

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

TELEPHONE 574-235-9635
FAX 574-235-9838

January 14, 2022

St. Joseph County
Election Board Meeting
11:00 AM

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. Catherine Fanello is in attendance via Zoom. In attendance in person are Ben Horvath, Republican Member and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Circuit Court, Rita L. Glenn. Also present are:

Dave Smith-Machine Tech
Murray Winn – Citizen
Diana Hess - Democratic Party Chair
Greg Hixenbaugh – Democratic Party Co-Chair (Zoom)
Debbie Ladyga-Block-Democratic Party (Zoom)
Susan Baxmeyer-Republican Party Vice-Chair
Judy Bradford – League of Women Voters
Pam Claeys – Citizen
Jennifer Bybee – Voter’s Registration
Amanda Govaert Konrath – Voter’s Registration
Pat Schafer – Citizen
John Carlson – St. Joseph County GIS
Michael Misch – Election Board Attorney
Muhammad Shabazz-Democratic Member Voter Registration
Kim Riskovitch-Republican Member Voter Registration
Geri Pawelski-(Zoom)
Mary Ellen-(Zoom)
Nick Abernathy-(Zoom)
Lana Cleary-Deputy Clerk
Penny Stratton-Election Clerk

2. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting.

Catherine moves to approve the minutes of the last meeting. So, moved by Rita Glenn and seconded by Ben Horvath. Minutes stand approved.

Old Business

3. Electronic meeting policy discussed. It will mirror the policy utilized by the Commissioners. Motion to adopt policy. So, moved by Rita Glenn and seconded by Ben Horvath. So moved and adopted.
4. Vote Centers
List of Vote Centers passed out to Election Board. Dave Smith prepared an equipment summary. Dave states there will need to be a walk through for the three new Vote Centers to verify the equipment will fit and quantities are same as previous Vote Centers. This will leave 27 spare freedom votes and 14 poll pads in inventory. Vote Center Plan will be prepared to adopt as a resolution at the January 28, 2022, meeting.

New Business

5. IEC-22 Equipment Inventory. Form has been prepared. Dave requested for Rita to set up a log in for V-Stop so he would be able to access the inventory and monitor its status. Equipment list stands as stated from last meeting. Form is due on January 31, 2022. Rita Glenn makes a motion to adopt IEC-22 the plan, Ben Horvath seconds.
6. St. Joseph County Council Lawsuit. Lawsuit was brought to determine if the boundaries approved by the Commissioners are unconstitutional. The Clerk's office is accepting filings from candidates. The Board will continue to work in a bi-partisan manner and await a ruling from the courts.
7. Training Election Workers. Discussion of a training program for workers. Inspector training is very important, both in person and on-line training. There needs to be a Certification of Inspectors with more rigorous training. Parties need identify the inspectors now so it can be verified if they are qualified to perform the duties of Inspector. Dave Smith suggests setting up as a series of presentations and then interactive questions so it can be determined if the participants understand the training. Suggestion made to test the participants to gauge their strengths and weaknesses. Inspectors will have to do in person training because of the equipment. Rita Glenn suggested to prepare a list of duties for the potential Inspectors. This will give the potential Inspector a list of their job duties before they decide if they want the position. Suggestion to review the 2018 Inspector duties and update, as needed. Will need to review how many workers will be needed for this election. This issue will be discussed more in depth at the January 28, 2022, Election Board meeting. Muhammad and Kim to set up a time to meet with Dave to go over equipment at Vote Centers.
8. Report on Election Administrator's Conference. Dave Smith was sent links to voter security changes with a power point. Discussion was brought up regarding scanning of Absentee ballots. It was discussed at the conference that ballot counting can begin three days before the election. It does require a unanimous resolution. Rita has a concern with beginning the process of counting ballots three days before the election. She started those last three days are the busiest for the absentee office and clerks.

9. RBM & Knowink Invoices. Lana Cleary presented invoices from RBM and Knowink for payment. Ben Horvath made a motion to pay invoices from RBM and Knowink. Rita Glenn seconded.
10. Campaign Finance Reports. This report is due by January 19, 2022, at noon. The Board asks the parties to remind their candidates that their reports are due on this date. The Board states there are fines if they are not turned in by this date at noon. Any candidate that has an active open account must file the report. This includes all city, towns, county candidates. If anyone has questions, please contact Penny Stratton. Penny stated that there weren't any campaigns that need to be dissolved.
11. Dave asked the board if the Apple Business Management was resolved. It was stated that the Board has not heard back if the credentials have been set up. He also inquired about a pay increase for the machine technicians for the elections for this year.
12. Prepare pay increase request for the County Council to review and vote on. The Board asked Lana Cleary to verify if this item can be placed on the agenda for the next County Council meeting on January 25, 2022.
13. Nick from RBM inquired about redistricting. The Boards comment is that map option 3 if there isn't any resolution to the lawsuit.

Public Comment

14. John Carlson. Precinct changes. 37 Precincts had boundary changes for the 2022 Order of Precincts due to the following: 18 Annexations that affected 21 Precincts, 2 Boundary Changes due to going through a building, 6 precinct boundaries changed due to the new 2021 House and Senate boundaries one of those were a newly established precinct because it was also surrounded by a township boundary, 11 precincts were merged to their closest adjoining precinct due to an Indiana Code that states a new established precinct cannot have fewer than 600 active voters, St. Joseph County's total number of precincts went from 226 to 215 because of the merges. The order was approved by the Commissioners on December 14, 2021, and there is a pending final approval by the Indiana Election Division and their final approval was done January 3, 2022. The new maps that will be available with the new 2022 Precinct boundaries are: Commissioners, Council, House, Senate, South Bend City Districts, Mishawaka City Districts and Civil Township Districts. John Carlson will have all of St. Joseph County's new maps and web services available by the end of the month. Voters Registration is implementing these changes but are delayed but will be done in time for ballots and Penny.
15. David A. Seyboldt residing at 313 Haney Street Apt 2 South Bend IN 46613 had a question for the Board. What mechanism is in place for a voter to verify at the state level that his/her vote has been cast in an election as the voter voted. Dave Smith states that when a voter casts his/her vote, it is an anonymous ballot. Therefore, there isn't a way to verify on the state level how an individual voted in an election. Additionally, the Board conducts public testing of the machines to verify they are working properly. Dave further stated that machines at the Vote Centers let the voter verify their choices before the vote

is cast. If a citizen votes by absentee ballot and it is not accepted by the absentee office for whatever reason, it is sent back to voter to give the voter a chance to vote again.

Next meeting January 28, 2022, 11A.M.

The Chairman makes a motion to adjourn at 11:55AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rita L. Glenn".

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

rlg/lrc