

Revised Minutes of the September 1, 2017 Fluvanna County Electoral Board Meeting.

Catherine Hobbs, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM in the Weaver Building, Patricia Hastings, Vice Chair was present, Dan Graff, Secretary was present and Joyce Pace, General Registrar was also present.

In order to accommodate members of the public Dan Graff made a motion to adjourn the meeting in the Weaver Building and to reconvene in The Old Courthouse. Patricia Hastings seconded the motion and all voted Aye.

We reconvened in The Old Courthouse and were called back to order at 2:41PM.

We reviewed and approved the minutes of the August Electoral Board Meeting, Patricia Hastings motioned to approved the minutes, Dan Graff Seconded the motion and all voted Aye. The minutes were approved.

We discussed the training dates for the upcoming November election. Patricia Hastings made a motion that to hold the training on October 21, 2017 at 9:00 AM at the Fork Union Recreation Center. OEs and Chiefs will be trained on the same day with OE training preceding Chief training.

We discussed the manner in which training will be delivered. We also discussed the need to reinforce split precinct training with OEs and Chiefs for the Columbia and Fork Union Precincts.

We will have a broad general session and will have three one half hour breakout sessions. (Overview of Election Laws and Procedures, Hands on Poll book training, and Mock Election)

Catherine Hobbs made a motion to approve to the May Draft EB minutes with a correction to the spelling of Dan Graff's name, Patricia Hastings seconded, Dan Graff Abstained. No discussion, All voted Aye.

Joyce Pace notified us that the Old Courthouse would no longer be available for the Canvass of Election results. We suggested that the we will meet in the Morris room and that appropriate notifications will need to be posted. Patricia Hastings motioned that we meet in the Morris room and that appropriate notifications will be posted, Dan Graff seconded the motion and without discussion All voted aye.

We also discussed the impact of needing to stage election materials to the Morris room and briefly discussed trying abbreviated election night procedures during this election, the decision was deferred to the next Electoral Board Meeting.

Under new business we discussed the November election ballot issue.

Catherine Hobbs read aloud the related section of Virginia Election Law (section 24.2-503)

Joyce Pace reviewed the chronology of events relating to this matter.

The public attendees were invited to provide their comments.

Linda Staiger spoke about the process she went through in submitting her candidate paperwork.

Patricia Hastings read the related section of Virginia Election Law which requires that a candidate file a statement of economic interest. Dr. Staiger indicated that she got the impression from the form instructions that it was required from incumbent candidates.

Catherine Hobbs suggested that we notify the state that the instructions on the form and those on the candidate bulletin do not provide precisely the same guidance to candidates.

Helen Schoene spoke about the process by which Dr. Staiger's paperwork filing gave an indication of compliance when in fact it was not in compliance. There was some discussion about the process of ballot submission for approval to the state board of elections and that the ballot

Kathy Swenson Miller, treasurer for Dr. Staiger, spoke about their newness to the process and that they genuinely thought that they had complied with all requirements. She also spoke about the question of residency which arose this week.

Marvin Moss spoke about his experience in 2004 in filing his candidacy paperwork where an error was detected which allowed the deficiency to be corrected in a timely matter. He requested that the Fluvanna board recommend that an extension be granted in the circumstance that the candidate believed that they had filed the paperwork in a timely manner.

Debbie Rittenhouse spoke and indicated that the law should be complied with and that in the end it is the candidates responsibility to comply with the law.

Catherine Hobbs reiterated that we are not an investigative body or an adjudicating body.

James Kelley spoke about the process by which the ballot has been submitted and wondered where it is in the process of final approval.

Catherine Hobbs indicated that we expect to receive guidance from the state board and instructions as to whether Dr. Staiger will be approved as a candidate and be approved to be on the ballot.

Lynn White spoke and asked whether the Fluvanna Electoral Board will be forwarding to the state the facts relevant to this issue.

Cathy Miller requested that we include in the facts that when Dr. Staiger was informed that she had submitted the wrong form she completed and submitted the correct form on the same day.

Dr. Staiger indicated that her intention was to be fully compliant with the financial interest disclosure form.

David Frasier spoke about the FOIA request which resulted in a visit by the State Police to Dr. Staiger's home.

The comment period was closed at 4:25PM on September 1, 2017.

Discussion was reopened at 4:28PM

Dr. Staiger received an email from Mr. Cortes stating that the matter should be referred to the Fluvanna County Registrar.

Catherine Hobbs made a motion that we recess for ten minutes, Patricia Hastings seconded the motion, there was no discussion, All voted Aye.

Recess finished, we reconvened and reviewed the facts as currently understood and resolved to seek guidance from the State Board of Elections as per State of Virginia Election Law 2017 section 24.2-503.

We drafted a letter to the State Board of Elections seeking guidance on three issues, reviewed and proofed the letter, signed it and sent a PDF copy via email to the members State Board of Elections.

That concluded the business for the day.

Patricia Hastings made a motion that we adjourn at 6:45PM, Dan Graff seconded the motion, All voted Aye. The meeting was adjourned.

Dan Graff

Secretary of the Electoral Board

