

# **Madison County Board of Elections**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **December 3, 2018**

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Elections Conference Room. In attendance: Dyatt Smathers, Chair; Sandra Tolley, Vice Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Jerry Wallin, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; Wade Gahagan, Deputy Director; and two (2) members of the public.

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Smathers called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Agenda**

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (4,0) to approve the agenda as presented.**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (4,0) to approve the November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meetings minutes as presented.**

#### **Chair's and Members' Reports**

The Board discussed an email received from State Board of Elections General Counsel Josh Lawson. According to the email, the four-member county boards may continue to meet and conduct business until Wednesday, December 12.

Chair Smathers reported that according to the development of Senate Bill 824 local boards of elections will be required to issue photo identification cards.

#### **Director's Report**

The Director provided the November 30, 2018 budget expenditure report. A discussion ensued regarding the use of post election funds.

**Moved, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (4,0) to allow the director to negotiate the purchase of 3 DS200 ballot imagers and the rental of ADA AutoMark ballot markers to come out of the current year's budget for use in the 2019 municipal elections.**

#### **County Manager**

The county manager expressed appreciation for the professional manner in which the Board of Elections responded to the recent need to relocate its offices and operations. He reported that the asbestos

abatement at the Administrative Building has been completed, the carpet is being installed, and the county is preparing to move displaced county departments back to the Administrative Building. There are pros and cons from the county's standpoint about having the Board of Elections return to the Administrative Building or remain at the former Emergency Management Services (EMS) site or somewhere else.

A discussion ensued regarding the use of the former EMS site as the Board of Elections permanent location. Board members shared common concerns and deficiencies regarding safety, voter and vehicle traffic control, security, climate control, storage, and document retention at the former EMS site. The County Manager responded that he will convey the Board of Elections comments to the commissioners.

Discussion ensued regarding the December 1, 2019 decertification of the Direct-Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines and the need to purchase new voting equipment. The Chair instructed the Director to put together a voting equipment budget proposal and obtain any related quotes.

**Moved, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (4,0) to set a Board of Elections special called meeting for Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. to consider a voting equipment budget proposal.**

#### **Citizens Comments**

A citizen commented that with all the juggling the Board of Elections has to do, vote by mail should be an option.

A citizen inquired about how flexible the rules are regarding absentee mail-in ballots.

#### **Announcements**


Next Board Meeting: December 11, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.


#### **Adjournment**

**Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (4,0) adjourn the meeting at 11:18 a.m.**

Minutes Approved Dec. 11, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Ray, Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dyatt Smathers, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ray Lewis, Secretary