Electoral Board Meeting Minutes February 2, 2019

The Electoral Board of Arlington County met at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2019, in the Office of Elections, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 320. The meeting was called to order by David Bell, Vice Chairman, and present were; W. Scott McGeary, Secretary; Linda Lindberg, Director of Elections; and Gretchen Reinemeyer, Deputy Director. Several visitors were also present.

The minutes from previous meetings, having been previously distributed, were approved.

Gretchen Reinemeyer presented the Board with a list of approximately 1200 names recommended for appointment as Officers of Election, for a term beginning March 1, 2019. Because the 2020 Presidential primary falls on March 3, 2020, after the normal term expiration date of February 29, 2020 and immediately before the next term start date of March 1, 2020, staff recommended the Board extend the term for all proposed appointees through March 3, 2020, so they would be eligible to work in the primary. The Board agreed to the extension, and voted to approve all appointments.

The Board agreed there were no recommended changes to the current voting systems security plan, and directed Linda Lindberg to convey this information to the Virginia Department of Elections. This information is exempt from public disclosure under § 24.2-625.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Gretchen Reinemeyer and Linda Lindberg next updated the Board on the status of the strategic plan adopted in 2018. They acknowledged that goals set for 2018 were met, and Gretchen updated the Board on two key objectives for 2019. The "I Voted" Sticker Contest is planned for a March launch, with the winner named by May. Staff noted that the stickers would not be ready in time for a June primary, but would be used for approximately a four-year period, starting with the November election.

Vendor demonstrations for new electronic pollbooks are in the process of being scheduled for late February and early March. Funding has already been approved, and the hope is new pollbooks will be available in time for the June primary.

Staff advised the Board that there are still a number of unknowns regarding the scope and schedule of renovations in the Bozman Government Center (2100 Clarendon). They will be monitoring closely to determine what potential operational impacts may occur, especially during the 2020 elections.

Linda Lindberg presented the Board with an updated list of some of the election bills brought before the 2019 General Assembly and their current status. Measures of interest that seem to be successful include no-excuse absentee voting beginning the second Saturday before each election and the restructuring of the State Board of Elections, although the House and Senate versions of the latter have some differences.

Linda Lindberg announced that she would be retiring at the end of June and therefore was not seeking reappointment as General Registrar/Director of Elections. Scott McGeary moved and David Bell seconded a motion for the Board to enter into a closed session, along with Linda Lindberg in an advisory capacity, for the purpose of discussing options and procedures for the registrar appointment. Under § 24.2-110, the Board must meet in May or June of the year the registrar's four-year term begins to make the registrar appointment. The Board entered into a closed session at 11:00.

At 11:10, the Board returned from the closed session and took a roll call vote that no business other than the stated personnel issue was discussed. The vote was as follows: McGeary – yes. Bell – yes.

David Bell then informed the visitors that the Board had decided to proceed with an open recruitment for the registrar position. Linda Lindberg will contact Human Resources on behalf of the Board to begin the process.

Announcements and upcoming events:

- Scott McGeary has been reappointed to the Board, for a term beginning March 1, 2019 and ending February 28, 2022.
- The Board members set a tentative date for their March meeting for Friday, March 15 at 4 pm, pending confirmation from Charlene Bickford, Chairman, who was unable to attend this meeting.
- The Virginia Electoral Board Association's annual meeting will be March 8-10 at The Homestead.
 All Board members as well as Linda Lindberg and Gretchen Reinemeyer are expected to attend.
- The June 11 primary elections are expected to be Democratic primaries for 31st Senate, 49th House, and Commonwealth's Attorney. There is a possibility of a date change, especially for the House race, pending House of Delegates redistricting action scheduled to occur in other state districts, although not affecting Arlington.
- The potential dates for state training are the last week of June. Scott McGeary is expected to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

___(not present)_

Charlene N. Bickford, Chairman

David A. Bell, Vice Chairman

W. Scott McGeary, Secretary