

A meeting of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 12 Sunnen Drive, Maplewood, Missouri, Wednesday, July 25, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. on notice and call of the Chairman, John Diehl, Jr.

Present at the meeting were:

John J. Diehl, Jr.	Chairman
Chaim Zimbalist	Secretary
Anita Yeckel	Commissioner
Bill Miller	Commissioner
Charlene LaRosa	Deputy Director
Debbie Quicke	Deputy Director

Mr. Diehl called the meeting to order and a roll call was taken. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order.

Mr. Diehl opened the public forum. Ginger Harris (Missourians for Honest Elections) asked if there would be any elections where DREs would be the only choice for voters. Mr. Diehl explained that for the February Presidential Preference Primary there would be one DRE at each polling place, but the election would primarily be conducted using optiscan ballots; the April election would use all DREs, but the August and November federal elections would be conducted with a blended system of optiscan and DREs.

Ms. Harris asked about the next Annual Report. Ms. LaRosa said that it is being proofed and publication could be expected within 30 to 60 days.

Ms. Harris ended her statements by saying that being forced to use DREs is a violation of constitutional rights. Ms. Sandie Diamond (Kids Voting) was present, but did not speak. As there were no more speakers, Mr. Diehl closed the public forum.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of May 15, 2007 and Mr. Zimbalist seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Zimbalist made a motion to approve the minutes of the closed Board Meeting of May 15, 2007 and Mr. Miller seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Ms. LaRosa and Ms. Quicke presented the Directors' Report as follows.

- The August 7, 2007 Election has 33 locations and approximately 52,00 registered voters. There are five entities involved and 264 judges assigned.
- Evaluations are in progress and the Judge will review them when he returns. The recommendations will be ready and included in the August Board Packet.
- Due to an incident the previous week where a vagrant tried to enter (police ultimately escorted him to a hospital) and the increase in traffic due to the proximity of the Metrolink station the BOEC is looking into putting swipe card security locks on two doors to the front office and two to the warehouse. The County may bear these costs.

Mr. Diehl asked about security settings for after normal business hours.

- MCVR (Missouri Centralized Voter Registration) implementation will begin August 1<sup>st</sup>. Trainers from the Secretary of State's Office came for their third visit today. The registration portion of the system seems to be okay, but the absentee portion still needs some tweaking.
- Ms. Quicke reported that the street file and precinct clean-up project is nearly completed. Precincts have been consolidated and now number 1,391 which is down from 1,722. Commercial (non-voting) precincts now number 243, which is lower by 102. Ms. Quicke explained that these consolidations make it easier for the Unity software, but will have no effect on the number of polling places or registered voters per polling place. Once the last download of this three-part project is completed, the records will be compared with MCVR.

Mr. Miller said he had received complaints about notification for changes in polling places and asked about highlighting changes on polling place cards. Ms. LaRosa replied that once we are on MCVR we will have control over how the cards are formatted, but that we do not have that capability with our present system.

Mr. Diehl said that it was important for the polling places to be the same for all the 2008 elections and that we should receive commitments for the entire year, rather than on an individual election basis. The contracts currently ask for a commitment for all elections in a calendar year, but that has not prevented some locations from deciding they no longer wish to be a polling place. Some changes in polling place do occur due to construction or renovation.

- The November Election will be run simultaneously in REJIS (current system) and MCVR to test if the statewide system will do what the BOEC needs it to do. If there is no November election, a dummy election will be used instead.
- Three warehouse employees are currently undergoing training for the repair of voting equipment. Reports from the training center in Omaha indicate that Rick Sides, Christian Tolbert and Joe Winter are doing well and are averaging grades of 90-100%.

Mr. Diehl said he learned from attending IACREOT (The International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers) that the first part of August the EAC (Election Assistance Commission) will be sending a detailed manual, which in part outlines poll worker recruitment and retention. He said the EAC would be willing to come to regional workshops, etc. Mr. Diehl said that Connie Schmidt will be the EAC contact person.

Mr. Diehl reported that studies presented at the conference showed only an 18-20% retention for college students as poll workers.

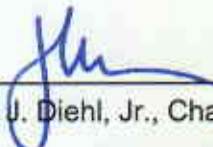
Under Financial, Mr. Miller made a motion to receive and file the Variance Reports of May 31, 2007 and June 30, 2007 and the Itemization of Bills dated May – June 15 and June 16 – July 18 and Mr. Zimbalist seconded. A vote was taken and the reports were received and filed.


Ms. Yeckel made a motion to receive and file the Personnel Action Reports dated May 2007 and June/July 2007. Mr. Miller seconded. A vote was taken and the reports were received and filed.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business the proposed budget for 2008 and projections for 2009 and 2010 has been completed and was delivered to the Board Members. Mr. Diehl reported that he had not received his copy. The budget is due in Clayton by August 10, 2007. The Board Members talked about the need to discuss the budget in detail. A special Board meeting to discuss the 2008 Fiscal Budget and projections for 2009 and 2010 is set for 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, 2007.

Mr. Diehl made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss Personnel, Legal and Contract Negotiations pursuant to Chapter 610, RSMo, 610.021, and Mr. Zimbalist seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Mr. Miller, aye; Mr. Zimbalist, aye; Ms. Yeckel, aye; Mr. Diehl, aye. Mr. Diehl stated that they would not reopen the session. The Board then entered into closed session to discuss legal, personnel and contract negotiations.

  
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John J. Diehl, Jr., Chairman

  
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Chaim H. Zimbalist, Secretary