

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, March 1, 2016**

Call to Order:

Upon notice duly given, Chairman Walden called to order a called meeting of the Hamilton County Election Commission at 7:30 p.m. on March 1, 2016 at the office of the Hamilton County Election Commission, 700 River Terminal Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Invocation: **Commissioner Braly**

Pledge of Allegiance: **Chairman Walden**

Present at Meeting:

Commissioners Walden, Summers, Braly, Clem, and Scott were present at the meeting, as well as staff of the Election Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Braly made a motion to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Summers seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

New Business:

Early Voting Report

Administrator Steelman said it became apparent in 2014 that we were not able to tell which precincts turned out at which particular early voting sites. That issue has been resolved. It has required us to create more ballots; however it improves our reporting. In the long run it will help us hone our ballot orders.

Commissioner Braly asked if we had seen more early voters this election.

Administrator Steelman said we had over 18,000 early voters, including all absentee voters. That is a little less than 2008 on a percentage basis; however in terms of total numbers it is more.

Precinct Audit Letter

Chairman Walden said there was a sheet in their packets with a list of precincts. The auditors asked that the commissioners circle the precincts they would like to see audited.

Assistant Administrator Allen said the auditors requested this change in the selection process.

Chairman Walden asked if there were any precincts that have never been audited.

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Christian Bennett, with Mauldin and Jenkins CPAs, LLC , said he was sure there were, but he could not provide those precincts at this time.

Administrator Steelman said before you complete your lists, there were minor machines issues at Northwoods 1 and Hixson 1 and 2. The issues were resolved quickly, but as a result we will audit those precincts so you do not need to select those.

Commission Scott asked if Bennett could provide a list of precincts that have not been audited before the next election.

Old Business:

Scheduling

Administrator Steelman said that per last meeting's discussion, the meeting to certify the election was tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 21 at 8 a.m.

Commissioner Braly said she was unable to be there that day.

All other commissioners were available and agreed upon that date.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Braly made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Clem seconded the motion.

All approved.

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APPROVED:

Jerry Summers

Secretary

Michael S. Walden

Chairman

Ruth Braly

Commissioner

Chris Clem

Commissioner

Kelvin Scott

Commissioner