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 November 17, 2015.

Present at the meeting were:

Richard H. Kellett John Maupin John King Trudi McCollum Foushee Darold Crotzer

Mary Wall

Gary B. Fuhr

Eric Fey

Christian Tolbert

Chairman Secretary

Commissioner Commissioner

Attornev Director Director

**Deputy Director Deputy Director** 

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

Chairman Kellett called upon Mr. Ken Parks, who had signed a card to speak during the Public Forum. Mr. Ken Parks addressed the Board with appreciation, thanking them for their years of service to St. Louis County and Board of Election employees. Chairman Kellett made a motion to close that segment of the meeting and Secretary Maupin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the Public Forum was closed.

Chairman Kellett asked if everyone had read the minutes from the October 13th meeting. Commissioner King made a motion that the minutes be accepted and Secretary Maupin 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 results from the November 3, 2015 election. The election overall turnout was 27.68 percent; Mehlville School District and Kirkwood School District were forty plus percent. Director Fuhr informed the board that the November election was the first election, in his tenure as director that all the polling places closed all the voting machines correctly and returned all media. Certified election results were posted on November 9th. In addition, the election results were mailed to the Missouri Secretary of the State on November 10th. There was no concern about any absentee ballots or applications. Director Fuhr informed the board that Assistant Deputy Director Leicht, Cathy Enz, and Bill Ground had done an excellent job in recruiting and training the students assigned in the high school program. In the November 3rd election 159 high school students were assigned to work the polls; 71 for pay and 78 volunteered for service hours. We had some students that were home schooled. Director Fuhr and Director Fey hosted an employee appreciation luncheon.

Chairman Kellett then called for Director Fey's report. Director Fey was very pleased with the conduct of the election and informed the Board of the overall results. In the last meeting, Assistant Deputy Director Leicht provided the Board with an overview of a project she was coordinating with the Graphic Design Department at Meramec Community College. They designed posters for the County Board of Election to recruit poll workers for the 2016 election cycle. This program will be very beneficial. Director Fey referred the Board's attention to the posters on the wall. On Friday, an election was held within the office to select the posters that would be utilized. Commissioner King asked Director Fey to draft a letter thanking the students of Meramec Community College for a job well done. Director Fey updated the Board about bids for the ballot and election printing and E-poll books. Chairman Kellett made a motion to accept the Directors' reports. Commissioner King seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Under Old Business, Director Fey reported on the status of the voting equipment replacement fund. The directors reiterated their recommendation from the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting that a voting equipment replacement fund be established. Director Fey again emphasized that, experts in the field of election technology generally agree that the expected lifespan of the core components of electronic voting equipment is between 10 and 15 years. Since August of 2006 our election equipment has been used in 38 elections. There is an impending crisis from the widespread wearing out of voting machines purchased a decade ago. Jurisdictions do not have the money to purchase new machines, and legal and market constraints prevent the development of machines they would want even if they had funds. Therefore it is the recommendation of the directors that the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners establish a voting equipment replacement program.

Chairman Kellett asked for a motion to establish a voting equipment replacement fund with initial rental fees to be \$100.00 per IVotronic, \$250.00 per M-100 precinct scanner, and \$2000.00 per M-650 central scanner. Secretary Maupin made the motion and Commissioner Foushee seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Under New Business, Director Fey told the Board there is no New Business to discuss. Chairman Kellett made a motion to close New Business, and Commissioner Foushee seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Director Fuhr directed the Board to the financial reports in their packet. We are on track with our budget, except in legal expenses. A contract needs to be signed today to ensure our ability to pay the November and December legal bills. Secretary Maupin made a motion to authorize the agreement and Chairman Kellett seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved. Commissioner King made a motion to accept and file the financial reports and Secretary Maupin seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

In the Personnel portion of the meeting Director Fey referred the Board to the Personnel report in their packet. As discussion for the legal matters, personnel and real estate would require going into a closed session, Secretary Maupin moved that the meeting be closed pursuant to Section 610.021(1), (2), (3), (12) and (13) RSMo 2000, to discuss legal and personnel matters and Commissioner King seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows: Chairman Kellett, aye; Secretary Maupin, aye; Commissioner King, aye and Commissioner Foushee, aye.

The meeting was then closed.

Upon resumption of the open meeting, Chairman Kellett moved that the Board adjourn and Commissioner Foushee seconded. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Chairman Kellett, ave: Secretary Maupin, ave: and Commissioner Foushee, ave. The meeting was then adjourned.

Richard H. Kellett, Chairman

John Maupin, Secretary