



Frederick County Board of Elections

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MINUTES of the February 3, 2021 Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM, via video and teleconference by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President	Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Shirley McDonald, Vice President	Noreen L. Schultz, Election Deputy Director
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary	Clifton Mowell, Election IT Specialist
Mary Costello, Board Member	Christine Winer, Election Supervisor
William Woodcock, Board Member	Marc R. Welch, Election Program Assistant
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Counsel	MC Keegan-Ayer, County Council President

GUESTS:

Jim Filson, League of Women Voters
Deborah Carter, Chair, Frederick County Democratic Central Committee

BOARD OF CANVASSERS:

Ms. Winer reports 5 ballots arrived too late for election. Mrs. McDonald made a motion to reject these too-late ballots. Mrs. Costello seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Costello made a motion to accept the January 6, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Woodcock seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL:

The Council's compensation review commission has begun meeting. Their report is due March 23 and will be presented on March 30. The Council has notified the Republican and Democratic Central Committees that they need to supply 3 names each for the

redistricting commission. Due to Census delays the commission will have a lag until the data is available. The Board will supply data about the current districts when required. The Board discussed the Council Liaison's report.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey provided a written report and gave highlights from the report. The Board discussed the report.

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OLD BUSINESS:

A. FY21 BUDGET UPDATE

Mr. Harvey gave an overview of the current budget status. Overages are generally accounted for in existing budget resources and will be reflected as Finance updates the accounts.

B. CHIEF JUDGE MEETING - JANUARY 28

Several Chief Judges participated in a post-election wrap-up meeting to discuss the 2020 Election, and to get their feedback on processes and opportunities for improvement. The Board discussed the meeting.

C. MANUAL AUDIT

The manual tabulation audit of the November 2020 General Election will take place on February 16. Staff will support the process. It is expected to take most of the day.

D. MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

The latest schedule of municipal elections was provided to the Board. Mr. Harvey provided an overview of those scheduled so far.

E. CITY OF FREDERICK ELECTION

Mr. Harvey updated the Board on the planning process with the City for their 2021 election. Currently the City anticipates an election structured similarly to the 2020 Presidential Primary where a ballot will be mailed to all registered voters with drop boxes for returns, along with a limited number of vote centers. The City expects ballot tabulation will begin 2 weeks prior to election day. The City Board of Elections will make a final decision and then an MOU will be drafted. There are still details to be worked out. The Board discussed the plan.

F. VACANT POSITION

Mr. Harvey, Mrs. Schultz and Ms. Archie-Williams of Baltimore County Board of Elections interviewed 5 candidates and have selected one, pending an offer from the State. Mr. Harvey will update the Board once the process has been completed.

G. 2021 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Mr. Harvey updated the Board on various proposed election-related legislation at the Maryland General Assembly. The Board discussed the proposed legislation.

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NEW BUSINESS:

A. MAEO ANNUAL MEETING DATE

The MAEO Annual Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for May 2021. The MAEO Board is reconsidering in light of COVID-19 considerations.

B. CANDIDATE FILING 2022

The candidate filing window opens on February 23, 2021 for the 2022 primary election, and continues through February 22, 2022. Staff will receive training on the process. Candidates will be required to make an appointment in order to file in person due to current telework restrictions.

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NEXT MEETING:

The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on March 3, 2021 at 2:00 PM via teleconference.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Woodcock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,