

**Minutes of the  
Richland County  
Board of Elections and Voter Registration  
2020 Hampton Street  
Thursday, November 1, 2012  
6:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Attending**

Ms. M. Elizabeth Crum, Chair  
Mr. Allen Dowdy, Vice Chair  
Ms. Adell Adams

**Staff Attending**

Ms. Lillian McBride, Executive Director  
Mr. Garry Baum, Deputy Director  
Ms. Cheryl Goodwin, Elections Systems Coordinator  
Ms. Amie Brunson

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. It was noted that a quorum was present to allow the meeting to proceed.

**Unfinished Business**

*Public Hearing Minutes from October 18, 2012*

- The Board members reviewed the minutes from the public hearing held on October 18, 2012. A motion was made to approve the public hearing minutes. Seconded. Approved 2-0. Ms. Crum did not vote as she had recused herself and had not attended the public hearing on October 18, 2012.

**New Business**

*General Election*

- Ms. McBride provided the Board with the number of individuals who voted Absentee in the 2008 General Election compared with the number of individuals who had already voted Absentee as of November 1, 2012. The Board noted that there were already more absentee votes as of November 1, 2012 as there had been in all of 2008.
- Ms. Crum reminded the Board members that in 2010, the absentee paper ballots had to be divided into 4 separate groups for purposes of their being read through the optical scanner. Ms. Cheryl Goodwin, Election Systems Coordinator, informed the Board Members that the absentee ballots had to be sorted according to ballot style. The Absentee Ballot range is as follows:
  - Absentee 1: Ballot Styles 1-30
  - Absentee 2: Ballot Styles 31-60
  - Absentee 3: Ballot Styles 61-90

- Absentee 4: Ballot Styles 91-112

#### *Absentee Voting at Dreher High School*

- Absentee Voting was held at Dreher High School on Saturday, October 27, 2012 from 9:00am – 1:00pm. The Board Members discussed the positive responses received from Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> and commended the Elections & Voter Registration staff on the location and personnel that worked on the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Absentee Voting will be held at Dreher High School on Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 9:00am – 1:00pm.

#### *Other New Business*

- It was discussed that a news station had called and reported a misspelling on the paper absentee ballot. The word Governor had been misspelled, although this information was downloaded directly from the State Election Commission.
- Ms. McBride informed the Board Members that information had been received from a private Election Protection Hotline, a nonpartisan service of the SC Election Protection Coalition and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, requesting that numbers for the Election Protection Hotline be posted in the various county precincts. The Board reviewed the information presented, noting that it was not official from either the State or federal governments. A motion was made to not to place the Election Protection Hotline information in the polling locations. Seconded. Approved 3-0.
- Ms. McBride explained that the SEC will provide classes on November 29, 2012 regarding the Voter ID Bill and the changes that will take place beginning January 2013. The staff informed the Board Members that information was received from the SEC regarding changes that will take place beginning in January 2013 because of the Voter ID Bill. It was suggested that this information be placed in the poll worker bags and put on display at each of the polling locations. The Board reviewed the information presented and decided that this information may cause more questions and voter confusion. A motion was made to not distribute or display this information in the polling locations. Seconded. Approved 3-0.
- Mr. Garry Baum presented the Board members with an anonymous letter that was sent to the office regarding potential election fraud in a nursing home in Richland County. The Board reviewed the information presented. A motion was made to forward the letter to SLED and the Richland County Sherriff's office. Seconded. Approved 3-0.

#### **Executive Session**

No executive session was held.

**Date of Next Meeting**

- The Board Members will meet on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 starting at 9:00am to begin opening the absentee ballots.
- Certification will be held on Friday, November 9, 2012 in the Council Chambers.

**Adjournment**

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.