

Amelia County Electoral Board
Minutes – July 13, 2023

ATTENDEES: Mary Alice Williams, Chair Brenda Johnson, Secretary
 Adria Dieffenbach, Vice –Chair Deborah Hathorn, Director of Elections
 Lauren Whittington, ACDC Chair

The Electoral Board of Amelia County met on Thursday, July 13th in the Commonwealth Attorney's conference room. The meeting was called to order by Chair Williams at 10:06 A.M.

Minutes of the June 8th meeting were approved as presented. The agenda was approved by consensus.

Hathorn will repost the information on our web page that was not transferred to the new website.

Registrar and all Board members will be attending ELECT's Annual Training in Richmond on Thursday, July 20th. Training will include Boot Camp for all new and reappointed Board members.

Chair Williams and Hathorn will be the guest presenters at the Amelia Leadership Forum on Thursday, July 13th. The forum is sponsored by the Amelia Bulletin Monitor.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – the Legislative Update webinar was held on July 12th and all Board members and the Registrar participated. The webinar was well presented and provided a good update on legislative changes effective July 1, 2023.

Hathorn is working on a grant being provided by the SHSP (State Security Homeland Security) to help localities with implementing the Election Security Standards. Available funds range from \$10k to \$50K. Hathorn will be submitting an application for the grant by the deadline date of July 17th.

Hathorn reviewed the list of candidates who will be on the ballot for the November General election. Local election will include Board of Supervisors and School Board members for districts 1, 3, and 4. Constitutional officers include Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth Attorney, and Commissioner of Revenue, Sheriff and Treasurer. Also on the ballot with are candidates for the Soil and Water Conservation Board.

The Board rescheduled the Free Conference test for Friday, July 14th at 9:00 A.M. Hathorn will email the necessary information.

Hathorn stated that Governor Youngkin has issued a Secure Your Vote Virginia initiative, via a website, in an effort to get Republicans voters to vote early, both in person and using absentee ballots. Thus far, we have received two.

For citizens seeking information via FOIA, our website refers them to the county's website.

We had a brief discussion regarding pay for Electoral Board members. Effective July 1, 2023 we will receive a 5.26% increase.

ELECT will be issuing a new ADA compliance form that will require the Board to sign off on stating that we are in compliance. The new rules will also address curbside voting.

Effective with the November 2023 election, provisional envelopes are being changed. The envelope will include voter registration information on one side and Same Day Registration (SDR) information on the other side, as well as the reason codes for using a provisional ballot.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ACDC chair Whittington stated that the new county website was much improved. She added that Lee Ware (R) and Bilal Raychouni (D) are the candidates for the House of Delegates (#72) and John McGuire (R) is unopposed for the Senate (#10). She stated that Laurette Tucker from District 1 has expressed an interest in becoming an OOE. She will follow up.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 10th at 10:00 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 11:20 A.M. to discuss Hathorn's goal achievement and performance review for the period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 and goals for the year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. We reconvened to regular session at 12:26 P.M with no action being taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda H. Johnson, Secretary