

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, September 17, 2019.

Present at the meeting were:

Sharon Buchanan-McClure	Chair
Trudi McCollum Foushee	by telephone
Matthew Potter	by telephone
Peggy Barnhart	Commissioner
Steve Garrett	Attorney
Rick Stream	Director
Eric Fey	Director
Christian Tolbert	Deputy Director
Julie Leicht	Deputy Director

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

No one signed up to speak at the Public Forum. Chair Buchanan-McClure then asked if everyone had read the minutes from the August 13 meeting. Commissioner Barnhart made a motion that the minutes be approved and Secretary Foushee seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved. Chair Buchanan-McClure then asked if everyone had read the closed minutes from the August 13 meeting. Commissioner Barnhart made a motion that the closed minutes be approved and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the closed minutes were approved. Chair Buchanan-McClure then asked if everyone had read the minutes from the September 3 meeting. Commissioner Barnhart made a motion that the minutes be approved as amended and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved. Finally, Chair Buchanan-McClure asked if everyone had read the closed minutes from the September 3 meeting. Secretary Foushee made a motion that the closed minutes be approved and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the closed minutes were approved.

Chair Buchanan-McClure called for the directors' reports. First, Director Stream introduced Mike McMurry from Hart InterCivic. Mike reported that all equipment purchased was received and properly tested by our staff. Most of the pieces of equipment have been accepted, except for four Verity scanners and a ballot box, which will be replaced. He has been very impressed with our warehouse crew and other employees who have assisted in this test, and announced that we have completed the process for 400 devices in just three days. When the other shipments of equipment come in, we will have learned how to fine tune the process and hopefully make it more efficient. Overall, Mike has been very impressed with our staff. Director Stream then continued his report. We are seven weeks out from the November 5 election. State Representative Districts 74 and 99 have candidates, and St. Ann Transportation Development District (TDD) and the City of Jennings have propositions. Military ballots for this election will be mailed out this Friday, and absentee will open next Tuesday. This election involves about 56,000 registered voters. We will send 40 full-time employees out into the field on Election Day, with 20 employees here at the office to take phone calls.

Director Fey gave an update regarding the Board of Freeholders petitions; the Municipal League has turned in their last batch of signatures to our office as well as in St. Louis City. Once they are verified at the end of this week, we will send a letter to the County Executive and the Governor to notify that the requisite number of signatures has or has not been reached. They would then have ten days to nominate people to the Board of Freeholders. Directors Fey and Stream visited the County headquarters building last Friday and spoke to Chris Howard, a Charter Commission member, about the progress of the Charter Commission and possible election dates for any amendments proposed by the Charter Commission. During the last week of August, Director Fey and Deputy Director Tolbert attended the Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities (MACCEA) conference at the Lake of the Ozarks. The association passed multiple resolutions including no-excuse absentee voting and intrastate voter registration. President Trump announced last year that the United States would be withdrawing from the Universal Postal Union, and we are now set to pull out in October. A representative from the United States Postal Service (USPS) attended the conference, and said that the current bilateral agreement will cover 17 countries. Director Fey sponsored Resolution J, urging the Secretary of State to designate countries not included in the agreement as inaccessible, so covered voters in those areas may return their absentee ballots electronically.

Deputy Director Leicht announced that our office is busy getting ready for the November election. 230 poll workers will be needed to work in 30 polling places. Training will conduct classes the week of October 14. The Training department is developing training materials and laying out polling places for the new equipment. The Mapping department is working on an application that would allow a voter to enter their address and find a list of their elected officials, which is expected to roll out in November. They are also working on consolidating smaller precincts and surveying the tables and chairs in polling places. Rob Ryan, a Mapping coordinator, recently traveled to Cape Girardeau, Missouri to give a presentation on how Geographical Information Systems (GIS) impacts elections. The Human Resources department has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for printing services on our website, and is also working on deposit billing for the November election. Finally, the Absentee department is working with Mulligan Printing to better implement ballot tracking for future elections.

Deputy Director Tolbert updated the Board on voter registration statistics. As of August, St. Louis County has 634,416 active voters and 95,807 inactive voters, for a total of 730,223 registered voters. For the November election, there will be one full-time employee at each polling place staffed as a Supervisor and five tech/deputy teams. We are working with Mike from Hart to get absentee ready to open next week. The Warehouse is finishing disassembling the M100s and setting up the new carts.

There was nothing to discuss under Old Business.

Under New Business, Director Fey explained the request for destruction of records. The retention schedule for these records indicates they no longer need to be held and are ready to be destroyed. Secretary Foushee made a motion to approve the destruction of records request and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the request was approved. Director Fey then explained the request to change the amount we charge for election equipment and the different options the Board has for this change. The Board made a

preliminary decision and will research more and change the decision if needed before the statutory deadline.


Under Financial/Budget, Director Stream explained the August reports. Directors Stream and Fey and Assistant Director Blankenship went to Clayton for the 2020 budget meeting with the County budget director. The directors explained items in the 2020 budget and equipment financing. The only contentious point in the meeting was that our office has given raises to our employees while other County employees have not received raises from their departments. This could potentially lead to a move by the County to prevent us from giving autonomous raises.

Under Personnel, Director Stream explained the report and announced that one employee has retired, one new employee has started, and three employees are on FMLA as well as one proposed for the month of September.


There were no legal matters to discuss in the open meeting.

Chair Buchanan-McClure announced that the Board would adjourn after the closed session.

Commissioner Barnhart moved that the meeting be closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1),(2) and (3) to discuss litigation, real estate, personnel issues, and contract negotiations and Commissioner Potter 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