

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, September 19, 2016**

Call to Order:

Upon notice duly given, Chairman Walden called to order a meeting of the Hamilton County Election Commission at 8 a.m. on September 19, 2016 at the office of the Hamilton County Election Commission, 700 River Terminal Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Invocation: **Commissioner Clem**

Pledge of Allegiance: **Chairman Walden**

Present at Meeting:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Secretary Summers made a motion to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Clem seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Old Business:

City of Chattanooga Charter Amendments for November 8th Ballot

Ordinance 13007: City Employee Residency

Ordinance 13048: Amend 13007 Section 5

Ordinance 13039: Management Analyst

Administrator Steelman said these were on the agenda at the last meeting, but there was an error in the city's original ordinance. They city has since passed ordinance 13048 to amend the language in Ordinance 13007.

Secretary Summers made a motion to approve the amendments

Commissioner Clem seconded the motion.

All approved.

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New Business:

Addendum to Certified Election Results

Judicial Retention

Administrator Steelman explained that this was the result of an administrative error on the part of the state of Tennessee.

No motion was needed and the commissioners signed the certificates.

Approval of Ballot: November 8, 2016 General Election

Commissioner Clem made a motion to approve the ballot.

Commissioner Scott seconded the motion.

All approved.

Early Voting: Wednesday 10/19/16 – Thursday 11/3/16

Proposed Locations/Times:

Brainerd Rec Center (Mon – Sat 10A – 6P)

Eastwood Church (Mon – Sat 10A – 6P)

North River Civic Center (Mon – Sat 10A – 6P)

Election Commission (Mon – Fri 8A – 7P, Sat 9A-6P)

Administrator Steelman said as is our practice, we remain consistent on the hours and locations for the early voting period to avoid confusion among voters.

Early Voting dates and locations were approved by consensus.

Poll Workers: November 8, 2016 General Election

Commissioner Scott asked if the officer in East Chattanooga was replaced.

Administrator Steelman said yes.

Commissioner

Other Business:

Poll Worker FAQ

Administrator Steelman said Commissioner Scott had previously raised the issue about poll workers retaining the information from their trainings. To alleviate that problem, poll worker supplies for all precincts now include Frequently Asked Question sheets for the various duties in a polling place.

Commissioner Scott said he had also talked to the state election commission office about using personal computers at the poll sites.

Chairman Walden said he doesn't think using personal computers in the polling place is a good idea.

Commissioner Scott said the poll workers need something larger than tablets to read.

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Deputy Nate Foster said the tablets currently being used in polling places are a pilot project. By loading information on to the tablets, the poll workers don't have to call in to the office if they just need to do an address change for a voter. The Election Commission office is inundated with calls on Election Day which creates a line at polling places while voters are waiting for the officers to get through on the phone lines. The program is not on-line based. It is off-line software that allows the officers to look up names and addresses. There's no internet connectivity. There's no Social Security numbers. The information is public information that you can get on a data CD.

Administrator Steelman added the state has the GoVoteTn app which essentially does the same thing we're doing. The main thing is there's no internet involved with what we are giving to the poll workers. It's no more information than a person could come in and purchase.

Chairman Walden asked have we talked to the state about the computers?

Deputy Foster said Wilson County has used something similar to this.

Chairman Walden asked if there's any federal money to buy computers for the precincts.

Administrator Steelman said there may be some HAVA money available. We will check into it.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Scott 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