**Davidson County Election Commission**

**December 12, 2013**

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met a 3:30 p.m. in the Green Hills Conference Room at Metro Southeast. Commissioners Ron Buchanan, Jennifer Lawson, Tricia Herzfeld, Jim DeLanis, and AJ Starling were present. DCEC staff members present included Administrator of Elections (AOE) Kent Wall, Joan Nixon, Bill Hyden, Bobby Medley, and Kelley Harrison. Nicki Eke of the Metropolitan Department of Law was also in attendance.

**Approve minutes from the November 13, 2013 meeting**

**Stated motion**: Commissioner Starling made a motion to approve DCEC minutes from November 13, 2013 as presented.

**Seconded by**: Commissioner DeLanis

**Outcome of motion**: Passed unanimously (Commissioner Herzfeld was not present at the time of said motion)

**Possible Voter Fraud**

Joan Nixon presented the board with documentation obtained from Elaine Regan of the Criminal Court Clerk’s office regarding voter, Dorothy L. (Bigsby) Wright, who was convicted of a felony in 2004, registered to vote in July of 2012 and marked on her voter registration application that she had not been convicted of a felony, and voted in November of 2012.

Nicki Eke cited TCA 2-19-143, “No person who has been convicted of an infamous crime, as defined by section 40-20-112, in this state shall be permitted to register to vote or vote at any election unless such person has been pardoned by the governor, or the person’s full rights of citizenship have otherwise been restored as prescribed by law.”

Discussion ensued among the board.

**Stated motion**: Commissioner Buchanan made a motion to purge said voter from the DCEC records and forward information to the District Attorney’s office and allow him to pursue whatever action is appropriate.

**Seconded by**: Commissioner Starling

**Outcome of motion**: Passed unanimously

**Administrator’s reports**

1. Poll Officers Discussion Group- AOE Wall, Joan Nixon, Bobby Medley, Gaye Hudson, and Kelley Harrison met with veterans and first time poll workers on December 10th and invited them to voice their issues/concerns regarding the election process. AOE Wall and said staff will meet to reach a consensus of three (3) or four (4) key points that the DCEC office will address going into the 2014 election cycle.
2. Poll Official Open House at MSE- January 9, 2014 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.- Currently poll officials are being called to assess their interest and intent to work in the upcoming 2014 elections and in that process, the open house is being mentioned. Invitations will be sent via email but if email is not available, an invitation will be sent via US Postal service. The Metro Council, DCEC Commissioners, and the Delegation will be invited as well.

*\*Weather contingency date for Poll Official Open House: January 14, 2014*

1. Re-Districting Labeling Project Update: AOE Wall stated that the best estimate is

175k-180k completed out of 300k total. Close to $33,000 has been spent on overtime and the actual labels.

1. Reminder: Lock Ballot boxes during January commission meeting (Berry Hill Election)

**Any other old/new business:**

Old business-Chairman Buchanan mentioned the need to have better communication with the Metro Council specifically with the Budget/Finance Committee. Chairman Buchanan met with Councilman Ronnie Steine to discuss our desire to get to know the committee, for the committee to know what we are doing and why we are doing it, etc.

New business-Commissioner Lawson inquired if a member of council resigned in January 2014, will that require a special election to fill the vacancy. Nicki Eke reported that the Metropolitan Department of Law has discussed this issue with the State Coordinator’s office and if a member of council announces their resignation in January 2014, the vacated office will be on the August 2014 ballot.

**Set date and time for next meeting:** The next scheduled meeting will be on January 23, 2014 at 3:30 p.m.

**Review voter registration cards:** Commissioners reviewed voter registration applications for accuracy in accordance with state law requirements.

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Tricia Herzfeld, Secretary