

Davidson County Election Commission

“Special Called” Meeting

July, 21, 2017

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met at 4:00 p.m. in the Green Hills Conference Room at Metro Southeast. Commissioners Jim DeLanis, Emily Reynolds, Jesse Neil, Tricia Herzfeld and A.J. Starling were present. DCEC staff members included: Administrator of Elections (AOE) Jeff Roberts, Joan Nixon, Courtney Mott, Lisa Pierce, Susan Reid, Carolyn Stewart and Kelley Harrison. Also present was Nicki Eke of the Metropolitan Department of Law.

Chairman DeLanis convened the meeting.

Discuss Amber Blackwell’s Candidacy for the Special Election Council District 33

Chairman DeLanis informed the commission they are to consider a decision that was first made on July 15, 2017 at a previous commission meeting. Thereafter, the DCEC received indications that Ms. Blackwell had not received notice of said meeting and she wanted the opportunity to be heard on the issue of her candidacy placement on the ballot. Chairman DeLanis issued the parameters on how much time Ms. Blackwell has allotted to present her information to the Commission (half an hour).

Ms. Blackwell’s attorney, Michael Rowan, opened with presenting a copy of Ms. Blackwell’s driver’s license which was issued on October 27, 2016 bearing a Davidson County address, a TDS phone bill and a copy of a personal check. Ms. Blackwell stated she’s been residing in Davidson County for over 3 years and feels her name should remain on the ballot for the Special Election on August 15, 2017.

Both Chairman DeLanis and Commissioner Herzfeld questioned Ms. Blackwell regarding her knowingly voting on October 19, 2016 in Wilson County and swearing under oath that she lived at the address she voted under. Ms. Blackwell’s attorney, Michal Rowan, read aloud the Metro Charter Sec. 3.02 to the Commission.

Again, Commissioner Herzfeld questioned Ms. Blackwell’s residency during the time she early voted in October of 2016 in Wilson County.

Discussion ensued among the Commission and Ms. Blackwell’s attorney.

Ms. Blackwell abruptly leaves the meeting before the Commission took any action regarding this matter.

Motion stated: Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to reaffirm DCEC’s position from the July 15, 2017 meeting and omit Ms. Amber Blackwell’s name from the ballot.

Seconded by: Commissioner Herzfeld

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

A meeting was scheduled for September 26, 2017 at 4 p.m.

Adjourn

Motion stated: Commissioner Herzfeld made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded by: Commissioner Neil

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Tricia Herzfeld, Secretary