

## Albemarle County Electoral Board

### Virtual Meeting

December 9, 2020

Location: Albemarle County Office Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Attendance: Jim Heilman, Michael Rodemeyer, Peter Wurzer, Jake Washburne, Clarice Schermerhorn, Lauren Eddy, and Erin Davis

Guest: Abigail Turner, Albemarle Democratic Party

The meeting began at 9:33 am.

Peter made the following statement: This meeting is being held pursuant to and in compliance with the Continuity of Government Ordinance adopted by the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors. The following individuals are physically and electronically present: *(All were electronically present.)*

The agenda, after small revisions, was unanimously adopted.

The minutes for October 26 and November 4, 5, 6, and 10 were unanimously approved.

#### Review of November 3 Election.

- Jim said that he took no notes as everything seemed to be working fine.
- Michael said that our various procedures seemed to work well and that the relatively low E Day turnout seemed to help.
- Peter noted that the Student Page program seemed to work extremely well.
- Abigail asked us to evaluate the data we mined from the three different ways to vote. She expressed concern about how the mail ballot “curing” process was done. She also asked that we evaluate the use of part-time staff to lead the different efforts involved. She also said that we need to talk to the Board of Supervisors about how to go forward and budget for items that would open up more access to the voting process. She also expressed concern about the campaign supporters who drove through the parking lots at Hollymead and Baker-Butler.

Voting Equipment. Jake explained that the State Board of Elections is decertifying the Automark ballot marking machines as well as the DemTech software we currently have on our electronic pollbooks. The cost for replacing these two will be considerable. Discussion ensued.

Student Page Program. All expressed appreciation to Michael Quinn for taking on this program as a volunteer. Jim offered the following resolution, which passed unanimously:

*Whereas* Michael T. Flynn volunteered to develop a Student Election Page program for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Election in Albemarle County, and

*Whereas* he expended considerable time, energy and resources in implementing this program, and

*Whereas* he coordinated with local high schools to recruit over 160 Student Pages, and

*Whereas* he developed and implemented a training program for the Student Pages, and

*Whereas* he coordinated with Staff and Chief Election Officers in assigning Student Pages to all 30 polling places in Albemarle County, and

*Whereas* he monitored the work of the Student Pages and gained feedback on the program from both Pages and Chief Election Officers, and

Whereas his efforts provided considerable benefits to the voters, students, and election officials, Therefore BE IT RESOLVED that the Albemarle County Electoral Board and Staff of the Department of Voter Registration and Elections express their profound appreciation to Michael T. Quinn for his exceptional service to the citizens of Albemarle County.

Drop-off Centers. Peter led a discussion of the ballot drop-off center at Albemarle High School, noting that in the future we should place secure ballot drop off locations outside of the urban ring to better accommodate voters who find that getting to the 5<sup>th</sup> Street location is not convenient.

Review with Election Officers (Hotwash) of the November 3 election. A discussion was held on whether and how to conduct a hotwash. It was decided that 3 virtual hotwashes will be held – on December 15, 17, and 21.

June 8, 2021 Primary. Peter inquired about the projected cost for this primary, noting the need for a 45-day Early-in-Person voting precinct. Jake estimated it to be at least \$75,000.

Election Officer Management System Upgrade. Jake noted that there are several software systems available for managing our election officer data base and that our current one is inadequate. Erin described some of the different systems that are available. Lauren noted that we used 385 officers on November 3. Erin said that staff will be getting a demonstration of one system tomorrow. The consensus was that a new system is needed, but we will need to sell the idea to the Board of Supervisors.

County Website. Clarice informed us that there are now new ways to have our meetings be held in public on the internet.

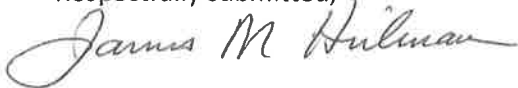
Abigail Turner. Noting that she is retiring as Counsel to the Albemarle Democratic Committee, Michael – on behalf of the Board – expressed his appreciation to Abigail for her many helpful comments and contributions to the Board.

Executive Session. Michael moved the following: RESOLVED, that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of the performance of employees, 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 11:13 am.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:29 am. Michael 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.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Heilman  
Secretary, Albemarle County Electoral Board