

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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May 1, 2022

St. Joseph County
Election Board Meeting
1 PM

1. Call to order

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

Terri Rethlake
Nick Abernathy
Dave Smith

New Business

Training opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Training PowerPoint played, test questions reviewed, and questions answered at both training sessions.

Meeting recessed at 5:30 PM until 4 PM on Monday May 2.

May 2, 2022

Meeting reconvened at 4:08 PM

County Election Board is present along with:

Muhammad Shabazz
Amanda Konrath
Jennifer Bybee
Kim Riskovitch
Dave Smith , via phone
Terri Rethlake

Vote Center Technicians – Catherine asked Dave Smith why machine techs will not be at unmanned Vote Centers all day. Dave said some techs have more than one vote center in their

area. Dave reported vote centers were physically set up. Dave stated he in shy 7 voter center technicians. Machine Technicians will stay at a voter center unless there is trouble in another one in their area.

Discussion held about emergency shoot, manual ballot log and ballot jams.

Absentee Ballots

Mail in ballots and walk in absentees total 2845. Discussion held as to which Absentee Ballot Counter oath form to use. Oath form with list of precincts processed will be used.

Travel Board Request from Karen Milovich discussed. Request was made after the deadline today. Discussion held. IC 3-11-10-25 states injury or hospital stay must occur after deadline. Motion to deny travel board request made by Ben Horvath and seconded by Rita Glenn. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On motion of Chair meeting recessed until May 3 at 5:30 AM and seconded by Ben Horvath

May 3, 2022

Meeting reconvened at 5:30 AM to conduct election.

A discussion was held at 3:18 pm. Election board members in attendance along with Diana Hess, Debbie Ladyga – Block, Muhammad Shabazz, Zach Potts, Kim Riskovitch, Susan Baxmeyer and Tim Wesco.

Ben Horvath makes a motion to conduct the discussion under oath. Board is sworn in by Chair Fanello. Ben asked Clerk Glenn about the key situation to the ballot room. He wants to know if there is a master key or duplicate key to the republican and democrat door locks. Law states one separate key to each lock to be held by a democrat and a republican. Rita stated after numerous attempts by email and text messages to contact Ben Monday morning to unlock the door between 8 AM and 10 AM she had a Helen Jojo, a deputy clerk who is a republican, come with her to unlock the republican lock with a master key. She stated that no one she copied on the emails to Ben responded to her and the process was recorded by the cameras in the hallway. Ben stated by law there is only supposed to be two keys. Law does not say there can be a master key. Zach Potts asked who made the key? Rita responded the company that installed the locks. She also stated that as the elected Clerk, she has a responsibility to be sure that her election duties are performed. She takes an oath to that effect. Zach stated this could lead to trust issues with the election. If the democrats have both keys, there is no accountability. Rita asked how long was she supposed to wait for Ben to respond? Ben said he responded to Kim about how to get her the key. Rep Wesco asked who installed the locks? IC 3-12-2-11 states a key to the Clerk and a key to the opposite party board member. Catherine suggested that perhaps a master key should be in the possession of Brian Davidson or the Commissioners. She stated absentee ballots are a hot issue thanks to the 2020 election. She suggested having the commissioners hold the master key until further guidance from the Indiana Election Division. Debbie Ladyga – Block suggested there should be a democrat key and a republican key and two people from each party with key access in case of emergency. Catherine said we need to concentrate on increased transparency

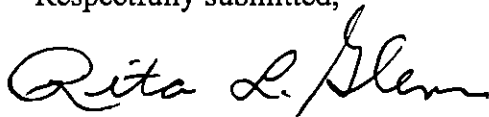
and to increase public trust. Rita asks Zach why he did not answer her email. Ben asked about issues between now and the certification meeting. Diana Hess stated it sounded like the key was not a master key but a duplicate key since it did not open the democratic lock. Catherine suggested a backup key should be given to other parties until the law is amended and or advise given from IED to the board. It was decided the R key would be given to the commissioners and the D key to Penny Stratton. Ben asked Rita what the reason was for needing the ballots yesterday. Rita replied to process the absentee walk in and mail ballots for central count. She invited them to come to see what the office must do to process ballots and administer the elections.

Discussion ended at 3:55 pm.

Tabulation of Election Ballots – began at 6:16 PM

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rita L. Glenn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

rlg/tjr