

**Lynchburg Electoral Board Meeting
March 18, 2019, 4:00 p.m.
Registrar's Office Conference Room Minutes**

Members present:

Patricia M. Bower, Chair;
David B. Neumeyer, Vice Chair
John W. Cobbs, Secretary

Others present:

Christine Gibbons, General Registrar
Kim Conner, Deputy Registrar
Wendell Walker, Lynchburg Republican Chair
Steven Mike Waldman, VEBA Southwest District Regional Chair and Chair of
Bedford County Electoral Board

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Bower at 4:04 p.m.

Consideration of Approval of the Minutes Approval of February 19, 2019 Electoral Board Minutes. Motion made by David Neumeyer, Vice Chair. Seconded by John Cobbs, Secretary. Motion approved unanimously.

Registrar's Report:

News and Advance had an article regarding the new polling location changes. General Registrar completed State Board of Election paperwork to request the change. Waiting to hear back with the approval to move forward with mailing notices to voters. March 3, 2020 a Presidential Primary will be held. With the approval of the polling location change for Ward IV Precinct 1 being a year in duration the following dates are a guideline for enacting any further polling location changes(24.2-306). At least by the first week of December 2019 public hearing and city council vote on if new location will be utilized. Deadline for final approval from state board of elections would be January 3' 2020. Electoral Board confirmed that it is within the law to go 1 mile outside of precinct boundary (24.2-310).

Late Campaign Finance Reports. The General Registrar contacted the State Board of Elections regarding candidates who have late finance reports. General Registrar will contact each

candidate who is late to inform them of late charges to be levied if late reports are not filed within 30 days. (reference 24.2-946.3)

Old Business:

Voting Security: Request that our voting machine vendor, ESO, respond to the issues raised about voting security in the New York Time magazine.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/26/magazine/election-security-crisis-midterms.html>. This discussion was tabled until next meeting.

New Business:

Report from March 8-10 VEBA Annual Meeting- Patricia Bowers and Christine Gibbons Training:

Reorganization of State Electoral Board. New upcoming legislation that will change the appointment terms to 5 years and will add an additional 2 more people on the State Electoral Board. Will not go into effect until January 2020. VEBA members are encouraged to contact the governor and recommend to sign the legislation. JLARC Report was enlightening: overhaul of VERIS or new build of VERIS, complementary of Chris Piper, Commissioner of Department of Elections, and the changes he has been enacting. Recommend not changing leadership every 4 years with new elections, but have a non-partisan Commissioner appointed. No-excuse Absentee Voting to start November 2020, once enacted by the governor. No-excuse voting allows voters to vote 9 days before the election. Our locality may need additional poll workers, full time assistant registrar, and additional voting equipment for CAP. Potentially could have 1,472 voters a day during that 9 -out of a similar locality day period (Numbers derived from 50% of registered voters and divided by 9 days to find possible voters per day. This is based on NC no-excuse voter turn-out of similar localities).

Chris Piper gave an update. The State Board of Elections will increase office staff with 6 new positions at ELECT. During the last November election the state saw increased absentee voting by 8% from 2017 November election and by 13% from 2016 Presidential election.

Reorganization of the electoral board per 24.2-107: Motion to continue in current positions. Motion made by David Neumeyer, Vice Chair, Seconded by John Cobbs, Secretary. Motion approved unanimously.

Other: Mike Waldman, Southwest District VEBA Regional Representative. Meeting with Southwest District Electoral Board will be upcoming. Currently planning a meeting with DemTech, a vendor for regional registrars and electoral board members to attend.

Consideration of executive session under 24.2-3711 (A)(1) to discuss personnel considerations.

At 4:43 p.m. John Cobbs made a motion to enter Executive Session under Code of Virginia 24.2-109.1 for personnel considerations. Seconded by David Neumeyer, unanimously approved.

At 5:34 p.m. David Neumeyer made a motion to exit Executive Session and John Cobbs seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Members present: Patricia Bower, David B. Neumeyer, John W. Cobbs

Certification of Executive Session

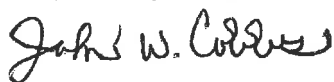
Pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and because Virginia Code 2.2-3711 requires the Board to certify that such Executive Session was conducted in uniformity with Virginia Law, the Board certified by roll call that, to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in Executive Session to which their certification motion applies and only such matters as were identified in the motion convening the Executive Session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

Certify by Motion: Patricia M. Bower, David B. Neumeyer, and John W. Cobbs. Motion approved unanimously.

There being no further business, Ms. Bower adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Cobbs, Secretary

Electoral Board

City of Lynchburg