

Electoral Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2019

The Electoral Board of Arlington County met at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2019, in Room 311, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. The meeting was called to order by Charlene Bickford, Chairman, and present were David Bell, Vice Chairman; W. Scott McGeary, Secretary; Linda Lindberg, Director of Elections; and Gretchen Reinemeyer, Deputy Director. Several visitors were also present.

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

The first order of business was the election of Board officers for the term of March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020. David Bell proposed that Charlene Bickford and Scott McGeary retain their current respective positions of Chairman and Secretary, and Scott McGeary proposed that David Bell retain his current position of Vice Chairman. All positions were elected by affirmation.

Gretchen Reinemeyer advised the Board that staff had seen on-site demonstrations of the three vendors under consideration for replacement of the current legacy electronic pollbooks. Staff had also viewed two of the three vendors in action during the recent special election in Loudoun and Fairfax Counties. She was awaiting bids from all vendors, and a decision is expected soon, hopefully in time to implement the new pollbooks for the June primary.

Gretchen also noted that the "I Voted" sticker contest was ready to launch, and the initial request for submissions should go out the following week.

Linda Lindberg informed the Board that the County posted the job announcement for the Director of Elections position earlier that morning. The position will be open for two weeks, after which Linda will receive information on the qualifying candidates on behalf of the Board. The Board agreed that they would only interview the top candidates.

Board members and staff next discussed information gained from the recent Virginia Electoral Board Association (VEBA) annual meeting. There are two key pieces of legislation awaiting the Governor's actions: early voting and State Board of Elections (SBE) reorganization. It is believed the Governor will sign the early voting bills, which are currently scheduled to take effect in 2020. The SBE bill, which would expand the size of the SBE from three to five members, is less certain.


We learned during the VEBA meeting that former Arlington Delegate Bob Brink was appointed to the SBE and will serve as its new chairman. Board members expressed solid agreement with this decision and said they were impressed by Commissioner Chris Piper's performance at the Department of Elections.

Announcements and upcoming events:

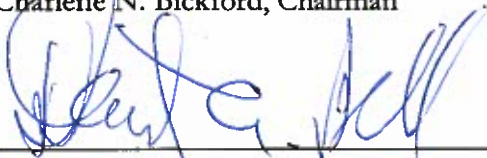
- Gretchen Reinemeyer will be in the Ukraine for election observation with the Organization for Co-operation and Security in Europe from approximately March 25-April 3.
- The budget work session with the County Board is scheduled for March 27.
- The Election Officials Technical Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments will hold a special conference on March 29 in Alexandria. Special guest will be Rep. Don Beyer.

- The June 11 primary elections are expected to be Democratic primaries for 31st Senate, 49th House, and Commonwealth's Attorney. The candidate filing window closes March 28. If the two candidates for Commonwealth's Attorney file at the same time, the Board will need to meet to conduct a drawing for ballot order.
- The potential dates for state training June 25-26, subject to confirmation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.



Charlene N. Bickford, Chairman



David A. Bell, Vice Chairman



W. Scott McGeary, Secretary