February 20, 2008

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, February 20, 2008, at 3:30 p.m. on notice and call of the Chairman, John Diehl, Jr.

Present at the meeting were:

John J. Diehl, Jr.
Chaim Zimbalist
Anita Yeckel
Bill Miller
Steve Garrett
Joseph A. Goeke, III
Joseph E. Donahue

Chairman Secretary Commissioner Commissioner Attorney Director

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. Virginia Harris signed a card in order to speak before the Board. Mr. Diehl invited Virginia Harris to speak and she began with her conversation with Mr. Garrett in regards to hiring a nationally recognized computer security expert for future elections. Mr. Garrett agreed that it was a reasonable idea and he would be willing to sit and listen, but he was not committing other people to do so.

Ms. Harris stated she wants more information on the audit. Mr. Miller's concern was in allowing her to do so, how far can you let people say, "If they can do it, why can't we?" Ms. Yeckel suggested we can always listen informally. Mr. Garrett concluded that Ms. Harris should contact him with the security expert and they will go from there.

Ms. Harris asked about the sunshine request they submitted. Mr. Garrett replied that it was too broad as stated and would result in thousands of documents. Exactly what is wanted needs to be determined. When that is established we'll know the staff time needed to compile the information so we can assess the cost involved in providing the wanted materials.

Ms. Harris replied that they would revise their request.

As there were no more speakers, Mr. Diehl closed the Public Forum and proceeded to the next order of business.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of January 24, 2008 and Mr. Zimbalist seconded. There was one small change by Mr. Zimbalist. He added that the minutes from the previous Board Meeting be approved as "as amended." A vote was taken and the minutes as amended were approved.

Mr. Donahue began with the 9 closing school districts. Mr. Zimbalist commented on how the TV appearances generated a lot of interest. He received feedback where people stated they never thought of school closings on Election Day and it's a great idea.

Judge Goeke stated that we have to have 133% more ballots than the election from 2 years prior. For example, the previous comparable election was a 19.89% turnout which means we had to prepare for at least a 26.67% turnout. We printed enough paper ballots for a 34% turnout and with touch screen we had a 60% turnout capability. The actual turnout was 42%. Over 80% of the ballots were touch screen. Only a few locations wanted more paper where we printed on demand for those locations. We ended up not using 74.7% of the ballots printed which results in an excess of \$51,000.

At the locations he visited, Mr. Zimbalist found the elderly people enjoyed the touch screen.

Judge Goeke has gone through all the poll worker comment sheets and will be implementing two suggestions.

We are currently working on the iVo ballot screens, proofing and MCVR. As far as the Palm Pilots, we still have a few more training issues to work out.

Since there were so many Wash U students, the polling place on campus was a great idea.

We still could not get into the phone system. We would like to have 24 more lines for the next election.

The February Election was certified yesterday. There were 8 locations where the wrong ballot styles were passed out but it did not affect the totals. This is an ongoing problem with every election and we are going to try and reduce it as fast as possible.

The Variance Report and Personal Action Report were filed as received.

Mr. Diehl moved that the Board enter into closed session pursuant to RSMo Section 610.021, to discuss legal matters. Mr. Zimbalist seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the Board entered into closed session.

John J. Diéhl, Jr., Chairman

Chaim H. Zimbalist, Secretary