

The Charles County Board of Elections held its regular monthly Board meeting on March 28, 2022 at 201 East Charles Street, La Plata, Maryland, 20646 at 9:00 a.m.

- I. Declaration of Quorum Present:** Craig Renner
Fern Brown
Norman Saunders
Dorothy Duffield
Mark Hashagen
Louis Jenkins, Board Attorney

Staff: Tracy A. Dickerson
Chris McDougal
Wade Beswick
Stephanie Ramos-Santos

Public: Adrienne Davis

- II. Additions to the Agenda:** Ms. Dickerson added a new topic to the Election Director's Report to go over polling place evaluations. Mr. Hashagen approved the addition to the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Duffield. Unanimously approved.

- III. Old Business:** N/A

- IV. Approval of February Minutes:** Mr. Saunders made a motion to accept the February Minutes, seconded by Mrs. Brown. Unanimously approved.

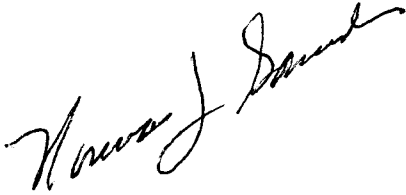
- V. Election Director's Report:**

- Ms. Dickerson gave the Board members new calendars with updated dates. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election was moved from June 28, 2022, to July 19, 2022, and Early Voting was moved from June 17- June 23 to July 7- July 14 due to a Maryland Court of Appeals court order.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she advised the three Early Voting sites about the Primary and Early Voting date changes. Jaycees and Sacred Heart are available for use on the new dates and have signed new contracts. St. Joseph's Parish Center is not available for the third day of Early Voting, but they offered us the use of their Activity Center. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she, along with Mr. Beswick and Ms. Ramos-Santos, surveyed the Activity Center the previous week. Ms. Dickerson showed pictures from the survey and informed the Board that the Activity Center is smaller than the Parish Center, but the site is accessible with adding a threshold ramp to the exit. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she contacted the State Board of Elections about a small step at the exit and the State will be providing a threshold ramp for the exit.

- Ms. Dickerson explained to the Board the layout of the site, the first room will have check-in judges and the provisional judge, doors leading to the second room will be open and the second room will have the voting judges and the voting booths with scanners being at the exit.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board of a concern that St. Joseph has. There will be a wedding on the third day of Early Voting at the St. Joseph's Parish Center, and they would not like electioneers to go after the guests. To prevent this, St. Joseph's has allowed to let voters use the church parking lot. Ms. Dickerson said that there will be a notice released to candidates about that day. St. Joseph's will also be holding a church service that day.
- Ms. Duffield told the Board that there shouldn't be a problem between the events at St. Joseph's and Early Voting. Mr. Renner asked if the Early Voting day will be from 7am-8pm, Ms. Dickerson responded yes. Ms. Duffield asked if all eight days will be held at the Activity Center, Ms. Dickerson responded yes.
- Mr. Renner called for a motion to approve the site change from St. Joseph's Parish Center to St. Joseph's Activity Center. Ms. Duffield made a motion to approve the site change, seconded by Mr. Hashagen. Unanimously approved.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that the Drop Box locations for the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary were approved by the State Board of Elections on March 11, 2022.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that there is still a need for election judges. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she continues to get election judges interested by going to committee meetings to talk about election judges, sending out press releases through social media and the website, as well as calling and sending mail to previous election judges and asking if any friends or family members are interested in working. Election judge training was pushed back two weeks when the Primary Election date was moved. Training will run from April 25 through June 4. Each class will have 15 people. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that they are welcome to see the training.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board about redistricting. Ms. Dickerson explained to the Board that the proposed Congressional redistricting map does not affect Charles County because it is already in the 5th Congressional district. The legwork for Legislative redistricting map is complete, if it passes Ms. Dickerson will just need to input the information into the voter registration system. She explained that she did away with precinct 8-5 as it was split into two different districts, thus she took the part of 8-5 that was in Legislative district 27A to precinct 8-1 and took the part of 8-5 in Legislative district 28 to precinct 8-4.
- In the Governor's redistricting plan Charles County would be affected greatly. Ms. Dickerson then went onto explaining the Senate map which splits Charles County into three senates. Instead of being Legislative district 28, Charles will be Legislative district 40. Charles will also be in Legislative district 39 with Prince George's County and in Legislative 41 with St. Mary's County. This would mean that 100% of voters will need new Voter ID cards and it will affect the budget. If the map gets approved, Ms. Dickerson will need to start from scratch.
- Ms. Dickerson explained the Delegate redistricting map which the plan is to have Delegate districts be 40A, 40B, and 40C. This means the Delegate would need to live within Charles and live in that subdistrict.

