payers money. He made the motion to put everything on hold and Commissioner Walden felt they were already on hold due to no funds.

Commissioner Walden asked the Chairman to give at least a weeks notice for the meetings. He said that he had gone to the County Legal Council meeting at 9:30 this morning and the meeting had been cancelled. He said that someone should notify them.

Commissioner Kliner said he felt that they didn't need to drive a wedge between the Election Commission and the County Commission because they fund us. He said he felt that the Commission should go and talk with Johnny Miller. Commissioner Walden said he felt the employees were paying for a poor decision made by a previous board. He said they were not paying for it, but the employees were. They need to do what is right and make sure we get in that program. The employees need the money and are entitled to it and if the board doesn't vote for it as aboard they are not going to get it. This will also help with job descriptions, performance evaluations, all the things they need to properly access the employees and be fair and equitable to everyone. Commissioner Kliner asked if the Chairman would like to put it down as an agenda item and what steps they need to take in order to find out how and to opt in. Commissioner Johnson said she felt that Commissioner Lane is wanting to take it out of a line item. He said yes and to go on and take it out, pay it and get it over with. Commissioner Walden said he couldn't support that personally, but he was just one vote. Commissioner Kliner said he felt that he understood the county because of several other departments did not opt in. He said next year do a better job with pay raises.

There being no further business the meeting was duly and properly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Walden
Secretary

Chairman Tyrone Waller

Commissioner Linda Johnson

Commissioner Wesley Kliner

Commissioner Bryan Lane