

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

101 S. MAIN ST.
SOUTH BEND, IN 46601

M. CATHERINE FANELLO, CHAIRPERSON
BEN HORVATH, REPUBLICAN MEMBER
RITA L. GLENN, SECRETARY

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April 22, 2022

St. Joseph County
Election Board Meeting
1:00 PM

1. Call to order

It being the appointed date and time, Chairman M. Catherine Fanello calls the St. Joseph County Election Board Meeting to order. Present are Ben Horvath, Republican Member and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Circuit Court, Rita L. Glenn, also present are:

Dave Smith-Machine Technician
Diana Hess - Democratic Party Chair
Debbie Ladyga-Block-Democratic Party
Susan Baxmeyer-Republican Party Vice-Chair
Judy Bradford – LWV
Michael Misch – Election Board Attorney
Muhammad Shabazz – Democratic Member Voters Registration
Kim Riskovitch – Republican Member Voter Registration
Amanda Govaert Konrath -Democratic Member Voters Registration
Jennifer Bybee-Republican Member Voters Registration
Amy Rolfes - Candidate
Cindy Streich – Democratic Absentee Supervisor
Nancy Lindzy – Republican Absentee Supervisor
Nick Abernathy - RBM
Lana Cleary-Deputy Clerk
Penny Stratton-Election Clerk

2. Approval of Minutes. Motion to approve minutes from 04/14/22 meeting. So moved by Ben Horvath. Seconded by Rita Glenn.

Old Business

3. Training – parties filled most of their poll positions. The Election Board will have a contingency plan to close Vote Centers in order of priority in place if all poll workers do not show up for Election Day. The Board requests the parties and all involved review list of Vote Centers to give input in the event a Vote Center needs to be closed. Susan

Baxmeyer stated that the voter turnout will be her guide. Dave Smith talked to Machine Techs and suggested if Vote Centers needed to be closed his teams suggest Dickinson or Kennedy. Debbie Ladyga Block speaks for the Democratic party and if Vote Centers needed to be closed, her suggestions are Clay Academy, North Point Elementary, Elm Road Library, Schmucker and Swanson. Debbie Ladyga Block thinks if vote totals are high at a Vote Center, it should not be closed. For the record, Debbie Ladyga Block believes that no intercity Vote Center should be closed.

4. Technical Support Update. Dave Smith reports he is recruiting Vote Center Technicians for Election Day. Dave will have a contingency plan in place if he is unable to recruit enough technicians for Election Day. Currently, the Board is short seven Vote Center technicians. If Dave is unable to fill, he will have the regular Vote Machine Technicians start their day at these Vote Centers and assist in opening these Vote Centers and getting the machines up and running. Dave also stated that only two-thirds of machines and two poll pads at Vote Centers were utilized at any time in the last election. Dave would like to scale back the amount of equipment that is sent to each Vote Center. Dave suggests scaling back Freedom Vote Machines from 15 to 10 machines and 10 to 7. The Board asks the parties if there is any objection to reducing the number of Freedom Votes sent to Vote Centers. Susan Baxmeyer states she has no objection and Diana Hess states she will leave that decision to the Election Board. Motion to reduce number of Freedom Votes sent to Vote Centers from 15 to 10 units and 10 to 7 units. So moved by Bent Horvath. Seconded by Rita Glenn.

Technical item. Dave brought to the Board's attention a concern with the ID that prints on the voter's QR printout. The safety issue of the OVO not receiving two ballots from that QR code. If this were to happen, he asks the board what procedure should be followed. If the OVO can confirm that ballot has been cast, then it should be ok. If it happens, the inspector needs to call the election board to log in. the board on election night compares check ins to ballot casting. It was stated that in the past, the board has brought the ballot box back to County City Building and recanvassed the votes. The Board reiterates therefore Vote Center technicians crucial.

5. Next item is from IED. Issue on absentee voting. Missing party designation. Cindy states the State system had a glitch and it didn't record the party designation. Absentee had seventeen applications that didn't have a designation. They reached out to all but three voters and have corrected and processed those applications. A motion was made to send an overnight notice to the three voters that didn't have a phone number or email on file. The motion gave the voter until noon on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, to provide their party designation to the Absentee staff. If not received by this time, their application would be rejected. So moved by Ben Horvath. Seconded by Rita Glenn.
6. Absentee updated the Board. The Absentee supervisors stated that there are four missing signature provisional ballots and had received two of those affidavits back and five mismatched provisional ballots and received two of those affidavits back. The supervisors gave an update on travel board. They talked to most of the nursing homes, and they are voting their residents by mail. Absentee currently has two voters interested in travel board.

7. Poll worker update. Democrats have most of the locations filled, still need a few more clerks.
8. Central Count. Central Count instructions still need to be reviewed. Central Count instructions will be finalized at next meeting.
9. Central Count Worker update. Democrats and Republicans have nineteen workers each for Central Count. Repubs. Parties have until next Wednesday to send list to Lana for processing.
10. Procedure for death of candidate. The IED states that the form to be used is ABS 5. Records show that only one voter cast a ballot in that precinct. The procedure would call for the voter to come in person and fill out an ABS5. The original ballot would be pulled and spoiled. The revoted ballot would be counted in Central Count.

Public Comment

11. Debbie Ladyga Block wants to publicly thank Walkerton and North Liberty what was the other one for filling their board.

Next meeting April 29, 2022, 1:00 PM.

The Chairman makes a motion to adjourn at 2:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Rita L. Glenn, Secretary
St. Joseph County Election Board

rlg/lrc