

# BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION OF JASPER COUNTY

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

**PRESENT:** Chairman Joseph Arzillo; Commissioner Donald Sheftall, Sr.; Commissioner Pamela M. Williams; Commissioner Rodney Catterton; Commissioners Patricia Walls; Commissioner Lillian King; Commissioner Carl Tyler and Director Jeanine Bostick.

**ABSENT:** Vice Chairman Albert Stiffler and Commissioner Warren Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Arzillo at 5:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Donald Sheftall, Sr.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motioned by Commissioner King, seconded by Commissioner Tyler to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2014 Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chairman Arzillo asked for a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the process of how the Poll Managers would be selected and not select poll workers tonight. After further discussion Chairman Arzillo withdrew his request for a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Sheftall motioned to approve tonight's agenda; it was seconded by Commissioner King. Motion carried unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **COPY FEES:** Chairman Arzillo asked the Director, Jeanine to explain the current adopted policy on copy fees. The Board current policy read as follow **\$13.50 per hour plus \$1.00 dollar per page for all copies provided to the public.** After the Board's discussion of amending the copy fees policy. Commissioner Williams motioned that the new copy fee would be .50 cents per page for all copies provided to the public and no hourly rate would be charged. It was seconded by Commission Tyler. Motion carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **ROTARY MEMBERSHIP:** Chairman Arzillo asked the Director to speak about Rotary. The Director expressed her sincere appreciation of being allowed to be a member of the Jasper County Rotary Club for the past 8 years. The Director informed the Board of the programs that Rotary supports and why serving as a Rotarian is rewarding. Commissioner Williams commented that Rotary is a Business Membership Organization and Voter Registration is not a business. The Director explained that Rotary is not just a Business Membership Organization and that there are several Rotary members who are members and are not connected to any businesses.

**NEW BUSINESS CONT'D. ROTARY MEMBERSHIP:**

Commissioner Sheftall stated the Board should possibly discuss this matter during the next review of the budget. Commissioner Williams stated it was discussed prior to the current budget however it was left in the budget. Chairman Arzillo asked the Board to take the time to become familiar with Rotary and be ready to discuss and make a decision at the next Board meeting.

- **OFFICE TELEVISION:** The Chairman opened the floor for discussion. Commissioner Sheftall stated the television should be utilize for the purpose it was purchased for, which is to project election results. Commissioner Williams commented that it was unprofessional to have the television on in public view. Chairman Arzillo clarified this is in no way about Rosemary and Jeanine doing their jobs while this television is on. The discussion is about the television being on in the lobby. Commissioner King mentioned possibly purchasing a cover for the television. Commissioner Sheftall commented make sure the television is off when it is not in use for election purposes. Commissioner Walls commented the television doesn't have internet or cable installed so it's not connected to anything and she wasn't sure why there's a problem. With no further discussion, Commissioner Sheftall motioned that the television be turned off and used for election purposes only and a cover be purchased. 5 Yes, Commissioner Sheftall; Commissioner King; Commissioner Walls; Commissioner Tyler and Commissioner Catterton. 2 No, Chairman Arzillo and Commissioner Williams. Motion carried.
- **USE OF VOTING MACHINES MT. CARMEL ASSOCIATION:** The Director explained to the Board that The Mt. Carmel Baptist Association has made a request to use the iVotronic Voting Machines for their upcoming Board election on Saturday, October 25, 2014. Commissioner Sheftall reminded the Board that The Mt. Carmel Baptist Association Center is one of our voting precincts and they allow the Board to utilize their facility at no charge to the County and that is why the Board in the past has unanimously agreed to allow the Association to use the machines and the election is only held every four years. Commissioner Walls motioned to continue to allow the Mt. Carmel Baptist Association to use the iVotronic Voting Machines to conduct their Board elections it was seconded by Commissioner King. Motion carried unanimously.
- **SELECTION OF POLL WORKERS:** Chairman Arzillo stated that he did not want to get into the selection process of poll workers at tonight's meeting but rather discuss how the Board would select the poll workers and discuss a time that the Board could set up a workshop. The Director commented to the Board that those persons that worked during the June Primaries are not automatically selected to work the next upcoming election.

