



The Charles County Board of Elections held its regular monthly board meeting on December 20, 2021 at 201 East Charles Street, La Plata, Maryland, 20646 at 9:00 a.m.

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

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

Public: Jerry Feith  
Jim Crawford  
Mike Turner  
Cheryl Fellenz

- II. Approval of November Minutes:** Mr. Norman Saunders made a motion to accept the November Minutes, seconded by Ms. Fern Brown. Unanimously approved.

- III. Additions to the Agenda:** N/A

**IV. Election Director's Report:**

- Ms. Tracy Dickerson informed the Board of the early voting location change. St. Charles Gleneagles Neighborhood Center will be changed to the Waldorf Jaycees Hall. The reason for this change is Maryland Election law reads Charles County is required to have three early voting locations, with 80% of voters being within a five-mile radius of a location. Adding the Jaycees Hall as a location will meet the requirement. Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that Waldorf Jaycees was surveyed and met all the requirements and is fully accessible. The other two early voting locations will continue to be Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's Parish Center.
- Mr. Renner asked Ms. Dickerson if the Waldorf Jaycees Hall will be used in future elections, Ms. Dickerson responded that it was discussed with the Jaycees Hall. Mr. Renner asked Ms. Dickerson if a 'thank you' letter can be sent to the Gleneagles Neighborhood Center for their years of service. Ms. Dickerson responded yes.
- Mr. Mark Hashagen made a motion to approve the early voting location change from St. Charles Gleneagles Neighborhood Center to the Waldorf Jaycees Hall, seconded by Ms. Dorothy Duffield. Unanimously approved.

- Ms. Dickerson informed the Board of the drop box locations for the Gubernatorial Primary Election 2022. The ballot box located at the Board of Elections is not state mandated, but she recommends it because it had the highest intake for the 2020 election. The 5 drop boxes from the State Board of Elections will be located at:
  - Thomas Stone High School
  - Waldorf Jaycees
  - Westlake High School
  - St. Joseph's Parish Center
  - Henry E. Lackey High School
  
- Ms. Dickerson explained to the Board the recommended locations for drop boxes. Waldorf Jaycees Hall and St. Joseph's Parish Center are early voting sites and will have drop boxes. Westlake High School was the second highest location to get many mail-in-ballots in the 2020 election. Henry E. Lackey High School is accessible to over 80% of voters. All locations have 24-hour surveillance.
  
- Mr. Renner informed the board that the Board of Elections staff takes time to collect ballots seven times per week. Ms. Dickerson added that they collect ballots two times per day nearing early voting.
  
- Ms. Duffield informed the Board that Lackey High School fulfills a large area of voters. She told the board that she participated in collecting ballots from the drop box locations during the 2020 election and many locations did not have many mail-in-ballots in the drop boxes.
  
- Ms. Duffield made a motion to approve the drop box locations for the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary election, seconded by Mr. Mark Hashagen. Unanimously approved.
  
- Ms. Dickerson discussed with the Board the budget for Fiscal Year 2023 being a total of \$2,092,824.00 The difference between FY 23 and FY 22 is the added funds for adding Jaycees as a third early voting center.
  
- Mr. Saunders asked if the budget would be enough regarding inflation, Mr. Renner responded that the budget reflects those concerns. Mr. Saunders asked if the budget includes maintenance and renting the upstairs of the building. Ms. Dickerson responded yes, and in February the office will have use of the entire building.
  
- Ms. Fern Brown made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 budget of \$2,092,824.00, seconded by Ms. Dorothy Duffield. Unanimously approved.
  
- Ms. Dickerson thanked the Board for the approval and informed the Board that she will submit the budget to the Charles County Commissioners.

**V. Board Attorney Report:** N/A

**VI. Old Business:** N/A

**VII. New Business:** Mr. Craig Renner announced that three members of the public asked to speak to the Board, and they have a total of two minutes to say what they have to say.

- Mr. Jerry Feith announced to the Board that “Charles County Board of Elections is corrupt; President Trump has said that there is election fraud and has been widespread election fraud for decades.” Mr. Feith stated that the Charles County Board of Elections has failed to fix fraud and failed to observe and perform rules, and the office has until June 2022 to clean up their behavior. Mr. Feith stated he grades Charles County Board of Elections an F.
- Mr. Jim Crawford announced to the Board that he is the Vice Chair of the Republican Central committee. He informed the Board that the committee members have been receiving requests from the public to know about how the Charles County Board of Elections has honesty and accountability. He asked about next year’s election regarding countywide precincts.
- Mr. Mike Turner announced to the Board that he is concerned about the integrity of voter’s votes. He said he never received anything that said he voted and would like a receipt as proof. Mr. Crawford asked what steps are taken in removing who move, are inactive, or deceased, he would like to know the process. Mr. Crawford also stated that he would like to know the exact cost of Early Voting, he believes that Early Voting is expensive, and election judges are kept in the building for long hours and for eight days.
- Mr. Renner thanked everyone for their comments and informed them that the Board of Elections will reply to them within a few weeks.
- At 9:20 am Mr. Renner announced the end of the public meeting to go into closed session for a legal matter.

**VIII. Next Board Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held on January 20, 2022.

**IX. Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Norman Saunders made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Mark Hashagen. Unanimously approved.