

DAVIDSON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

“SPECIAL CALLED” MEETING

MAY 14, 2015

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met on May 14, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Green Hills Conference Room at Metro Southeast. Commissioners Ron Buchanan, Jennifer Lawson, Jim DeLanis and Tricia Herzfeld were present. Commissioner A J Starling was absent from the meeting. DCEC staff members included Administrator of Elections (AOE) Kent Wall, Joan Nixon, Nancy DeKalb, John Hite, Reid Lovell, Meredith McKay, Chris Wooton, Bobby Medley, and Kelley Harrison. Lora Fox of the Metropolitan Department of Law was also in attendance.

Chairman Buchanan convened the meeting.

Voter Registration List Maintenance

Joan Nixon reported that the presented list maintenance policy is the same policy the current commission signed off on in 2013. Between the dates of October 1, 2012 through November 2014, 16,535 voters will be made “inactive” and be sent a confirmation notice. The confirmation notice explain the steps to follow to be returned to an “active” status. This procedure is done every two years.

Motion stated: Commissioner DeLanis made a motion to approve the list maintenance policy as presented.

Seconded by: Commissioner Herzfeld

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Discussion of DCEC Policy Regarding Electronic Devices in Polling Locations, Election of August 6, 2015 and Beyond

Prior to the November 2014 election cycle, the State Coordinator’s staff developed and announced the availability of an “app” which allows voters to look up an array of election information including a sample ballot. Unfortunately, this is causing confusion with the voters using electronic devices inside the polling locations. The current DCEC Electronic Device Policy prohibits the use of any electronic device in a polling location. Due to the new state law, the DCEC policy will have to be amended prior to January 1, 2016. Staff recommends that the current policy regarding the use of mobile electronic devices be changed to reflect the intent of the new legislation.

In the last commission meeting, AOE Wall asked the commission if it would be acceptable for the DCEC to develop a recommendation regarding the policy of using mobile electronic devices in polling locations and report back to the commission. House Bill 988, which was also adopted by the Senate, has an effective date of January 1, 2016. The recommended new policy was presented to the board.

Discussion ensued among the board.

Motion stated: Commissioner Herzfeld made a motion to approve the policy.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lawson

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Motion stated: Commissioner DeLanis made a motion to amend the policy clarifying that a voter is permitted to use his/her mobile device for his/her own use.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lawson

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Information Regarding Notification Process, Re: TCA 2-13-203

TCA 2-13-203 requires that the county political parties give the county election commission an original written notice at least one hundred and eighty (180) days before the qualifying deadline as to whether or not each party intends to have a primary election at the same time as the Presidential Preference Primary (March 1, 2016).

A letter has been prepared using the language in the guidelines distributed by the State Coordinator. This letter, with the suggested attachments, will be mailed to each party chairman on May 15, 2015 with a request to respond by June 15, 2015.

Tricia Herzfeld, Secretary