**Monroe County Election Board Meeting –** *(Final)*

January 4, 2024

**Nat U Hill Room & Via Zoom**

Call To Order

The Monroe County Election Board meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Nicole Browne, Monroe County Clerk and Board Secretary. Judith Benckart, Republican Party Board Member, Election Supervisor Ryan Herndon and Deputy Clerk Kylie Moreland were present.

Amend the Agenda

A request was made to move an item up in the agenda as we have a guest speaker here to talk about polling locations.

New Business

**Polling Locations Update:**

Guest speaker Bob White, IT vendor from B&L IT Services since 2013.

Bloomington South – Moved from a smaller area to a larger one within the school. More signage will be needed to make this easier to find. The ramp was a concern. However, it is not as much of a concern as we thought. Moving from the white gym to the purple gym is a possibility as it would be 65 feet closer. He will set up a meeting with the principal to see if we can do this.

Bindford – We use the gym but had complaints from the workers that it was too cold so we will work on reconfiguring that location.

BHSN – The location is currently too small so we will see if we can get a bit more room for the Primary Election that will be in May.

IMU & Grandview – More signage will be needed for this election and better placement.

Meadowood – Parking is small and narrow entry to the location. It is convenient for the residents but will be an issue for any outside voters. There will be construction near Arlington Elementary and the location so most will go to Tri-North and possibly Bloomington High School North.

Approval of Minutes

Some grammar to be changed, Board member Benckart made the motion to approve the minutes and Clerk Browne seconded the motion.

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

Updates

**Clerks Update:**

Poll Workers Surveys: Deputy Clerk Moreland stated 131 surveys were mailed out and have received 64 were received as of 01/04/2024 63 of 64 have said they will return to work again. Two workers are concerned about pay for the workers but are willing to work another election. Clerk Browne said, within the time that she has been Clerk, she has secured two pay raises for poll workers. A third request in the process. Ms. Moreland then read a quote from a survey, “I was happy to be of service and felt valued and appreciated”.

Election Conference Recap: Board member Benckart stated that it was a lot of information to take in but was a great opportunity. Ms. Moreland said that it was a lot of information but came off in an understandable way that they build a good work relationship with the staff at the Indiana Elections Division IED.

Public Comment – None

**Election Operations Update:**

2023 Primary City Cost: $198,128.39

2023 General City Cost: $273,676.49

Total City Cost: $471,803.88

MCCSC Referendum Cost: $94,951.85

We are working on updating some Election Training Materials and look forward to sharing it with you all soon.

Public Comment – None

**Vote Center Committee Update:**

The first meeting was on 12/07/2024 with full attendance. The Committee elected their board.

Ilana Stonebraker – Chair

Taylor Bryant – Vice Chair

Debora (Ralf) Shaw – Secretary

The timeline will be tabled until the next meeting on February 1st, 2024. The board wants updates from the Vote Center Committee when there are updates as well as if they have questions. If Vote Centers are approved, then the Election Board would like to have them up and running by May of 2026.

Plan update;

*“The Vote Center study committee will commit to hosting bi-weekly meetings to develop a vote center plan to be presented to and approved by the Election Board.”*

*“The Vote Center study committee will commit to hosting meetings twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday to develop a Vote Center plan to be presented to and voted on by the Election Board.”*

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

Public Comment – None

New Business

* Introduction of the Chair of the Election Board, John Fernandez. He said that he looks forward to working with the Election Board and that this year's election is a big one.
* Get the list of 2016 polling locations for the Election Board. Table for the February meeting. **Motion Passed Unanimously**
* Isak Asare – CFA tabled to the February meeting and a letter was sent to him inviting him to attend that meeting. **Motion Passes Unanimously**
* Election Job Descriptions – a draft has been given to all the Election Board members for their review and then to talk about them at the next meeting in February. They are due on February 15th, 2024.
* Steven Volen – A letter to be sent inviting him to attend the next meeting in February.
* Scott Oldham – A letter was sent out to notify him of his first warning of late filing of his CFA-4.

Motion To Recess or Adjourn

Chairman John Fernandez motioned to adjourn until the next Election Board meeting on February 1st, 2024, in the Nat U Hill Room.

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

**Next County Election Board Meeting**

February 1st, 2024 @ 1:00 PM

**Nat U Hill Room, 3rd Floor, Monroe County Courthouse**

A recording of this meeting is available at Community Access Television Service (CATS). <http://carstv.net>