

A meeting of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 12 Sunnen Drive, Maplewood, Missouri, Friday, January 18, 2013, 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
Ann Pluemer	Commissioner
John W. Siscel, III	Commissioner
Katie Forster	Attorney
Rita Heard Days	Director
Gary B. Fuhr	Director
Mary Wall	Deputy Director

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

There being no one to speak at the Public Forum, Chairman Kellett made a motion to close the Public Forum and Commissioner Siscel seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the Public Forum was closed.

Commissioner Pluemer moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2012 Board Meeting be accepted and filed and Commissioner Jones seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Kellett called for Director Fuhr's report. Director Fuhr informed the Board of the March 6 deadline for registrations for the April 2 election. Training for the April election begins in February. Upcoming events include The Missouri Ethics Commission seminar on campaign finance on February 7 and training by the Secretary of State's Office scheduled February 20 on the Absentee and Registration modules of MCVR.

A major issue now is that the office is under staffed. Director Fuhr asked for the Board's approval in promoting Christian Tolbert to Republican Deputy Director and the approval to fill the other five open Republican positions. After the promotion is approved, changes in the Election Board's organization chart will be addressed.

Chairman Kellett said that he wants salaries to be level. The IT Manager salary should be the same for both parties, as should the Deputy Director positions. All other new hires should be at entry level. Differences in salary for comparable positions for merit and experience were discussed. Commissioner Pluemer asked if the County could be of help in these matters. The Board asked Director Days and Director Fuhr to analyze salaries and report on their findings.

Commissioner Siscel moved to accept the promotion of Christian Tolbert to Republican Deputy Director and approval to fill the open positions. Chairman Kellett seconded the motion but stated if Commissioner Siscel is not confirmed there could be repercussions. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Chairman Kellett then called for Director Days' report.

Director Days wished the Board a Happy New Year.

Because of long lines at the polling places, we are currently looking at funding for purchasing electronic poll books which will replace the paper binders. Another important issue is personnel. At present the office is management top-heavy. Solutions are being explored, including attrition.

The \$25.00 pay increase for election day workers has been approved. Director Days informed the Board that the office will be closed on Monday for the holiday.

Chairman Kellett said he would like to thank County Councilman Michael O'Mara for his help in obtaining the increase for poll workers.

Director Days reported that the April election is countywide because Proposition P, the Arch and Parks tax, will be on the ballot. There are currently 708,000 active registered voters.

Jason Kander is the new Secretary of State and we hope to establish a good working relationship with him.

There are lovely new folders for Board materials and Administrative Assistant Wilks needs them back at the end of every meeting.

Chairman Kellett made a motion to accept the Directors' reports and Commissioner Jones seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was approved. There was no Old Business to be brought before the Board, so that portion of the meeting was closed.

There being no Old Business to discuss, Chairman Kellett moved that this portion of the meeting be closed and Commissioner Siscel seconded the motion. A vote was taken and Old Business was closed.

Under New Business, security for schools as polling places is being looked at because of the recent events at Sandy Hook.

Commissioner Jones asked if the consultants had submitted a memo of their recommendations following the November election. Commissioner Siscel asked that a report be prepared for the next meeting. Commissioner Pluemer asked if anyone was lobbying for early voting. Director Days stated no, that would fall on the Secretary of State.


Chairman Kellett made a motion to close the New Business portion of the meeting and Commissioner Jones seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Under Financial, there were no questions or comments, Commissioner Jones made a motion to accept and file the Financial reports and Commissioner Pluemer seconded. A vote was taken and the reports were accepted. Under Personnel, Commissioner Pluemer asked how job openings were posted at the Election Board. The posting of jobs is up to the individual Directors. Commissioner Jones moved that the Personnel report be accepted and filed and Commissioner Pluemer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the report was accepted as filed.

Under Legal, it was reported that the St. Louis City Election Board has two attorneys, one Republican and one Democrat, at a rate of \$250/hour and \$2,500.00 for election day. They have another attorney at \$195/hour. We were approached by the County about the lack of a contract with Attorney Crotzer. Chairman Kellett made a motion that a contract be given to Attorney Crotzer for services at \$195/hour and Commissioner Pluemer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved. Attorney Forster stated Attorney Crotzer would draw up a draft contract and submit for review.

There being no more business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Kellett made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Pluemer seconded. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Chairman Kellett, aye; Commissioner Jones, aye; Commissioner Pluemer, aye; Commissioner Siscel, aye. The meeting was then adjourned.

  
Richard H. Kellett, Chairman

  
Ann Pluemer, Commissioner