



**Pulaski County Election Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2016
5:00 p.m.**

Members Present

Leonard A. Boyle, Sr.
Pat Hays
Kevin Gorman

Staff Present

Bryan Poe
Shawn Camp
Tonya Washington

Visitors Present: John Lyon, Arkansas News Bureau; 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, May 10, 2016

Commissioner Boyle moved to accept minutes with corrections; seconded by Commissioner Gorman. Motion passed by voice vote.

Business

Precinct Change

First Christian Church, Precinct 93, has been sold effective March 1, 2016 and will no longer serve as a voting precinct under the new owners. It is recommended that this precinct be consolidated with First Church of the Nazarene, Precinct 94. It was moved by Commissioner Gorman; seconded by Commissioner Boyle. Motion passed by voice vote.

Order of Destruction

Order to destroy unused ballots and ballot stubs of the May 20, 2014 Preferential Primary/NP General Election. It was moved by Commissioner Boyle; seconded by Commissioner Gorman. Motion passed by voice vote.

State Reimbursement of Election Expenses

Expense report of election expenses is complete and ready to submit to the State Board of Election Commissioners for reimbursement of expenses. It was moved by Commissioner Gorman to accept the report with corrections; seconded by Commissioner Boyle. Motion passed by voice vote.

Annual School Election

Legislative changes necessary to efficiently conduct the Annual School Election in November General Election have been approved and passed. School election issues can be placed on the general election ballot; school election precincts can be consolidated with general election precincts, eliminating the need for extra voting devices, poll workers, poll books, ballots, etc. It also aligns the early voting periods for both elections. Lastly, the county can reimburse for expenses incurred for the school election. These conditions can occur when a school election is held with a general election in even-numbered years.

Because of the annual school election in September and the Pulaski County Special School District election in November, there will be two separate filing periods for each election.

The annual school election will consist of North Little Rock School District Zones 1 & 4.

The election commission staff and the county clerk's office staff recently met to discuss poll book and absentee ballot procedures and what could be done to improve the process. Commissioner Boyle and Commissioner Gorman asked what could be done to improve communications and resolve issues with the Lonoke County Clerk. Mr. Poe stated that the two important issues would be to have Lonoke County ensure poll books are produced and delivered with accuracy and on time. The second issue would be to ensure that all involved are on the same page in the absentee process. It has been in the past that our office has communicated with the county clerk's office the absentee process. That office, in turn, would communicate with Lonoke County. The Pulaski County Clerk's office has ask that this office return to formally communicating this information to Lonoke County, in light of errors made in the last election.

Upcoming meetings include the election commission staff meeting with absentee officials on May 25, 2016 to review the absentee process from the primary election and we will conduct a site review with UALR on Thursday, May 27, 2016 for a proposed early voting site.

Filing period for the September 20, 2016 Annual School Election will begin in early July 2016.

The next meetings scheduled are as follows:

- Wednesday, July 13, 2016; 5:00 p.m. - review political practice pledges
- Friday, July 15, 2016; 5:00 p.m. - ballot position drawing

Commissioner Gorman met with the election commission staff and the county clerk's staff and discussed taking corrective action prior to the next election to purge the voter registration list so that the most accurate voter information is available. The clerk's office identified this action and has taken the initiative. This would save up to 10,000 phone calls during any election cycle. The county clerk's office will notify voters with address discrepancies to update their records. If correct, no action to be taken, and those with corrections should reply within 10 days.

Meeting adjourned.