

Davidson County Election Commission

June 18, 2014

“Special Called” Meeting

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met at 3:00 p.m. in the Green Hills Conference Room on June 18, 2014 at Metro Southeast. Commissioners AJ Starling, Jennifer Lawson, Tricia Herzfeld, and Jim DeLanis were present. Chairman Buchanan was not in attendance and, in his absence, Commissioner Starling served as acting Chairman. DCEC Staff present included AOE Kent Wall, Joan Nixon, Meredith McKay, Bill Hyden, Jeremy Greene, Reid Lovell, and Kelley Harrison. Also in attendance were Nicki Eke of the Metropolitan Department of Law; State Coordinator of Elections, Mark Goins; Assistant State Coordinator of Elections, Beth Henry-Robertson; Attorney Steve North, Candidate Carson “Bill” Beck, and Attorney Colby Block.

Acting Chairman Starling convened the meeting.

Consider 10th Early Voting Site-August Election

AOE Wall reported that in the regular scheduled meeting held on June 13, 2014, the board was presented with a list of nine (9) recommendations for early voting sites. Late news from the Metro Budget and Finance Committee was that DCEC will be receiving additional funding for a 10th early voting location and an increase in the number of days the sites will be open. The consensus in Friday’s meeting on June 13, 2014, was for a location in the Woodbine area to be the 10th early voting site.

Jeremy Greene, IT Manager, and Reid Lovell, Machine Technician, relooked at a few locations that were previously examined. Neither Coleman Park nor Connection Point Church were available due to prior scheduled obligations and current activities. Another suggested location was Casa Azafran Community Center. After a meeting with a representative from the center, it is the opinion of both Jeremy and Reid that location would indeed work. A T1 line would have to be installed at the cost of \$2,000. Further discussion ensued among the board.

Motion stated: Commissioner Lawson made a motion to accept Casa Azafran Community Center as the 10th early voting location for the August Election.

Seconded by: Commissioner Herzfeld

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

August 2014 Ballots

a. **House District 51 Residency Challenge:** Chairman Starling noted there had been an official residency challenge regarding House District 51 involving candidate, Carson “Bill” Beck, by Eric Richardson (registered voter in House District 51). Chairman Starling asked Commissioner Lawson to read the complaint letter aloud as a part of the minutes (see attached). Mr. Eric Richardson was not present but was represented by attorney Colby Block of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs. Ms. Block presented her case and several exhibits questioning the residency of Mr. Beck as required by TCA 8-18-101. Commissioner Herzfeld questioned Colby Block about the presented documents.

Attorney Steve North, representing Carson "Bill" Beck presented his case and exhibits to affirm that Mr. Beck is indeed a resident in Davidson County. Commissioner DeLanis, Commissioner Herzfeld, and Commissioner Lawson questioned Mr. Beck.

Further discussion ensued among the board.

Motion stated: Commissioner Herzfeld made a motion to sustain Mr. Beck's qualifications to remain on the August 7, 2014 ballot.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lawson

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

b. **Criminal Court Judge, Division I race- Dozier/Kimbrough:** It was reported by Chairman Starling that the DCEC received correspondence from Roy Herron, Chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party. The letter was read aloud by Commissioner Lawson:

Dear Mr. Goins:

I am writing to affirm the May 6, 2014 nomination of Mr. Steve Dozier for Davidson County Criminal Court Division I.

Respectfully,

Roy Herron

Chairman Starling noted that no further action needs to be taken by the board other than the filing of this correspondence.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Herzfeld made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawson and passed unanimously.

Jennifer Lawson, Acting Secretary