

**PULASKI COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010
12:15 P.M.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Kent Walker, Chairman
Ozell Snider, Commissioner
Phil Wyrick, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT

Melinda Allen
Tonya Washington
Bryan Poe

VISITORS: Tim Bryant, County Clerk's Office, Ray Hamilton, KATV Channel 7

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

VOTING EQUIPMENT

The commission requested information concerning the use and maintenance and availability of voting voting equipment for the May Preferential Primary/Nonpartisan Judicial General Election. The commission presented questions to Pam Walker, Voting Equipment Technician.

Commissioner Wyrick expressed interest in knowing what protocol is in place in the event of down time with voting equipment during the election.

Ms. Walker explained that area managers are placed on the north and south sides of the river. During the early voting period, when a voting machine is down and depending on the problem, the area managers are trained to deal with paper jams with the Ivotronic voting devices. She said it's very seldom that a voting unit will go down. It's usually the booths which house the Real-Time Audit Log

and where paper jams occur. Ms. Walker said the Area Managers are well trained and knowledgeable to deal with the most common Ivotronic repairs. If the problem is something that the Area Managers cannot deal with, she will stop what she's doing to go and make repairs and be done within five (5) minutes. She said response time to voting locations after calls have been received may take up to 30 minutes depending on the problem, location and traffic.

Chairman Walker asked how many Ivotronic devices would be available at each offsite early voting location for the primary. Ms. Walker stated that there will be five per location. Mrs. Allen noted that during the November 2008 General Election, the main site had eighteen (18) voting devices. For this election there will be seventeen (17) devices which should be more than adequate. Chairman Walker expressed interest in voter turnout for the November 2008 General Election at Laman Library in North Little Rock and how many voter devices can be made available. Ms. Walker said the most machines that can accommodate this location will be seven (7). Chairman Walker wants to make sure that Laman Library has a sufficient number of voting devices available to accommodate the long lines of voters during early voting. He requested that the staff makes sure that all early voting locations are set up in the best possible manner to accommodate the large number of voters.

Ms. Walker said she will be at McMath Library to set up early voting the first day because the devices cannot be set up the day before. She will also be in Jacksonville to help with setup.

Chairman Walker requested that the remaining voting devices for early voting be placed throughout the sites to help accommodate heavy voting sites. He asked if Laman Library could possibly accommodate eight voting devices. Ms. Walker reminded Chairman Walker that units have to be available in the event that one of the units in place goes completely down. If all of the devices are placed at all locations, there will be no reserve.

Chairman Walker asked if there is any concern with the voting devices regarding wear and tear the commission should be concerned about. Ms. Walker said the Ivotronic devices are in good shape. Preventative maintenance has been performed on all the devices. The problems occur with the booths that the devices are stored in. She said they are not well made but the repairs are issues she can deal with when necessary. If any of the equipment has to be repaired, it is shipped to ES&S for repair. The cost of repair and shipping is absorbed by the county.

Commissioner Wyrick asked how is a write-in vote cast on the Ivotronic voting device. Ms. Walker explained that a keyboard is activated where the voter can type in the name of the candidate and press accept to complete the vote. With the M100, the paper ballot will have an oval next to the write-in line which the voter will fill in and write the name of the candidate on the line. The ballot is fed into the voting device and directed to a separate bin in the voting device for ballots with the write-in vote cast and are tabulated manually at the end of the day. Then they are placed in a separate ballot box marked write-in ballots and identified if needed.

Chairman Walker asked that the early voting sites conduct a sample size of voters as they begin at the voter ID table and exit the polling site to see how long the voting process takes. Commissioner Snider noted that the variables will not be the same for all voters and will not be consistent. Ms. Walker said the average time usually takes approximately 10 minutes. Ms. Allen will prepare for the early voting sites a running ballot designating district races so voters can review while waiting in line.

Review of Ballot Amendments

Motion to approve amended ballots as printed made by Commissioner Snider; seconded by Commissioner Wyrick. All in favor; motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2010. Meeting adjourned.