



GLYNN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

Meeting, Tuesday March 10, 2020

The March meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration was called to order by Chairman Gibson at 10 am.

Present were Patricia Gibson, Chairman; Sandy Dean, Vice Chairman; Keith Rustin, Secretary; Patricia Featherstone, Member; Tommy Clark, Member; Christopher Channell, Supervisor; Christina Redden, Assistant Supervisor; Megan Meeks, Dominion Voting Systems; Taylor Cooper, The Brunswick News; Paula Galland; Mario Parcella

Public Comment

No public comment.

Approval of Minutes of February 11, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

Ms. Dean moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Clark seconded. The minutes were approved.

Old Business

Dominion Voting Machine Update

All machines have been received. Logic and Accuracy testing for the Presidential Preference Primary is ongoing. A second Dominion technician will be here to assist with L&A.

New Business

Introduction of Dominion Technician

Mr. Channell introduced Megan Meeks from Dominion Voting Systems. Ms. Meeks will be Glynn County's dedicated technician. She will work in the office for the 2020 election cycle. Ms. Gibson welcomed Ms. Meeks. Ms. Meeks explained her training and qualifications. The regional manager for Dominion Technicians is also available if needed and checks in regularly.

Early Voting

One week of early voting for the Presidential Preference Primary is complete. 1,486 votes were cast the first week. There have been 675 voters at Fire Station 2, 650 at the Office Park location, and 161 at Ballard Park. Initial data shows it takes 4 minutes to process a voter from start to finish.

There were only slight issues with the new equipment. These were easily fixed by rebooting the machine. There were some initial process issues which poll workers and office staff resolved quickly. Ms. Gibson noted voters and poll workers will have a learning curve on this equipment.

The Ballard location is hindered by slow internet speed. Internet is provided by a mobile hotspot. Slow Easy Vote and Enet access is a great concern during peak turnout. The security cameras further slow the internet speed. There is a need to reexamine the cost of installing network lines to the building ahead of the November election.

Health issues have presented challenges. One poll manager is temporarily out at the island polling location due to illness. An assistant manager is unable to work on Mondays due to injury.



Temporary promotions were made to resolve these issues. Some election day poll managers and workers have also noted temporary unavailability due to health and other emergencies.

Ms. Gibson observed early voting setup is more involved and time consuming. Mr. Channell noted extra time is needed to achieve a layout which promotes voter privacy and easy traffic flow. Small locations will have even greater challenges. In order to ensure opening the polls at 7am on election day, Ms. Gibson recommended teams access their buildings earlier to set up. Mr. Channell was tasked with encouraging all poll managers to stop by early voting to examine the layout and make arrangements for all teams to set up the day before. Ms. Dean recommended schematics be provided to guide poll managers during setup.

Ms. Featherstone commented on the need to examine turnout during extended hours and at each location. Ms. Dean commented Monday may be a slow day for extended voting hours. The Board may need to reexamine the schedule once data becomes available. Mr. Clark asked members of the press to highlight early voting in the news.

Election Day

Election Day assignments are complete. Facilities is prepared for machine delivery. Ms. Gibson encouraged each Board member to visit as many polling locations as possible. Office staff will be deployed county-wide. Board members will stay available by phone and plan to meet at office by 5pm election night. Mr. Channell will publish an Intent to Tabulate Early for 3pm. Mr. Channell reviewed poll closing procedures and described steps taken to protect against COVID-19.

Office Report

The scanning project will be completed by the end of the week. There are currently 62,874 voters. A 2017 estimate listed a Glynn County population of 85,000, therefore 70% of the population is registered to vote. The recent mock election was a successful test of the equipment and processes. Demonstrations are currently suspended until after the election. The budget is currently on track. Some recent expenses should be partially covered by the State's matching fund grants.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Clark commented on the need to reevaluate poll manager compensation. Mr. Rustin added a need to evaluate poll manager qualifications for increased pay. Ms. Gibson reaffirmed the need for competent, qualified poll workers. Ms. Featherstone remarked on statewide challenges regarding voter privacy and Glynn County's ability to manage privacy through poll layout.

Executive Session

There was no motion for an Executive Session.

Adjournment

Ms. Dean made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Clark seconded. The motion was approved 5-0.

Patricia Gibson, Chairman

Keith Rustin, Secretary