

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

101 S. MAIN ST.
SOUTH BEND, IN 46601

M. CATHERINE FANELLO, CHAIRPERSON
MURRAY WINN, REPUBLICAN MEMBER
RITA L. GLENN, SECRETARY

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June 26, 2019

St. Joseph County
Election Board Meeting
2:00 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 Murray Winn, Republican Member and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Circuit Court, Rita L. Glenn, also present are:

Lana Cleary-Deputy Clerk
Dave Smith-Machine Tech
Arielle Brandy-Dem. Member Voter Reg.
Terri Rethlake-Chief Deputy Clerk
Debbie Ladyga-Block-Democratic Party Vice-Chair
Keith McGinnis-RBM
Brian Tanner-Mishawaka Common Council At-Large
Gregg Hixenbaugh-Mishawaka Comm on Council At-Large
Jeremy Burton- ES&S
Dan McGinnis-RBM
Rick Moffett-Head Machine Tech
Jamie Woods-County Attorney
Brandie Ecker-Thorne-Grodnik Legal
Kim Riskovitch-Rep. Member Voter Reg
Rick Hunt-Citizen/Voter
Andy Kostielney-St. Joseph County Commissioner

2. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting.

Catherine moves to approve the minutes of the last meeting. So, moved by Murray Winn, seconded by Rita L. Glenn. So, ordered. Minutes stand approved.

Old Business

3. Catherine stated that we had the election equipment demonstrations today and we had several elected officials attend. She would like the Election Board to give the demonstrations some thought over the next few days and reconvene on Monday July 1st to decide on the equipment to purchase. She would also like the elected officials that showed up to the demonstration to provide any comments or questions no later than Friday June 28th by noon.

Debbie Ladyga-Block asked that both vendors RBM and ES&S make a statement on record confirming the election equipment would be delivered and ready to use in the upcoming General election. Catherine asked Jeremy Burton from ES&S and Keith McGinnis from RBM Consulting what the drop-dead date for ordering would be. Jeremy stated everything would need to be ordered by August to have it delivered and ready for the election. Keith stated July 15th would be the drop-dead to have everything ready. Debbie asked Dave Smith if these dates would give them enough time have the equipment ready to deliver for the election. Dave stated they would need to be train on the equipment but thought the time frames would allow this to happen. Debbie asked if the Election Board decided to purchase the equipment from ES&S what would happen to the equipment that we already purchased for the early voting. Catherine said ES&S would have to make that up to us somewhere in the contract. Debbie asked if the M-100s were owned by the county and would they be able to be donated to the area high schools. Dave explained that they require software licensing to tabulate.

Gregg Hixenbaugh said he wanted to speak now as to meet the deadline for questions or comments. He said he appreciated seeing both vendors demonstrate their equipment. He explained that he didn't see a clear-cut advantage to the Express Vote over the Freedom Vote. His opinion would be to stay with the equipment we are already using due to the voters having already used the Freedom Vote.

Brian Tanner spoke and agreed with Gregg's opinion. He also said he didn't see an overwhelming difference between the equipment, other than there is familiarity and an expectation that has already been set.

Debbie spoke on behalf of Matt Mammolenti who said he thought it was in the best interest of the voters to keep the equipment we are currently using for familiarity reasons and not wasting tax-payer's dollars.

Catherine asked Dave Smith to give his opinion from a tech stand point. Dave said he wanted to take some more time to consider it, but he would give a few opinions of what differences he seen in the demonstration. One difference is the Freedom Vote equipment has all the precincts on the flash card and could easily be changed if a machine was delivered to an incorrect precinct and the ES&S equipment is precinct specific and would be difficult to change to make a correction. He found the RBM equipment to be smaller and more portable. RBM is a distributor of the Freedom Vote and if he has a problem he always has the option to contact Unisyn, and with ES&S they are proprietary. He also stated that he can't ignore pass history in dealing with ES&S and he doesn't have an option to go elsewhere for help.

Jeremy spoke and said he could work to provide some of the same options that the Freedom Vote has available. He also asked that we get a quote from ES&S before we make our determination.

We will meet Monday July 1st at 12:00 PM to make a decision on election equipment.

4. Dave informed the Election Board of his conversation with Knowink about our concerns with the Epoll books. They said unfortunately with the testing not all problems are showing and when poll workers are having the problems not all the problems are being reported. The problems we had in the Primary election have been addressed and they think they have solved the issues.
5. Lana told the Election Board that South Bend and Mishawaka have reimbursed the county for the Primary election.

New Business

Public Comment

Next meeting is July 1, 2019 at 12:00 PM

The Chairman makes a motion to recess at 2:41 PM

July 1, 2019
1:00 PM

6. Call to order
It being the appointed date and time, Chairman M. Catherine Fanello calls the St. Joseph County Election Board Meeting to order.

Old Business

7. Catherine explained that we heard from a few elected officials last week and from Dave Smith from a tech stand point about the election equipment. Catherine asked the board members if they had any questions or comments. Rita Glenn thanked the vendors for coming in and demonstrating their election equipment. She expressed that she is personally very satisfied with the operations that we have with RBM and wishes to continue to use the equipment that we already have. Murray Winn explained that based on Dave's comments about the necessity to precinct specific cards in the ES&S equipment and the need for new Epoll pad printers to accommodate ES&S he would suggest staying with our existing equipment since we have some of these units in house and the public has already used them. Catherine thanked Jeremy for taking the time to demonstrate. She agrees with the comments of the other board member and thinks based on how the equipment from RBM has performed we should continue with them. Catherine made a motion to reaffirm our recommendation to the County Commissioners that we enter into a purchase agreement with RBM. So, moved by Murray. Seconded, by Rita.

New Business

8. Catherine explained we had a contract from Schmucker Middle School for using their facility in the fall for poll worker training. Jamie Woods said the contract met with his approval. Penny said she would get the contract back to Penn-Harris-Madison. She told the board that we are scheduled for training at Schmucker for October 26, 2019 at 9:30 AM. We will arrive for set-up at 8:00 AM. Penny explained she reached out to Mr. King with the Century Center by email and hasn't heard back from him. She will follow up by email in the middle of the week if she hasn't heard from him by then.

Public Comment

9. Mr. Kostielney thanked the Election Board for the extra diligence that was done through the process of selecting the election equipment. He told them he greatly appreciates the efforts of the Election Board not only related to this process but for everything they do.

The Chairman makes a motion to adjourn at 12:07 PM

Respectfully submitted,



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

rlg/pds