

Northampton Co. Board of Elections
Minutes: January 12, 2021
Regular Meeting

The Northampton Co. Board of Elections regular meeting was called to order on Tuesday January 12, 2021 at 10:03 a.m. by Vivian Branch, Chair. The following members were in attendance: Vickie Evans, Myron Grueneich, and Eugene Taylor; Sondra Goffington-Dickens attended via go-to-meeting. Director Spinosa Clements was in attendance as well. Public access information was provided to the local media sources and party chairs, other election notice recipients, and placed on the elections webpage.

Mr. Grueneich moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Evans seconded. The motion passed.

Director Clements restated that the department budget for fiscal year 2022 would need to be submitted by the end of the month. She shared interest in establishing an additional full time office position. There was discussion of the effects the new position would have on the current staff and overall budget. It was agreed to meet again to address the budget before the deadline.

Ms. Clements informed the board that most of the CARES funding had been depleted. She stated that she had requested hazard bonus pay for board members equivalent to the regular monthly stipend for each additional training and/or absentee board meeting attended during the 2020 General Election. Additionally, she was considering a hazard payment for each elections office staff member equivalent to 50% of his/her hourly rate for hours worked during September and October. It was agreed to move forward.

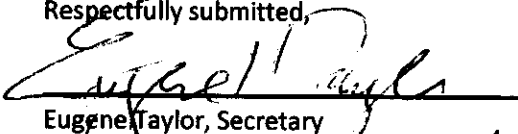
The director informed the board that the Northampton CBE had received HAVA grant funding to cover the costs of the recently purchased DS200 tabulators. Additionally, the office also received funding to purchase 4 new laptops.

There was no new business nor public comments made.

There was consideration of possibly relocating the Woodland precinct. The director had received complaints regarding its usage of the current facility and the site's parking. The board also discussed (and agreed) to continue to use the polling sites that had been relocated due to COVID, for the 2021 municipal and 2022 primary elections. Lastly, a dialogue was opened to address electronic poll book usage on election day.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. The next meeting will be 10:00 a.m. Thursday January 21, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,


Eugene Taylor, Secretary


Vivian Branch, Chair