

Meeting of the Anne Arundel County *Board of Elections*, Anne Arundel County Government Office Bldg., Glen Burnie, Maryland.

Attendees:

K. Jill Barr, Board Member
Matthew Platt, Substitute Board Member
David Shade, Substitute Board Member
James Praley, Board Attorney
Joseph A. Torre III, Election Director
David Garreis, Election Clerk Lead/Advanced
Teddie Sullivan, Temporary Election Clerk

After establishing the presence of a quorum, Ms. Barr called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M.

Minutes

Mr. Platt made a motion for approval of the minutes as submitted for the March 11, 2008 Board of Canvassers Meeting. Mr. Shade seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Platt made a motion for the approval of the minutes as submitted for the March 11, 2008 Board Meeting. Mr. Shade seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed correspondence including:

- Correspondence from the State Board of Elections:
 - County Bulletin, Volume 4, Issue 10. The Bulletin included the following:
 - Absentee Ballot Cancellation Request by Email: An Absentee Ballot request can be cancelled via email before the precinct register is pulled if the voter's name and address in the email match the name and address in MDVOTERS.
 - Election Director's Meeting: The Election Director's Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at the State Board of Elections has been cancelled.
 - Release of Voting Units: Voting units used for the February 12, 2008 Presidential Primary were released on Friday, March 14, 2008. Mr. Torre informed the Board the post-election maintenance on the voting units, electronic pollbooks and optical scan absentee voting units will start on Friday, April 11, 2008.
 - Polling Place Changes: Since the November 13, 2007 deadline to make polling place changes for the 2008 Elections has passed, all requests to change a polling place must be submitted to and approved by the State Board. Mr. Torre informed the Board that there is one polling place change in Anne Arundel County that will be submitted for approval at the April State Board meeting.
 - Retention of Unvoted Ballots and Paper Precinct Registers: Since the deadline for contesting an election and requesting a recount for the 2008 Primary Election has passed, the local boards of elections may dispose of unvoted ballots and unused back-up paper precinct registers. Back-up paper precinct registers that were used must be retained for 22 months. Mr. Torre informed the Board that the unvoted paper ballots will be recycled and the office copy of the back-up paper precinct registers will be shredded.
 - Press Release from M. Glenn Newkirk, President, InfoSENTRY, stating that their public opinion tracking from January, 2004 indicates 68% of American adults expressed either high or very high trust in the process of going to a polling place, making selection on a computer screen, and having the computer tabulate the election results. By 2008, 67%

expressed positive trust levels and 16% expressed negative trust levels.

- The *Registrar*, Volume 3, Number 5. The *Registrar* included the following:
 - Certification of the Presidential Primary Election: The State Board has released guidelines for auditing the 2008 Presidential Primary Election prior to certification of the election in MDVOTERS. Once the audit is complete an appointment to close the election may be scheduled with the State Board. Mr. Torre informed the Board that the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections has concluded its audit and will certify the 2008 Presidential Primary Election in MDVOTERS on April 9, 2008, at 6:00 P.M.
 - Retention of Paper Documents: §21-111(d) of the Commercial Law Article of the Annotated Code allows an electronic record to be retained and presented in lieu of an original as long as the electronic document accurately reflects the original document and is accessible for later reference. The electronic record can be used in lieu of the original record. Mr. Torre informed the Board that the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections is conducting a survey of the other 24 local boards of elections to determine what practices are used to retain their documents after an electronic record has been created.
- The *Registrar*, Volume 3, Number 6. The *Registrar* included the following:
 - “Federal Ballot Only” Voters: Under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, voters who permanently reside outside the United States and whose last residence in the United States was in Maryland are entitled to vote for federal offices. As a result, any “federal ballot only” voter who submits a signed and completed Federal Post Card Application or voter registration application, must be entered in MDVOTERS and registered, assuming the verification requirements have been met.
 - Election Certification and Public Service Requests: Public Service Requests should not be processed until all local boards of elections have certified the 2008 Presidential Primary Election in MDVOTERS. Absentee and polling place credit will only be applied for seventeen year olds after every local board of elections has closed the election in MDVOTERS.
 - MDVOTERS Joint Application Design Sessions: Representatives from the local boards of elections and the State Board met at the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections Annex March 12 – 13 in Joint Application Design sessions with Saber’s Project Manager Steve Way and Functional Analyst Melissa Curtin. Mr. Torre informed the Board that a design enhancement suggested by the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections to create a the ability to conduct date range searches of voter registration data cuts used to produce specimen ballots was approved for the June 2008 MDVOTERS release. This enhancement will ensure that Anne Arundel County voter’s receive their specimen ballots in a timely fashion for all future elections.
- Letter from James C. Praley, Board Attorney, Lessans, Praley & McCormick, P.A., informing the Board that the case of *Maryland Green Party, et al. v. Maryland Board of Elections, et al.* has been resolved.
- Email from Evelyn Potter, Cecil County Election Director, announcing that the Cecil County Board of Elections will be moving to a new location effective Friday, March 28, 2008.
- Email from Joseph Torre III, to Dave Blanch and Jerry Brandt, agreeing to speak to the Elephant Club on May 22, 2008, on the topic of the responsibilities of the Board of Elections, its Director and Staff. Ms. Barr and Mr. Shade informed the Board that they are also doing a presentation to the 33rd District Democratic Club on April 22, 2008, regarding the performance of the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections.
- Email from Natasha Walker, State Board of Elections, with recommendations for the 24