- Mr. Renner asked which map is in litigation, Ms. Dickerson responded the Congressional and Legislative redistricting plans. Charles County is included because District 27 was named in the lawsuit.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she will continue to keep them updated on redistricting.
- Mr. Renner asked Ms. Dickerson how long it would take her to input new information into the system once the maps are all set, Ms. Dickerson responded that it would take her six weeks as she will have to look at every single street in the county if she has to start from scratch. Mr. Renner then asked if the maps were approved this Friday if she would be done by the middle of May before the ballots. Ms. Dickerson responded yes and informed the Board that there is one person at the State Board of Elections that generates the ballots, and it would take the staff at the Charles County Board of Elections 3-4 days to proof the ballots. Doing L&A will also take up time, but the process has been simplified to taking the test deck and dividing into the number of scanners that will be at a polling place, and afterwards totaling the number of scanned ballots on a spreadsheet, just like the process done in the mock election.
- Mr. Renner asked how many ballot styles there will be and if all will be printed, Ms. Dickerson responded that there will be 129 ballot styles in the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary, Legislation wants precinct results reporting, so ballot styles are necessary for that. In 2018 there were five ballot styles. There are different ballot styles for Legislative 27A and 28 for Republicans and Democrats. There will also be School Board that run by Commissioner Districts, therefore different ballots are generated and are also based on precinct. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that there will only be 129 ballot styles during Early Voting, on Election Day the ballot styles will be by precinct only.
- Mr. Renner asked if there would be another two weeks added so the ballots are printed and sent out. Ms. Dickerson responded that ballots would be sent out in the middle of May or June. Maryland has to adhere to the MOVE act that Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee voters need their ballot sent at least 45 days before the election.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board of the Polling Place Evaluation Reports; the 100% Evaluation Report will be a total of a four-year cycle. 25% for the 2022 Primary, followed by another 25% for the 2022 General, and the cycle is finished with 25% in the 2024 Primary and 25% in the 2024 General. Early Voting sites need to be evaluated one time unless it is new. Ms. Dickerson gave an example of Jaycees and St. Joseph's having to be evaluated twice.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that as of this morning, there are 7,332 mail-in request forms and 4,867 of them requested permanent mail-in voting for all future elections.
- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that she and Mr. Renner will be having a meeting with the Charles County Commissioners to get support to veto HB35/SB158. Having 43 polling locations with the lack of election judges and polling locations under construction in 2022 is not doable. We also do not have enough equipment for all locations. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that this is a statewide issue. Ms. Dickerson also informed the Board that Mr. Renner and her sent out a letter to the delegation informing them about the bill, but heard no response.

- VI. Board Attorney Report:** Mr. Jenkins informed the Board that there is a lot of uncertainty about what will happen regarding redistricting and the Primary Election date, but he and Ms. Dickerson will keep everyone updated.
- VII. New Business:** N/A
- VIII. Next Board Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held on April 14, 2022, instead of April 21, 2022. This is due to the deadline for submitting Polling Places being on April 19, 2022 and having a resolution done before the deadline.
- IX. Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Saunders made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Duffield. Unanimously approved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy J. Saunders", is written diagonally across the page.