

Cherokee County Voter Registration and Election Board Meeting

Minutes for meeting held March 5, 2020 @ 10am

The following board members were present: Richard Baines, James "Ed" Elliot, Lamar Batchelor, Carlton Bridges, Randy Horton, Doug Wilson, Mike Byars, and Jason Blanton.

**also in attendance were Amanda Walker (Director) and Cassidy Nichols (clerk)

**board members absent: Jimmy Cash

Call to order: Richard Baines @ 10am; Doug Wilson opened in prayer.

Minutes:

Minutes from meeting February 3, 2020, were approved. Doug made motion and all agreed.

Richard read the Board Member Oath aloud and all repeated verbally and signed.

We had 3 provision ballots: 1 failsafe=**counted** (voter had to prove residency as 30 days prior to election; 1 Morgans precinct=**counted** (voter had requested ballot by mail, but didn't vote it); and 1 Allens precinct=**not counted** (voter had expired license and never brought in valid I.D.)

Ed, Richard, and Randy counted 246 Gaffney Ward 4 ballots (chosen by state) prior to board meeting. Total matched reports. Amanda showed board members the totals reports for the Democratic PPP from all precincts.

Discussed the one (1) ballot that was cast at the precinct although the voter did not sign poll list and was not entered into EVRL. Ed made motion to approve the certification of PPP; all agreed. Richard read aloud statement on certification signature list and all signed.

Ed did a great job on mapping out the delivery and pickup routes. It worked very well and will be followed in all future elections. When, and if, additional cages are purchased, it will increase loads from four (2 loads per trailer x2) to possibly eight (4 loads per trailer x2). Ezell Butler will not be able to accommodate a security cage because doorway into building is only 33" wide. Mary Bramlett School (GW1) was not pleased with bus cones not being put back; will be addressed with precinct clerk for next election. One wheel, on the red precinct bag for Pleasant Grove, was broke during pickup/delivery; reminder to be very careful since bags cost \$150. Bungee cords are needed within the security cages in order to hold equipment in place.

Looking into replacing seals on DS200 bases. Roads & Bridges department did a great job in helping with delivery/pickup.

Lost Max Hyde as a clerk, although he is willing to be a poll-worker. We are re-organizing precinct boxes and putting labels on everything possible in order to help clerk know where supplies can be retrieved from and returned. Pavers were ordered to hold cardboard signs in place outside polls. Amanda re-iterated that clerks cannot remove ballot jams in the DS200; a tech or commissioner has to do that. The DS200 bi-hourly count sheet will be updated by the March election. There is a voter upset that the Ezell Butler location was moved from New Pleasant Church to Crestview Church. She has called Amanda, as well as Richard and Harvey Peeler. Possibility that she will call another legislature.

Ethics are due by March 30 or a fine of \$100 will be imposed.

Poll-workers are coming back for March 24 Fire Referendum election. Ten precincts will be open. Two techs and 3 board members (at least) are needed. Jason, Ed, Lamar, and Richard all volunteered. Loading of trailers and delivery of equipment will be on Monday, March 23 and pickup on Wednesday, March 25; need at least two people each day to help with that. Ed, Richard, and Lamar volunteered.

Board meeting scheduled for April 6 was changed to March 27 so that it could be combined with the certification of the March 24 Fire District Referendum election. If something should arise after, Amanda will call another board meeting to be held during the month of April.

New, 2019 Election Law books were handed out to all commissioners. Amanda had a budget meeting with county administrator, Steve Bratton. Three major things she requested, all of which were approved by Steve, but still need county council approval, were:

- could her funds left from this fiscal year be carried over to this coming year in order to purchase more security cages, etc.?
- can the county add an additional \$25 to poll-worker pay for all future elections?
- can she hire a full-time position for this coming fiscal year (July 2020); in addition to Tillie, Cassidy, and Andra's part-time positions

Motion was made by Mike Byars to adjourn @ 11:13 am; all agreed.



Carlton Bridges, Secretary



Date

**minutes recorded by Cassidy Nichols-Clerk