

Lynchburg Electoral Board Meeting

April 10, 2020

Electronic Meeting, as allowed by 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) when the Governor has declared a state of emergency (Executive Order #51 issued March 12, 2020)

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
Nikki Sanders, Lynchburg Democratic Committee Chair
Eric Harrison, Lynchburg Republican Committee Chair
Wendell Walker, House Delegate District 23

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Bower at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of February 12, 2020 and March 4, 2020

Approval of February 12, 2020 and March 4, 2020 Electoral Board Minutes. Motion made by John Cobbs, Secretary. Seconded by David Neumeyer, Vice Chair. Motion approved unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Registrar's Report

The following is a report on the upcoming May 5, 2020 election and COVID-19 impacts.

Polling Places

Confirmed: 6 of 18 polling sites

2-1 St Paul's
2-3 Fairview Christian Church

- 3-1 Lynchburg Public Library
- 3-2 Vines Center
- 3-5 Heritage Methodist Church
- 4-3 Perrymont Hall

Unconfirmed polling locations

1-4 said no unless the governor rescinds his stay at home order . Check to see if the polling location would be open for a tent in the parking lot for voting.

3-4 requires a \$250 sanitization cleaning fee

Superintendent of School has concerns for use of the schools. (Additional signage posted regarding the City’s expectation for social distancing, proper disinfection protocols to be used, use of pens at polling place, plan in place and shared with the building principals.

Haven’t heard from four polling sites

Officers of Election:

Available	
	82
Unavailable	
	21
No Response	
	51

- 10 precincts with both Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs working
- 8 precincts with at least one chief or assistant chief working

Pool of 72 Election Officials

Candidates

All candidates were sent an email informing them of our office’s efforts to encourage voters to vote by mail. Office can send an email after meeting highlighting office’s/EB next steps and challenges.

Contacted City Departments

Steve Baily Building Maintenance Manager can order me 2 cases of disinfectant, box of rags, make 18 barriers Cost all together for these for all precincts would be \$402. Bonnie Svreck, City Manager has been made aware of the needs regarding polling locations and staffing

Discussing with Communications and Marketing an ad in the paper regarding May's election. They will include information that we decide on during the meeting today.

Facebook page/Webpage

Contact News and Advance

Party to get information out

State Department of Elections gave guidance to have an adequate amount of ballots.

Additional ballots were ordered

Ward 1-11,000

Ward 2-6,000

Ward 3-6,000

Ward 4-11,000

Waiting on information regarding if the Registrar's Office should proceed with the Logic and Accuracy Testing on the voter tabulation machines.

Suggest the following Election Officials Roles and responsibilities are being considered for both May and June Elections:

2 at door (one for curbside one for social distancing numbers 1 for 1 of voters entering the precinct

Chief

Assistant Chief

(5 EO for large precincts and 4 for smaller precincts)

6 ft lines at each station marked off

Masks for EO (have 100 but need an additional 50 just in case

Signs indicating social distancing

Clean machines and EP before going out

June Election considerations

Date of June election moved to June 23

Ballot order

Deadlines for Voter Registration and Absentee application deadlines also extending and moved Postcard to all registered voters regarding deadlines, absentee voting options

New Business

Electronic Meetings Resolution

Be it resolved that the Electoral Board of the City of Lynchburg may conduct any meeting wherein the public business is discussed or transacted through electronic communication means if, on or before the day of a meeting, a member of the Board notifies the chair that (1) he or she is unable to attend due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents physical attendance, or (2) he or she is unable to attend due to a personal matter and identifies with specificity the nature of the personal matter (limited each calendar year to 2 meetings).

Electronic participation by a member shall be authorized only if (1) a quorum of the Board is physically assembled at one primary location and (2) the Board makes arrangements for the voice of the remote participant to be heard by all persons at the primary location.

Motion made by Pat Bower, Chair. Seconded by David Neumeyer, Vice Chair. Motion approved unanimously.

Statement of Locality on May 5, 2020 Election

On behalf of the Lynchburg Electoral Board, I am writing to inform you that the Electoral Board voted unanimously this morning to support Governor Northam's recommendation to the General Assembly that May 2020 elections be moved to November 2020, and to communicate this decision to relevant leaders and our public. We did so because the health of our city's citizens will continue to be under threat from the coronavirus for many more months, and our poll workers and voters include many elderly and minority citizens who are at particular risk.

Motion made by David Neumeyer, Vice³-Chair. Seconded by John Cobbs, Secretary. Motion approved unanimously.

Next meeting Date May 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m. Electronic Meeting

There being no further business, Ms. Bower adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Cobbs, Secretary
Electoral Board
City of Lynchburg