

Minutes
Hamilton County Election Commission
May 13, 2002

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

The minutes of the previous meeting of May 7, 2002 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kennedy.

Chairman Waller called on Quentin Howard, auditor with Hazlett, Lewis and Bieter who explained their procedure of the test decks for each precinct, each satellite and the postal machine. Then the day after the election they pull the tape from the machine in which are being audited. They count the stubs that were torn off the ballots, applications that were processed and count the signatures on the signature books. They want to make sure that those are very, very close and most of the time they are in agreement. This has been done and the report given to Ms Jackson. He also explained that they had done an extended audit contract since the first of 2001. Mr. Howard was very pleased and very confident with the results.

Chairman Waller asked for an update on the purge. Mrs. Dzik said that she had spoken with Beth Roberson with the Coordinator's office and asked for a clarification on Mr. Thompson's letter to immediately purge after the May 7 primary and she said that was to be done immediately. Mr. Thompson was to send a letter to verify this as of May 13, 2002. By doing this now it will give the voter a chance to come in and register prior to the August election. Commissioner Kliner asked how many voters this would include. Mrs. Dzik said that at this time it was not clear. Administrator Jackson said it was about 17,000. The list of purged voters will be published in the paper so everyone will be notified.

New Business:

The Certification of Expenses for the County Primary of \$151,791.81 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Kliner and seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

The Certification of Results for the County Republican Primary were approved on a motion by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Walden.

The Certification of Results for the County Democratic Primary were approved on a motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Walden.

The Certification of Results for the Lakesite Municipal Election were approved on a motion by Commissioner Kliner and seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Chairman Waller called on visitors. The first person to speak was Warren Mackey, he was a candidate for the 4th district. He asked if a voter might come into a polling place with no identification and vote. Administrator Jackson answered by saying that there is an oath a voter can sign and swear that they are whom they say they are and are allowed to vote. Commissioner Walden asked how many voters voted this way in this last election. Most people have ID when they come to vote. Mr. Mackey said he felt the problem was with the early vote. There were 27 people who executed oaths that had no identification with them on a countywide basis.

Mr. John Wolfe asked a question about the Avondale precinct and the results coming in late. Administrator Jackson told Mr. Wolf that the results were thought to have gone in electronically, but the Avondale was the fourth precinct to come in the back. Mr. Knowles keeps a log in the back as the precincts come in when it was realized that Avondale had not transmitted they started looking for it and found it and it was then transmitted. Mrs. Dzik explained that at that time our Modem was down and the officer did not realize this and he thought it had transmitted. Mr. Mackey said his concern was with perceived irregularities related to Avondale. After much discussion Commissioner Walden said that it was the responsibility of the Commission to certify the results so if there is an appeal they can expedite. The Commission cannot change anything weather they agree or not.

There were questions about write-in votes and voters not being allowed to vote. Mrs. Dzik answered that by saying that if they knew of someone that was denied the right to vote we needed to know who they were and they asked the voter contact the Election Commission or come down and address the issue with members of the staff. We have had no one call in to say that they were denied the right to vote. There was a question about redistricting on Thrasher Pike. One side of the street votes in one precinct and the other side street is in another precinct. It was an issue and there was a total 197 voters, of those 20 were on the inactive list and that puts us down to 173 voters who were affected. Based on the numbers you are looking at, the law of averages would be 17 or 18 voters showing up to vote in this area. Mr. Daved Senters said that it was not only the Ganns precinct, but Falling Water East and West precincts too. Mrs. Dzik explained to Mr. Senters how the Fail Safe affidavit worked and how the staff answered the phones on Election Day from the Officers and helped with getting the voters to the correct

precinct. Mrs. Dzik said she was concerned about Mr. Senters having mentioned a poll watcher at the Ganns precinct because we were not showing any authorized poll watchers for any precincts. Commissioner Walden pointed out that if a person had been re-districted that they had been mailed a new registration card telling them where their new precinct is. There comes a point, as much as they want everyone to vote, that the voter is responsible to go to the correct voting location. Commissioner Kliner said that the Election Commission is constrained by redistricting to move people based on new Senate boundaries, new House boundaries and new County Commission district boundaries. As the Election Commission they have to live within what is mandated by the State Legislature. The Election Commission doesn't physically and arbitrarily determines to move people around and to take people out of a precinct that they have been voting in for years. It just happens as a result of the political process.

The Commission approved the purchase of a letter-folding machine at the cost of \$2500.00.

Mr. Brad Ledford of the GIS Department and Bryan Turner from the Data Processing Department were here to discuss the re-districting. After much discussion the Commission asked Brad and Fran to get together and have a plan for discussion for a workshop on the re-districting this next week.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Walden
Secretary

Chairman Tyrone Waller

Commissioner William Kennedy

Commissioner Linda Johnson

Commissioner Wesley Kliner