**NEW BUSINESS CONT'D. SELECTION OF POLL WORKERS:** The Director went on and stated that those individuals that worked in the June Primaries and anyone that notified the Voter Registration Office that they wanted to work their names were added to the mass mailing list and they all were sent the Poll Workers Notice for the upcoming election and the deadline to respond was listed on that Notice. The Voter Registration Office received 112 responses and each one of those persons is listed. Jasper County is allowed to work up to 125 poll workers. The Director stated that everyone is given the opportunity to request or respond if they would like to be considered as a poll worker. Commissioner Williams stated she sent out an email asking who decision was it to remove names from the list and why? The Director explained persons names that were removed from the mailing list were mainly students who notified the Director that they would be in college during this election cycle and unavailable to work. Other names that were removed were those persons who have not responded to any of our mailings in the past five; six years or more. The Director also stated that the Public Notice for poll workers were mailed to over 200 persons and published in both local newspapers. That Notice asked that you respond by September 2<sup>nd</sup> if you wanted to be considered to work.

The Director gave a response to an email that was sent out asking why poll workers #42 and #51 were still on the mailing list. Poll Worker #42 served on another Commission Board and it was decided by the majority of the Board that #42 would not work during the June Primaries. In regards to Poll Worker #51, it was decided by the majority of the Board after much discussion that #51 would not work in the June Primaries. It was never decided by the Board to remove these individuals from the mass mailing list. Commissioner Sheftall made a comment that the notice was publicized in the newspapers and we have received responses from those who wanted to be considered to work, therefore, Commissioner Sheftall made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walls that the Board review the list the Director has prepared and start the process of selecting poll workers. 4 Yes, Commissioner Sheftall; Commissioner King; Commissioner Walls and Commissioner Tyler. 3 No, Chairman Arzillo; Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Catterton. Chairman Arzillo stated that he was hoping to get a few persons together to go through the prepared list and bring the decisions back to the Board for approval. It is my request, that the Director, I and anyone else that would like to be involved to meet and discuss the prepared list. With no further discussion Commissioner Sheftall revised his motion as follow, Chairman Arzillo; Commissioner Williams; Commissioner Sheftall and Director Jeanine would meet Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am at the Voter Registration Office to review the list and bring their decisions back to the Board for approval, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Walls. Motion carried unanimously.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** The Director informed the Board of the various documents in their packets was for their information only. The Director stated that the letter of request from the Democratic State office asking for some additional requests to be honored leading up to the November election has been read and our office has and will continue to meet those requests. The Director informed the Board there has been a ruling in the School Board Lawsuit and the Judge in the case has ruled there would be no School Board races on the November 4, 2014 General Election Ballot. The Order stated the Delegation has until March 1, 2015 to come up

with a plan and a Special Election will be held at a later time. The candidates that filed for School Board were notified of this Order. Total registered voters as of August 24, 2014: **15,342**.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Chairman Arzillo presented Commissioner Walls with her training certification certificate of completion. Chairman Arzillo reminded the Board that it is their responsibility to make sure they sign up for the necessary classes to meet their certification and please get with the Director to find out what courses you need and when they would be available.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Milton Woods. Mr. Woods asked for the dates of the Mt. Carmel Election and the date of the meeting to select poll workers. Mr. Woods expressed his concern regarding the Board charging .50cents for copies and the County charges .25cents and why can't it be uniformed. Mr. Woods stated his concerns of not having an open form of government in Jasper County like we see in Beaufort County. Mr. Woods stated it's been asked in the last two elections cycles for equal representation for our people in the County that means all people not any one group all voting citizens in this County and its never happen and as many times its been requested before the June Primary election it never happen we were promise by five members of this Board and it never happen. Mr. Woods stated that some individuals informed him that they have not gotten any confirmation from the Voter Registration Office to work this next election. Chairman Arzillo stated if that's true please let him know he would look into the matter.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business. Commissioner King motioned to adjourn; it was seconded by Commissioner Walls. The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Jeanine Bostick, Director

cc: File  
Election Commissioners  
Mr. Andy Fulghum, County Administrator  
Judy Frank, Clerk of Council  
Jasper County Delegation.