

A meeting of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 12 Sunnen Drive, Maplewood, Missouri, Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. on notice and call of Chairman Kellett.

Present at the meeting were:

Richard H. Kellett	Chairman
Julie R. Jones	Secretary
Anita Yeckel	Commissioner
Steve Garrett	Attorney
Joseph E. Donahue	Director
Joseph A. Goeke, III	Director

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

Mr. Kellett opened the Public Forum. Cynthia Richards, President of Missourians for Honest Elections lobbied for discontinuing the use of DRE's. She said it is a fact that the software and the machines can't be audited. Ms. Richards said they conducted an informal survey at the presidential election and most voters do not look at the tape.

Mr. Kellett said 80% of voters want to use the DRE's, but there are enough paper ballots for everyone who wants one.

Judge Goeke said that every piece of equipment is tested before the election. He said that there has been no evidence of a voter touching a selection on a DRE and another selection being recorded on the tape. He said that when the County used punch cards the voter was instructed to punch through a card with the equivalent of a paper clip and trusted that the right hole was punched. Voters using optical-scan ballots read a ballot at about a ten point font and fill in an oval with a pen. The DRE's are easier to read and have been certified by the Secretary of State and the federal government and are used throughout the United States. After making their selections a voter must go the review screen where they can make any changes they wish. If any changes were made the choices must be viewed again and the voter then confirms their vote. At that point the vote is cast.

Ms. Richards said there is evidence and that the states of Maryland, Iowa, Tennessee, California and Florida have gone back to paper ballots. Judge Goeke said that California recertified the touch-screen machines.

Mr. Kellett thanked Ms. Richards for giving the Board her opinions. Ms. Richards replied that they were not her opinions, but fact. She said she would be happy to provide the facts and inform the Board Members. Mr. Kellett suggested that she contact the Secretary of State's office. Ms. Richards replied that they have.

There being no one else wishing to speak at the Public Forum, Mr. Kellett closed that portion of the meeting.

Ms. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010 Board Meeting and Ms. Yeckel seconded. There were no changes or corrections. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Kellett then called for the Directors' Report.

Mr. Donahue said that 3,500 poll workers are needed for the April election and that we are well on the way. He said that 35% of the building trade is out of work and are willing to help.

Mr. Kellett told the Board that Keith Walston had resigned and that he managed the grants, including ongoing handicap accessibility. He approved the expense of upgrading a church but did not get three bids. When the invoice was submitted it was denied. Two individuals from that church paid the expense out of their own funds. He asked for the Board's approval of paying the invoice from the election services fund. Mr. Kellett moved that the Board approve paying the invoice and Ms. Yeckel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

Judge Goeke said that absentee voting was up over previous April elections. There is currently a one-day turn-around for absentee ballots to be mailed. He said the Election Day ballots have been ordered and are due in any time. L&A testing is 60% completed for iVo's and complete for the other machines.

There was no Old Business to discuss. There was no New Business to be brought before the Board.

Ms. Yeckel made a motion that the financial reports and personnel reports be accepted and filed and Ms. Jones seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the reports were accepted as filed.

Mr. Garrett said we just received a summary judgment in the case of a former employee and that he doubted there would be an appeal. He said there were no Legal issues that needed to be addressed in a closed session.

There being no need to enter into a closed session, Ms. Yeckel made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the meeting was then adjourned.


Richard H. Kellett, Chairman


Julie R. Jones, Secretary