



**Pulaski County Election Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

Members Present

Leonard A. Boyle, Sr.
Pat Hays
Kevin Gorman

Staff Present

Bryan Poe
Shawn Camp
Tonya Washington
Pam Walker
Amanda Dickens
Jodie Dildy

Visitors Present: Jason Kennedy, County Clerk's Office

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Hays. A quorum was determined; all commissioners present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes February 28, 2016

Commissioner Boyle moved to accept minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Gorman. Motion passed by voice vote.

Business

Mr. Poe noted that there have been over 26,000 early voters during early voting. This triple the number of voters in the 2012 and 2014 Primaries. There were over 24,000 voters during early voting in 2008. Almost 1,800 voters cast ballots on the last day of early voting at the main site, Pulaski County Regional Building.

One of the poll books at Precinct 54 was out of order. Book was reprinted and sent out this morning.

Precinct 36 poll book stopped at the letter Q. The book was reprinted from Q-Z and sent out this morning.

Precinct 4 poll books had to be completely reprinted. There were blank pages and pages out of order and it included voters from Jacksonville. It was reprinted and sent out this morning.

Precinct 22 Chief Judge was late arriving at the polling location.

Precinct 81 voter injured while at the polling location

There were approximately 20 poll workers who did not show up at their assigned working locations on Election Day. Efforts were made to get workers from other fully staffed locations to those precincts that were short staffed.

Precincts 20, 21 and 79 has reports of campaigning too close to the polling entrances. Commissioner Boyle reported a poll worker at Precinct 134 where a voter accident occurred on Election Day.

Calls were received regarding yard signs being pulled up at polling locations at Precincts 23 and 50. Signs were also being pulled up at right-of-ways which is city property.

Several precincts were running out of ballots. Locations were sent additional ballots. After about 5:00 p.m. precincts were instructed to use the iVotronic voting devices.

Some of the media outlets making it to the polling locations were Sky News, MSNBC, AR Democrat Gazette along with local television stations.

Poll book issues will be discussed with the County Clerk's office after the election. Issues could be that new workers are in charge of printing and may need further instruction.

A total of 1001 absentee ballots have been received

Commissioner Gorman noted that improvement is needed at the County Clerk's office in the area of processing absentee ballots and follow up. He noted that Brandon Wood did a good job of owing this issue to resolution. It is requested that corrective action be taken by the clerk's office to prevent reoccurrence.

There were reports that poll workers were not following procedures i.e., requiring IDs, not following provisional ballot procedures, commenting on voter choices and having reliable polling staff.

Commissioner Gorman suggested having the polling locations set up and reported operational by 6:00 a.m. with everything in place, signage, voting devices, ID and ballot area, etc. This will ensure that staff and polling location are ready by 7:30 a.m.

Meeting recessed at 7:34 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:33 p.m.

Canvass of Absentee Ballots

Eleven absentee ballots were reviewed. Four (4) were accepted; seven (7) were rejected. It was moved by Commissioner Gorman to accept the absentee ballot results as adjudicated; seconded by Commissioner Boyle. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting recessed at 8:44 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:07 p.m.

Ballot Statistics Reported

Absentee Ballots

- 1009 absentee ballots accepted
- 2 rejected
- 34 in suspense
- 452 not returned (as of today, March 1, 2016)

Military Ballots (Inside the US)

- 93 ballots sent out
- 21 returned
- 64 not returned (as of today, March 1, 2016)

Military Ballots (Outside the US)

- 10 ballots sent out
- 2 returned
- 8 not returned - deadline is March 11, 2016 for return

Overseas Ballots

- 40 ballots sent out
- 19 returned
- 1 in suspense
- 20 not returned - deadline is March 11, 2016 for return

Provisional Ballots

- 410 ballots

Certification of Unofficial Election Results - Preferential Primary Nonpartisan General Election

It was moved by Commissioner Gorman and seconded by Commissioner Boyle to certify the unofficial election results of this election. Motion passed by voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 7, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.