local boards of elections websites. After discussion, the Board decided to comply with the State Boards recommendations, and to post the minutes from each Board meeting starting with the April 2008 Board meeting.

- Email from Mary Cramer Wagner, State Board of Elections, alerting the local boards of elections that the State Board and Saber are testing methods to apply voting history credit to 17 year olds that voted during the 2008 Presidential Primary Election.
- Memo from Sara Harris, Vice-Chair, Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO), to the Members of MAEO, regarding the March 20, 2008 MAEO Legislative Committee Meeting. The memo outlined MAEO's position on legislation submitted during the 2008 legislative session.
- Invitation to a retirement celebration for Jacqueline McDaniel, the Election Director of the Baltimore County Board of Elections. Ms. McDaniel will be retiring after 23 years of service.

2008 Presidential Election

The Board was distributed copies of the following:

- "Audit of Data Before Election Certification" document signed by Mr. Torre on April 7, 2008, certifying that the audit of the 2008 Presidential Primary Election has been performed.
- Touchscreen Voting Unit Post Election Maintenance Verification Form.
- Registration Tally Sheet from the Northeast High School Voter Registration Drive. Students from Northeast High School attended a Voter Registration Volunteer Training session at the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections. The students returned 55 voter registration applications after conducting a voter registration drive at Northeast High School.

Mr. Torre informed the Board of the following:

- The post election maintenance for the voting units, optical scan absentee voting units and electronic pollbooks used in the 2008 Presidential Primary Election will begin Friday, March 11, 2008. The equipment will undergo a Pass-Fail analysis. David Miller, of this office, will be leading a staff of three employees before a team from Premier Election Systems arrives to assist with the completion of the post election maintenance.
- The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections prepared 132 touchscreen voting units to loan to the Prince George's and Montgomery County Boards of Elections for use in Special Elections. However, the statewide release of the voting units was on schedule so the loan of the voting units will no longer be necessary.

Personnel

Mr. Torre informed the Board of the following:

- Mr. Torre and Ms. Fisher conducted a follow up interview with each of the top five candidates for the Election Deputy Director III position. After interviewing the top five candidates, the position of Election Deputy Director III was awarded to one of the top five candidates. All of the interview files are being forwarded to the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections will send a letter to the awarded candidate. If the candidate accepts the Deputy Election Director III position, an announcement can be made by the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections.
- Five interviews have been scheduled for the two vacant Election Clerk III positions. To date, four interviews for the position have been conducted.
- The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections is awaiting the delivery of the eligible list for the vacant Election Administrative Assistant I and II positions.

Additions to the Agenda

The Board reviewed copies of VR-017 Political Party Report and two Election Administration Reports.

Mrs. Sullivan, of the Election Judge Recruitment Department, presented the Board complaint letters received by the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections regarding the conduct of certain Election Judges on Election Day. After discussion, the Board requested Mrs. Sullivan provide additional documentation before the Board acts to remove the Election Judges from future service.

May Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held on May 13, 2008 at 9:00 A.M.

Adjournment

Mr. Platt made a motion to adjourn at 10:30 A.M. Mr. Shade seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

David Garreis
Recording Secretary

Approved:

cc: State Board of Elections
Board Members
County Executive
County Council Members
County Council Office
County State Delegation
Budget Office

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