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PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

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ELECTORAL BOARD

Keith Scarborough, Chairman Mark Dillon, Vice-Chairman London Steverson, Secretary

GENERAL REGISTRAR

Eric Olsen, Director of Elections

Prince William County Electoral Board

Meeting Minutes

9250 Lee Ave, Main Office, Conference Room Manassas, VA 20110

August 24, 2023 10:00 AM

IN ATTENDANCE:

London Steverson, Secretary
Mark Dillon, Vice-Chair
Keith A. Scarborough, Chair
Eric Olsen, GR/DE
Jonathan Alvarez, Deputy Director of Operations
Natalia Taylor, Deputy Director of Voter Services
Robin Williams, Former Board Member

BOARD MEETING

The Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Scarborough at 10:00AM followed by a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VICE CHAIRMAN DILLON made a Motion that we approve the Minutes of the July 27th Board Meeting. The Minutes had been circulated to all Board Members and the GR for correction and approval. The Motion was unanimously approved.

There was one Special Guest and Visitor, Robin Williams, a former Electoral Board Member. He was present to receive a plaque for his devotion to duty and his many years of faithful service to the Citizens of Prince William County. Chairman Scarborough and Secretary Steverson offered congratulatory remarks.

GENERAL REGISTRAR'S REPORT

The GR, Eric Olsen, reported on Election Officer Recruitment and Election Preparation. We have recruited 280 new Election Officers. The State has approved a new mail Ballot Envelope design. The new design requires the Date of Birth (DOB) and Social Security Number (SSN) be added. There is no longer a requirement for a Witness Signature.

We have hired 4 more Temporary Staff Members. We now have 20.

There are new ADA (Americans with Disability Act) requirements for all voting places. They require certification by the EB no later than October 16.

Security Upgrades for the GR's Office are underway. There are plans for a new GR's office in 4 or 5 years.

Early Voting Locations modification will probably be next year. BOCSs plans to increase the number of locations.

The GR has received numerous requests from three concerned citizens who are registered voters in PWC asking him to remove 43 registrants from the Voter Roll with specific reasons pursuant to Code Section 24.2-429. These concerned citizens are members of the PWC Election Integrity Working Group. Extensive documentation accompanied each request. The vast majority of the challenged registrants reside in other States or have a history of voting in other States.

The GR will move forward with cancelling those voters, if warranted. The relevant part of the Codes Section states as follows:

§ 24.2-429. Maintenance of accurate registration records by general registrar; notice and hearing before cancellation. Whenever a registered voter is alleged to be improperly registered, except for reason of removal of residence from the precinct, either by the general registrar or by any three qualified voters of the county or city who make such an allegation to the general registrar, the registrar shall post at the courthouse or publish in a newspaper of general circulation in his county or city the name of the registered voter on a list of persons whose registrations are to be cancelled by the general registrar. The list shall be certified by the registrar and delivered or sent by mail to the county or city chairman of each political party.

Chairman Scarborough objected to what he characterized as "Vigilante Action" by private citizens.

VOTER REGISTRATION REPORT

Natalia Taylor, Deputy Director of Voter Services, reported on the GR's efforts to monitor and to clean up the PWC Voter Rolls. The PWC Election Integrity Working Group and other Concerned Citizens of PWC have been offering their assistance in various forms for over a year in cleaning up the registration database. Their suggestions and assistance have been welcomed.

According to the latest ELECT Report there are 317,489 registered voters in PWC, approximately 7,000 out of state voters, and an estimated 1,600 active out of state voters. We have cancelled 9,067 total voters. The numbers are constantly changing as kids go off to college, people join the military, active-duty military members rotate between duty stations, people living overseas, and embassy officials.

The Category of Out—of-State ACTIVE VOTERs appear to get a lot of attention. These are mostly college students and active-duty military. The process of removing them could take years. They would have to miss two federal election voting cycles and fail to respond to a mail-out from ELECT updating their residential addresses.

