

Minutes
Hamilton County Election Commission
November 5, 2001

Upon call duly made and notice given Chairman Waller called the meeting to order with all members present except for Commission Walden who was out of town.

The minutes of the previous meeting of October 15, 2001 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Lane.

Chairman Waller called on Administrator Jackson regarding the budget. Ms Jackson Explained that she is to write a letter to the County Commission and to the County Executive requesting the amount of money to cover voter verification and re-districting along with printing costs and postage. The letter is due by Friday, November 9, 2001. Mr. Kliner said that they were expecting the letter and he felt the County Commission would act quickly.

Commissioner Kliner said that they had voted for the employees to receive the longevity pay and all other county employees. Commissioner Lane said that the Commission had voted to go ahead and pay it out of the budget. Chairman Waller said they also voted to write a letter to the County Commission to see if they would authorize the money and if not take it out of a line item. Carolyn said that both letters would go out tomorrow.

The address verification process is making some progress. We are now in the process of making changes of address into the system. All of these people will get a new card with a new address. There are over 2,000 of these at this time. Commissioner Kliner asked if the Commission could get a weekly status on these changes. This is to be done 90 days before the May election. Commissioner Kliner said as a matter of record that Carolyn said it would be done by December 31, 2001. It cannot be done by that time. After much discussion on the verification process Commissioner Kliner said as a matter of record he did not want to disenfranchise any voter. He wants to encourage all to participate in the electoral process. His concern is as a body that they have a statutory requirement to ensure that they do two things, keep a good registration database and get people registered and they properly count votes. It seems that we are doing an excellent job with the voting system, but a sorry database because we have not updated over a period of years. It is totally inaccurate and if we continue along this line of leading people on who fail to respond. Commissioner Kliner made the request that Mr. Summers, our attorney write a letter to the State Coordinator of Elections and raise that specific issue by asking if a county under takes an address verification program and mails address verification notices to every registered voter on its database and a voter fails, for whatever reason, to return that address verification does TCA 2-2-106 require us to go ahead and send a

confirmation. Commissioner Lane said there was no need of a motion, but to have Mr. Summers research it and find out. Mr. Summers said on matter like this that it is best to consult with Brook Thompson's office and he will be glad to do that. Commissioner Kliner said he would like a written answer.

As a matter of record Commissioner Kliner said he would like to address the letter that was sent, that he had no business or financial ties or relations to any elected official that he knows of. To his knowledge there is no requirement as an appointed official that they need a financial disclosure, but if he has overlooked a requirement, he surely wants to be in compliance.

Commissioner Kliner explained that Mr. Walden was in Washington tonight, but that he asked him to raise this before the Commission that in the September 10, 2001 meeting the Commission voted to draft a letter to put into Administrator Jackson's official file regarding the laptop computer. He asked the Commissioners if they had had time to go over the letter and asked if it was correct and if they were ready to present it to Ms Jackson.

Commissioner Johnson needed a copy, also Commissioner Lane. Chairman Waller said that when it came to personnel matters that he felt that the Commission needed to go over these policies and procedures, does this need to be part of this meeting. Commissioner Kliner said that he felt that when they went over personnel matters that he would like Mr. Summers to address these issues and render an opinion.

The Chairman called on the visitors and then adjourned to the computer room to see what has been done on re-districting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary,
Michael Walden

Chairman Tyrone Waller

Commissioner Wes Kliner

Commissioner Linda Johnson

Commissioner Bryan Lane