

**Sumner County Election Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 8, 2017**

Members present: Barbara Brake, Jeffery Hulse, Kaye Kemnitz, Patricia Collins. Also present: Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections and Annette Haw, Assistant Administrator of Elections. The meeting convened at 4:03 p.m. in Room 106 in the County Administration Building, Gallatin TN and a quorum was present. Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Kemnitz, acting Chairman, in the absence of Chairman Ehmling, and the Agenda was approved with a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Hulse, and motion passed unanimously 4-0.

I. Old Business

A. Approve Minutes of the Following Meeting

July 11, 2017 – Motion by Commissioner Hulse, seconded by Commissioner Collins, and motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ehmling joined the meeting at 4:07 p.m. and resumed the roll as Chairman.

II. New Business

A. Inspection - New Processed Voter Registration Applications

Commissioners inspected 49 new processed voter registration applications out of the total registrations of 483 processed as required by statute with no discretions noted. All Commissioners present signed the report.

B. Inspection-Appeal Processed Voter Registration Applications – None.

C. Report from Administrator

AOE Atchley requested that the commission approve the licensed facility schedule for voting for the 2018 election year. Motion by Commissioner Hulse, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed 5-0.

AOE Atchley requested that the commission adopt the List Maintenance Program with the only change from previous years being that Non-voting cannot be the trigger for sending a confirmation notice due to a lawsuit in Ohio whereby the courts found that was not proper. Tennessee procedures were similar so the Coordinator of Elections required this change to avoid Tennessee becoming involved in a lengthy and expensive lawsuit. The repercussions for the Ohio lawsuit was that the removed voters be placed back on the voter roll. Motion to adopt/approve made by Commissioner Hulse and seconded by Commissioner Kemnitz and the motion passed 5-0.

AOE Atchley asked the Commissioners to check their schedules and had scheduled locking of the Absentee and Provisional Bags on January 9, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

AOE Atchley notified the commission that the Administrative Building would be closed on August 21, 2017 for the eclipse due to an anticipated 600,000+ visitors in the Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky areas. AOE stated that the only potential conflict would be that date was the deadline for the Republican and Democratic parties to call for primaries; however, both parties had already sent their respective letters, so it did not appear to be a problem.

AOE Atchley presented to each commissioner an article from the Tennessean showing the counties by population rank. Sumner was number eight (8).

AOE Atchley discussed the Open Meetings Statute which had been sent prior to the meeting and primarily for the benefit of commissioners who came on the board this year, and as a refresher for existing commissioners.

AOE Atchley announced that Gallatin City Council, via a private act, had called for a referendum question to be placed on the ballot for the City of Gallatin residents regarding term limits. AOE Atchley said that clarification was needed as to whether the question would be placed on the August, 2018 ballot or the November, 2018 ballot, and was awaiting clarification from the Gallatin City Council on that matter which would then be reported back to the election commission. AOE Atchley stated that normally this type of question would be placed on a November ballot whereby the City elections were held; however, the language read "the next general election" which would be August 2018.

AOE stated that the Amendment 1 lawsuit regarding counting of the ballots for or against had been heard in Cincinnati, Ohio, and the outcome was pending the judge's ruling. All Tennessee election commissions were instructed by the Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins to continue to retain the records from November, 2014 that were locked and sealed by Commissioners Brake and Kemnitz.

AOE Atchley stated that there had been rumblings about the possibility of WIGS referendum in Westmoreland and likewise Millersville qualifies. The Election Commission has not received a petition for either at this time.

AOE gave an update on the Website. Commissioners had been sent, in advance, a copy of a quote from Keystone regarding updating the addition of color to the website banner. The estimate was \$3,500 plus the annual fee increasing from \$600 to \$1,500 for the "upgrade," which was not requested, only the color. AOE Atchley stated that she had inquired with the Law Director's office to find the contract with Keystone, assess the terms, and make a determination as to when we might select a different vendor. Selection of a new vendor may require a bidding process. AOE stated that the Law Director would provide this information to the election commission when received. Also, one concern presented by AOE was the ownership of the domain name, www.votesumner.tn.org. If we move away from Keystone, they may have ownership of the domain name, at which point we could try to purchase or, if an excessive fee was required, a new domain name would have to be selected and purchased. The election commission would retain ownership of the new domain, rather than a third party vendor, to ensure the current situation does not reoccur. AOE Atchley also stated that there was no money in the current fiscal year budget 2017 – 2018 for any upgrades or changes, and the matter would need to be revisited in January, 2018 in preparation for the 2018 – 2019 budget year.

AOE Atchley stated that she had agreed to act in the role as Chairman for the Middle Tennessee TACEO legislative committee, as Phillip Warren, Wilson County AOE, had requested after his successful election as TACEO President at the June, 2017 seminar.

AOE concluded the Administrator report.

III. Report from Election Commissioners -

A. Chairman:

Chairman acknowledged four questions had been added to the "FAQ's" portion of the website.

B. Election Commissioners:

Commissioner Brake made a request to Commissioner Collins to form a committee to review the election commission website further to see if any additional content was needed. Commissioner Brake to report to the full election if/when recommendations are brought forward.

Commissioner Kemnitz stated that she had received a call regarding missing financial disclosures on the website. AOE said it had been brought to the staff's attention. Election Deputy Tatum who manages the website contacted the web hosting company and it could not be determined why the data had disappeared; however, she reloaded all data and the content was restored effective the day the report was received. Chairman Ehmling received a similar report and stated no further action needed since the matter was resolved.

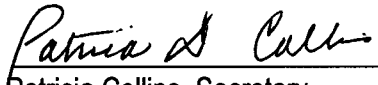
Commissioner Collins stated that she was scheduling a meeting with the Hendersonville Senior Center to recruit potential retired teachers who have meetings there, and other center attendees, to be poll workers.

IV. Adjournment

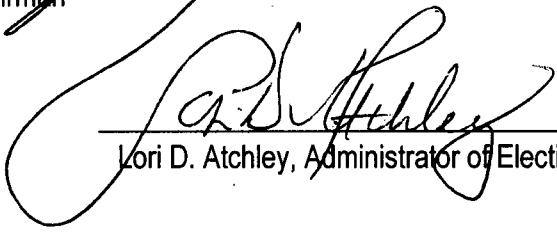
Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Kemnitz, passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.



M. Allen Ehmling, Chairman



Patricia Collins, Secretary



Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections