

Albemarle County Electoral Board

In-person and Virtual Meeting

April 10, 2024

Location: Albemarle County Office Building, 5th Street

Attendance: Jim Heilman, Clara Belle Wheeler, Sylvia Flood, Erin Davis, Lauren Eddy, Jonathan Gil, and Jeania Pace

Guests: Doug Earle, Linda Seaman, Laurie Jones, Norman Moore, Karen Juul-Nielsen, Rick Barnett, and various Zoom attendees.

The meeting began at 9:30 am.

Sylvia Flood made the following statement: Guests will have a maximum of three minutes to speak, either at the beginning or end of the meeting. The Board may waive the three minute rule. *(All were physically present, except for several Zoom attendees who were virtually present.)*

Voting Equipment. Tyler Lincks of PrintElect (on Zoom) spoke to us about our voting equipment, which we buy from PrintElect. He noted that we bought our current equipment (DS200 scanning machines and ExpressVote ADA machines) in 2015. There is an expectation to update this machinery roughly every 10 years. There are upcoming changes to our voting machine standards. The federal Election Assistance Commission adopted new standards (called "2.0") in 2023, and the State Board of Elections (SBE) is expected to adopt these standards soon. He suggests we update our equipment incrementally. Their newest scanner – the DS300 – is already certified in Virginia and has all the capabilities to be compliant with the 2.0 standards. He expects their new version of the ExpressVote machine to be certified in Virginia in 2025. Discussion ensued. Sylvia opined that she is reluctant to approve changes in our machinery until 2025. To the question of whether the SBE might decertify our current equipment, Tyler said that this is unknowable but that he doesn't think that will happen.

Logic and Accuracy Testing. We will do this on May 1 for our machines used for Early In Person, Mail, and Provisional Voting. We will do this on May 15 for our Election Day (June 18) polling place machines.

Virginia Electoral Board Association Annual Meeting. Takeaways from the meeting were discussed.

Satellite Voting Site at UVA. The request to hold such a site was discussed. It was noted that the Code does not allow such satellite sites in buildings not owned or leased by the County and, therefore, such a site cannot be held on UVA grounds. But the Board concurred that efforts to promote voter registration at UVA are in order.

March 5 Primary Review. Sylvia reported that we got generally good comments on our training but that there were some negative comments. She discussed holding training on more specific topics in the preparation for the June 18 Primary. She further noted that, in the March 5 Primary, there was a rise in problems with logging provisional ballots and that 13 of 31 precincts had errors on their Statements of Results. It was agreed that there will be no hotwash (election review) for the March 5 Primary.

- Early in Person (EIP) Voting. Sylvia noted that, in the first two weeks of EIP, we averaged 12 voters per day. The last two weeks had 73% of all EIP voters.

Elks Lodge Polling Place (Free Bridge Precinct). Lauren informed us that the Elks Lodge is preparing to undergo major renovations and, according to our contact there, will not be available for use for either the June 18 Primary or the November 5 General Election. Clara Belle offered to immediately start looking/checking for an alternative site.

List Maintenance. Lauren presented registration and deletion statistics for the past month.

Other Items.

- Alan Swinger (via Zoom) summarized an email he had sent to certain staff and Board members requesting various statistics and questioning party parity in staffing of EIP voting. Clara Belle noted that the EIP voting room is an extension of the Registrar's Office and that its staffing is by those designated by Lauren as Deputy Registrars.
- Rick Barnett asked when the electronic portal for signing up to work EIP will be opened. Erin replied that it should be open within a week. Rick requested that an email announcing this be sent out as soon as possible.

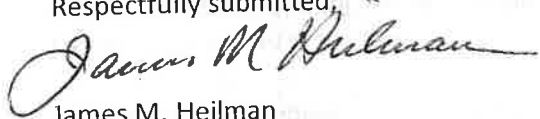
Executive Session. Sylvia moved the following: RESOLVED, that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion and consideration of the appointment, assignment and performance of one or more current and prospective Albemarle County election officers for the election cycle that begins on March 1, 2024 as provided by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 11:40 am.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 12:03 pm. (Board members and staff participated in the Executive Session.) Sylvia moved the following: RESOLVED, that to the best knowledge of each member of this Board (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of Chapter 37 (Virginia Freedom of Information Act) of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which today's executive session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim moved the appointment of 44 new officers of election for the term of one year beginning March 1, 2024, rejection of one application, and a hold to be put on one other application. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Heilman
Secretary, Albemarle County Electoral Board