

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 14, 2010**

Call to Order:

Upon notice duly given, Secretary Summers called to order a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hamilton County Election Commission at 8:03 a.m. on April 14, 2010 at the office of the Hamilton County Election Commission, 700 River Terminal Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Prayer: Commissioner Bennett

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Anderson

Present at Meeting:

Commissioners Summers, Lewis, Bennett and Anderson were present at the meeting. Attorney Chris Clem, and the staff of the Election Commission, as well as members of the media. Chairman Walden was not in attendance..

Moment of Silence

Secretary Summers asked for a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Administrator Clause P. "Bud" Knowles Jr.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes
Secretary Summers seconded.

New Buisness

Budget

Secretary Summers asked Charlotte Mullis- Morgan about the budget,

Charlotte Mullis-Morgan stated that the budget was a lean budget, but she thought it would see us through. She further stated that the budget has increased, we had to increase \$55,000 for the two county wide elections and one municipal election. We budgeted for longevity this year. We also had to go up with our workers. We increased it \$125,000 for election day workers. Our utilities went up this last year so we had to up them quite a bit.

Commissioner Lewis stated that if we are thoughtful we can make minor adjustments and can save some money. He further stated that one thing that would help is the taking of the administrators test and that save \$16,000.

Secretary Summers asked attorney Clem about the writ for Chencellor Peoples vacancy.

Attorney Clem stated that yes the writ was issued April 8. Mark Goins the election coordinator did receive it and they have scheduled the election for August 5, 2010. The filing deadline will be Noon on Friday June 11, 2010 and that the withdraw deadline will be Noon on Monday June 14, 2010. It is important to note that it is a little bit complicated in that if you want to qualify for this election, you come fill out a petition to be an independent candidate. If you want to be the Democrat or Republican nominee you dont need to fill out the petition. The only way to be the Democrat or Republican nominee is to have that respective party nominate you and you are the nominee for that party, you never have to fill out a petition. If you do fill out a petition you will be an independent candidate. If you do fill out a petition

and becomes an independent candidate, by statute they have to withdraw that petition before accept the party nomination.

Secretary Summers stated that he knew he had sent out information to the lawyers and chattanooga.com. **Attorney Clem** stated that he had also spoken with the Times Free Press. He further stated he had done everything he could to get the word out.

Secretary Summers asked if he could send it also to the tv and radio stations.

Attorney Clem stated that yes he would.

Commissioner Bennett made a motion to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Anderson seconded.

Secretary Summers I know it isnt on the agenda but it needs to be on the next agenda to appoint someone as administrator of elections. **Attorney Clem** stated that by statute a high school degree, managerial experience is all that is required.

It is my opinion the majority of this commission can choose to appoint whoever they want at any given time. You can appoint them today or put it off a month. There is no state, federal or county requirement. The whole interview process or decision process does have to be an open forum. Everyone needs to know that if anyone gives you a resume that it become public.

Secretary Summers asked if anyone wanted to discuss what we want to do?

He further stated that he though they couldn put Charlotte in as interim adminisitrator without any issues.

Commssioner Bennett made a motion to put Charlotte Mullis- Morgan as interim administrator until we come to a permanent decision.

Commisisoner Anderson seconded.

Secretary Summers asked the commission how they wanted to proceed with filling the adminstrators position.

Laura Cross stated that the next regularly scheduled meeeting is on the 12th of May and that the commisison normally has a meeting on election day.

Commissioner Bennett made a motion to have the next meeting on May 4, 2010 and on the agenda will be the issue of appointing a perminant administrator.

Commissioner Lewis seconded.

Commissioner Bennett made the motion If anyone is interested in putting their submitting their name for the administrator for a Hamilotn County TN, then they should have it submitted by noon on Friday april 30, 2010.

Commissioner Lewis seconded

Legal Matters

The state has called me and has encouraged me to encourage you that whoever takes the position to take the state exam. It is not required but it is up to you.

Secretary Summers asked if Chris saw Mike to let him know this is an important one and we need all of us to be here.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to adjourn
Secretary Summers seconded.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Tuesday May 4, 2010 @ 7:30 pm

APPROVED:

Jerry Summers

Secretary

Michael S. Walden

Chairman

JB Bennett

Commissioner

Brandon Lewis

Commissioner

James Anderson

Commissioner