

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 29, 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 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 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, Judge Mike Carter, Attorney Jerry Summers, Deputy Laura Woods, Deputy Knowles 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 Kliner, seconded by Commissioner Walden, the minutes of the meetings held on April 3, 2003, were unanimously approved.

Comments of Wes Kliner. Commissioner Wes Kliner extended words of appreciation to the members of the Commission.

Oath of Commissioners. The Honorable Mike Carter, Hamilton County General Sessions Court Judge, administered the oath of office to Mike Walden and Luanne H. DeWitt and Commissioner DeWitt assumed her duties as a member of the Hamilton County Election Commission.

Early Voting Hours. Administrator Dzik advised the Commission that the early voting hours for the Red Bank and Soddy-Daisy municipal elections should be established. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, the following schedule for early voting was unanimously approved: beginning Wednesday, May 21, 2003, and continuing through Thursday, June 5, 2003, Monday through Friday hours shall be 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and the Saturday early voting hours shall be from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Administrator Dzik advised the Commission that the office would be closed on Monday, May 26, 2003, in observance of Memorial Day and that proper notice had been given through the newspaper.

Election Day Hours. Administrator Dzik advised the Commission that the election day polling hours for the Red Bank and Soddy-Daisy municipal elections should be established. Upon motion by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Commission unanimously approved opening the polls at 8:00 a.m. and closing the polls at 8:00 p.m. on June 10, 2003, in all voting precincts in said municipalities.

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Approval of Poll Workers. Administrator Dzik presented the Commission members with the list of poll workers for the Red Bank and Soddy-Daisy municipal elections scheduled for June 10, 2003. Upon motion by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Walden, the poll workers as shown on the attached list were unanimously approved.

Accu-Vote Update. Administrator Dzik advised the Commission that representatives from Diebold/Global Election Systems had been in the office for a week updating the memory chips in the voting equipment, as well as performing in-depth maintenance checks on the units. Because the representatives were from out of town and were in the office during the week of the Good Friday holiday, deputy Steve Gaston worked on that holiday in order to complete the service without the necessity of the representatives having to reschedule for another week.

Voter Registration Drive. Administrator Dzik presented the Commission with a letter from the “Comcast First Day” regarding renting a booth at the event scheduled for August 13th, 2003. The Commission determined that it was not feasible at this time to expend the fees required for this drive inasmuch as we conduct voter registration drives throughout the year at no cost to the Commission.

Verification Process. Administrator Dzik advised the Commission that the first phase of the address verification program had been completed by utilizing Industrial Services in Cleveland, a vendor approved by the United States Postal Service to utilize its NCOA program. Administrator Dzik stated that 167,557 records were submitted for verification and 162,289 addresses were verified; 5,135 addresses were determined to have forwarded addresses for confirmation or audit notices; and 133 addresses were not forwardable and confirmation notices will be sent to those voters.

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

Litigation. Attorney Summers advised the Commission that he had filed the brief in the *Chattanooga Times/Free Press* lawsuit with the Court of Appeals and the case had been set for oral argument.

TBI Investigation. Attorney Summers advised the Commission that the TBI investigation is continuing.

Rita Jones Personnel Matter. Attorney Summers advised the Commission that motions had been filed in this proceeding and that Ms. Jones’ attorney had continued the hearing on those motions on several occasions, but he anticipated a hearing would be held prior to the next Commission meeting.

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SOS Petition. Attorney Summers discussed the issues relative to the Save Our Streets petition. He presented the Commission with a legal opinion he had prepared regarding the requirements for filing a petition with the Commission and that this opinion does not have a binding effect upon the Save Our Streets Committee. The Commission authorized attorney Summers to send the opinion to the parties involved.

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

Luanne H. DeWitt Commissioner