City of Salisbury Election Board - Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Wicomico County Election Office

Members Present: Susan Carey, Chair, Harry Basehart, Secretary, Lou Rimbach.

Others Present: Kim Nichols, City Clerk, Julie English, Assistant City Clerk. From the Wicomico County Board of Elections (WCBE): Dionne Church, Election Director; Bill Blockston, Deputy Director, and Jocelyn Abbott Montgomery, Election Supervisor.

**Call Meeting to Order**

Susan Carey (participating by phone), Chair of the Salisbury Election Board, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Minutes of September 28, October 20 (Open and Closed Sessions), October 23.**

* Approved.

**Wicomico County Board of Elections – Ms. Church**

* City Election TimeLine Review
* Review of important dates: voter registration closed on Tuesday, Oct. 17, last mailing of specimen ballots are at Mail Movers and will be in the mail soon, Oct. 31 is the last day to request a mail-in ballot by mail to be delivered by mail (Nov. 3 is last day to request a mail-in ballot to be delivered by email), Oct. 24 was deadline for registered write-in candidates, and preliminary election results will be available at the WCBE office, at approximately 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7 (polls close at 7:00 p.m.)
* Voting equipment will be delivered to all polling places by noon, Monday, Nov. 6. Loading begins at WCBE at 6:00 a.m. and delivery at approximately 9:00 a.m. WCBE staff will follow the trucks for field support and will attach tamper tape on outside of equipment once delivered.
* Mr. Blockston explained the Polling Place Evaluation Form that is to be completed by the members of the Salisbury Election Board after their visit to each polling place. Board members meet at noon, Tuesday, Nov. 7 at WCBE office.

**City Clerk and Election Board**

* Ms. Nichols reported that the only registered write-in candidate is John Foley, Council District 3.
* City Clerk’s office has received phone calls from citizens concerning the election. Most citizens that call believe they are in the wrong council district for the 2023 election, not realizing that council district lines were redrawn after the 2020 census and some voters now reside in different districts. WCBE has received similar phone calls. If voters go to the wrong polling place, election judges will inform them of their correct polling district/polling place. If a voter insists in voting in the wrong district, they can use a provisional ballot which will be evaluated for residency in the provisional canvass.
* WCBE has also received phone calls on campaign finance and one or two voters that sent in their mail-in ballot and wanted to change their vote, which is not allowed.

**Miscellaneous**

* Mail-in Ballot 1 canvass is 10:00 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 9, WCBE. The Provisional Ballot canvass and the Mail-in Ballot 2 canvass have been combined and are scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Friday, Nov. 17, WCBE. Ms. Church will issue a notice of this change.
* At 4:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 17 the Salisbury Election Board will certify the election results at WCBE.
* Canvassing is open and can be observed by the public. Disruptions of the process by the public are not allowed.
* On election day, Ms. Church will keep Ms. Nichols informed of voter turnout at the polling places.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:50 a.m.**

Harry Basehart, Secretary

Approved December 5, 2023