ELECT does a mass mailing twice a year, in February and in July. Death Statics are gathered from Social Security Administration, NAPHSIS (National Association for Public Health Statistics Information Systems) and other places. We use the results to purge our Voter Rolls. The new numbers are available about 30 days later.

What we can do to police the voter rolls is governed by State and Federal Laws. We have recently added an additional step to our policing the voter rolls process regarding the mail that is returned to our Office. We send a letter allowing voters to voluntarily cancel their registration.

Maintaining clean voting rolls is one of our highest priorities. It is a never-ending process. I will report the latest up to date numbers at each EB Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Concerning the Election Officer Staffing and Training Plan, our goal is 845 Officers. The Chief EOs have asked for an Equipment Provisional Specialist (EPS) at the precincts. There needs to be 7-10 EOs at each Precinct for maximum efficiency.

Concerning Ordering Ballots, we expect a 43 percent voter turnout. We have ordered twice an many Ballots as the expected turnout. K & H will print the ballots. We print 50 ballots for each precinct for L&A Testing, and 100 ballots for Provisional Ballots.

Concerning Early Voting Days and Hours, Sunday Voting will continue. Monday thru Saturday polls will be open from 08:30AM to 04:30PM, and Sunday Oct 22nd.

Vice Chairman Dillon made a Motion that we approve the Appointment of 278 new Election Officers. The Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Dillon moved that we conduct a Risk-Limiting Audit of at least three Election Day Precincts based on Election Day results. The Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10)

- (1) Aaron Mukerjee, Voter Protection Director for the Democratic Party of Virginia, commended the EB for preserving Sunday Voting.
- (2) Jeff Fuller, PWC Electoral Integrity Working Group, commented on becoming a Chief Election Officer for the first time in the last election. The EO Survey was excellent. The equipment check-in at the last election was astonishing and excellent. Recording the EB Meeting is a good Idea but the public commenters should be shown. Mr. Chairman you are mistaken the Republican Party Committee did not train any EOs before the last election. And the Precinct that did a hand count because they had a discrepancy, that was an experienced Chief and not a new Election Officer. I'm happy that we are going to do a BATCH comparison audit.
- (3) Richard M. Jessie, wanted Citizens' Comment Time to come at the beginning of the Meeting.
- (4) Harry Wiggins, said that after the 2012 Election the PWC BOCSs formed a Bi-Partisan Task Force. It issued a report. The EB should go back and take a look at the report. It lays out many issues that the EB is faced with. That you for not suppressing the vote.
- (5) Grace Lintner, from the Coles District since 1965. I was once an EO. I am glad we have Sunday voting. Thank you Mr Olsen for the job you are doing. I hope you stay many more years.
- (6) Jeff Williams, with the PWC Election Integrity Working Group, commented on the Code Section § 24.2-429 and the 43 Cases referred by 3 concerned citizen voters. Thank you for moving forward on those 43 cases. We spent hundreds of hours researching those 43 cases. We thank you for moving forward with that. We request that you give progress reports on the final disposition of those 43 cases.
- (7) Mike Katchmeric, a Gainesville resident, said he is concerned about the lack of parking places for early voting. The Haymarket Library Early Voting location rules concerning Signs and table coverings need to be clarified.
- (8) Margie Oden, a Neabsco District resident, said we need to keep the doors open with Sunday Voting.
- (9) Pat Widener, Brentsville District resident, we need Saturday and Sunday voting so college students can come home and vote.
- (10) Bonnie Klackowitz, a PWC resident since 1985, and a former EO. I live in Woodbridge. Sunday voting is important.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into a closed session at 1153 pursuant to Virginia State Code Section 2.2-3711 A 34, voting security matters.

At 1220 the Board reconvened in OPEN Session having certified that only public business matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements under Virginia Law, and only such business matters identified in the motion convening the closed session were discussed or considered.

1221 the Board Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Electoral Board was scheduled for September 14, 2023.

Keith Scarborough

Chairman

Mark Dillon

Vice Chairman

London Steverson

Secretary