

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 25, 2003**

Call to Order. Upon notice duly given, Chairman Tyrone L. Waller called to order a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hamilton County Election Commission at 5:10 p.m. on March 25, 2003, at the office of the Hamilton County Election Commission, 514 East 4th Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Present at Meeting. Chairman Waller, Secretary Walden and Commissioners Johnson, Kennedy and Kliner were present at the meeting. Commission Appointee Luanne H. DeWitt, Attorney Jerry Summers, Deputy Laura Woods and Administrator of Elections Fran Dzik were present by invitation. Also present were members of the community as shown on the attached sheet.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the minutes of the meetings held on March 18, 2003, were unanimously approved.

Address Verification. Administrator Dzik presented the Commission with a copy of Coordinator of Elections Brook Thompson's opinion regarding the use of the U.S.P.O. NCOA as the first step in the address verification process. A copy of the opinion is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein. After discussion, Commissioner Walden moved that the Administrator proceed to contract with Bill Duff of Industrial Services in Cleveland, Tennessee, to match our complete database of registered voters with the NCOA records as the first step in the address verification program. Commissioner Kliner seconded the motion and the Commission unanimously passed same motion.

Certification of Election--Collegedale. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the certification of the Collegedale, Tennessee, municipal election was unanimously approved. A copy of the Certification is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein.

Certification of Expenses--Collegedale. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the certification of the Collegedale, Tennessee, municipal election expenses was unanimously approved. A copy of the Certification is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein.

Certification of Early Voting/Absentee Balloting--Collegedale. Administrator Dzik presented Chairman Waller with the Certification of Early Voting/Absentee Balloting for the Collegedale Municipal election for his signature. No further action was necessary on this certification. A copy of the Certification is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein.

Auditor's Report of Election--Collegedale. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the audit of the Collegedale, Tennessee, municipal election submitted by Hazlett, Lewis & Bieter, PLLC was unanimously approved. A copy of the Auditor's Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein.

Red Bank and Soddy-Daisy Elections. Administrator Dzik presented the Commission with lists of the candidates who had met all the qualifications to be placed on the ballot for the Red Bank and Soddy-Daisy municipal elections to be held on June 10, 2003. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Kliner, the candidates as shown on the lists attached hereto were certified to have their names placed upon the respective ballots.

Voter Registration Drives. Administrator Dzik provided the Commission with an updated list of the number of high school voter registrations received since the prior Commission meeting of March 18, 2003. A copy of the list is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as if fully set out herein.

Legal Issues. Attorney Summers discussed the pending legal issues with the Commission, as follows:

Litigation. Attorney Summers presented the Commission with a copy of the reply brief filed on behalf of the Hamilton County Election Commission with the Tennessee Court of Appeals regarding the lawsuit filed by *The Chattanooga Times/News Free Press*.

City of Chattanooga Judicial Vacancy. Attorney Summers advised the Commission that the Mayor was appointing a committee to interview the judicial candidates and that the Commission had no further duties regarding this matter.

Personnel Policies Manual. Attorney Summers advised the Commissioners that revisions to the personnel policies manual had condensed the manual and he requested the Commission to instruct him as to their position on adopting county personnel policies. After discussion, the Commissioners instructed Attorney Summers to proceed with the manual as the Commission was not a part of county government and should have its own personnel policies and procedures.

Coalition. Attorney Summers advised the Commission that he had spoken with the Coordinator's office regarding their representative's meeting with the group raising issues about the Election Commission. He advised the Commission that the issues discussed with the Coordinator were issues which had been previously addressed and answers and that the Administrator and he were continuing to cooperate fully with the Coordinator's office relative to the group's complaints.

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Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned.

Michael S. Walden Secretary

APPROVED:

Tyrone L. Waller Chairman

Linda Johnson Commissioner

William Kennedy Commissioner

Wesley Kliner Commissioner