A meeting of the Board of Elections Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 725 Northwest Plaza Drive, St. Ann, Missouri, Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Present at the meeting were:

present.

Sharon Buchanan-McClure
Trudi McCollum Foushee
Matthew Potter
Peggy Barnhart
Steve Garrett
Rick Stream
Eric Fey
Christian Tolbert
Julie Leicht

Chair
by telephone
Commissioner
Commissioner
Attorney
Director
Director
Deputy Director

**Deputy Director** 

Chair Buchanan-McClure called the meeting to order and a roll call was taken. A quorum was

Chair Buchan-McClure began the Board meeting with a point of personal privilege to dedicate a moment of silence for Dan Sigler, a long-time employee of the Board of Elections who passed away last week.

No one signed up to speak at the Public Forum. Chair Buchanan-McClure took a moment for all of the commissioners to reflect on what they witnessed on Election Day. Commissioner Barnhart was very impressed with the cordiality of both the poll workers and the voters. Commissioner Potter thought the day went well, and was very impressed by the poll books. Secretary Foushee said it was a great experience to go out into the field and seeing the polling places in action, and applauded our warehouse staff who works very hard to make sure our equipment is maintained and taken care of. Chair Buchanan-McClure was greatly encouraged by the professionalism and patience of the election judges and patience of the voters considering the long ballot and large turnout. She also said with the challengers that she and Secretary Foushee encountered were collaborative when communicating with the poll workers.

Chair Buchanan-McClure then asked if everyone had read the minutes from the October 25 meeting. Commissioner Potter made a motion that the minutes be approved and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved. Chair Buchanan-McClure asked if everyone had read the closed minutes from the October 25 meeting. Commissioner Potter made a motion that the minutes be approved and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye. The closed minutes were approved. Chair Buchanan-McClure then asked if everyone had read the minutes from the November 13 special meeting. Commissioner Barnhart made a motion that the minutes be approved with changes and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair Buchanan-McClure called for the directors' reports. Director Stream broke down some facts about the November 6 election. There was a total of about 750,000 voters in this election, with about 665,000 being active, and 85,000 being inactive. We hired about 3,600 election workers who supported 411 polling places. The ballot was 19-inches, front and back. About 460,000 voters participated in this election, for a turnout of roughly 69.24%. 404,067 voters cast ballots on Election Day, while 56,582 voted absentee. 33,387 voters voted either at our counter or one of the three satellite locations. 5,483 voters cast ballots at the South County Government Center, 5,682 voters casted ballots at the Center of Clayton, and 7,504 voters cast ballots at the West County Government Center. 6,385 voters cast ballots at our office the week before the election, while we had 8,333 voters total all of the weeks before that. 23,195 ballots were mailed to us. On Election Day, 1,354 voters casted provisional ballots. We had 528 total provisional envelopes that were valid, with 499 of them containing ballots. Out of the 1,089 yellow provisionals (issues with registration), 403 were accepted, and out of 265 blue provisionals (did not provide any identification), 125 were accepted. As far as issues are concerned, we are aware of ten of the opti-scan paper ballot readers not working. The technician teams throughout the county did a great job of getting those issues fixed quickly. The directors met with representatives from Washington University to discuss some of the events at that polling place, and everyone is prepared to make changes necessary for the next election.

Director Fey thanked the Board members for taking the time to go out into the field on Election Day. He then announced that candidate filing for the April General Municipal Election begins on December 11<sup>th</sup>. In 2016, the Board approved a cooperation agreement between the Board of Elections and entities who are interested in us taking the filings for their offices. As of today, we have seven entities who have entered into this agreement: City of Bel-Ridge, City of Crystal Lake Park, City of County Club Hills, City of Jennings, City of Oakland, Village of Wilbur Park, and Jennings School District. In the past, there have been issues with entities conducting their candidate filings, which has led to problems in court. We will be having a seminar for all of the city clerks and board secretaries regarding candidate filing on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of November. Director Fey then informed the Board that next week the directors, along with Attorney Garrett, will be going to the federal court to discuss how to educate the voters of the Ferguson-Florissant School District on cumulative voting. Finally, Director Fey announced that the budget meeting with the County Council will be on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

Deputy Director Tolbert informed the Board of some other issues that we are aware of from Election Day. There were 82 iVotronic machines, 43 opti-scan machines, 8 PEBs (personal electronic ballot), and 5 printers that the super captains were able to fix or replace fairly quickly. These issues reflect our aging equipment. Deputy Director Tolbert then announced that the audit is complete, as our staff has conducted a hand recount of 5% of the precincts chosen at random. We had to duplicate 4,047 ballots through the printer we rented, which worked great with the long ballots. We also ran the 499 provisional ballots on November 20<sup>th</sup> for tabulation.

Deputy Director Leicht announced that payroll for the election judges is complete. With 3,255 poll workers, the total was about \$583,000, and these checks will be issued on November 30<sup>th</sup>. We also hired 15 teams of ballot openers, who we had back to help us during the certification process. Deputy Director Leicht helped oversee the write-in process. There were five races in the County with valid write-in candidates. Out of 4,700 ballots with write-ins, 18 of them were

valid and counted. The high school workers conducted exit surveys at the polling places, and the training department is working on getting those data organized. The election judges department also sends a survey to all of the poll workers after every election, and we will receive those responses back in December. The training department is also working on sharing feedback from the polling place comment sheets. In a few weeks, the interactive map for key races from the November election will be available on our website. Deputy Director Leicht then announced that the Brentwood Boulevard/Clayton Road CID (Community Improvement District) election will be on December 11<sup>th</sup>. This is a 1% sales tax and goes through September 2053. The Sunnen Station CID election is on December 18<sup>th</sup>, and is also a 1% sales tax through December 2043.

Under Old Business, the directors asked for approval to destroy records from the 2016 Presidential Election. Commissioner Potter made a motion pursuant to state law to destroy the records from 2016 Presidential Election and Secretary Foushee seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye.

There was nothing to discuss under New Business.

Under Financial, Director Stream explained the reports to the Board. He reported that we had overtime pay for the past election, along with several temporary employees.

Under Personnel, Director Stream explained there have been a few new hires and temporary employees.

There was nothing to discuss in Legal in the open meeting.

Chair Buchanan-McClure announced that the Board would adjourn after closed session. Commissioner Potter moved that the meeting be closed pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1),(2) and (3) to discuss litigation, real estate, and personnel issues and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye.

Sharon Buchanan-McClure, Chair

Trudi McCollum Foushee, Secretary