

## **April 9, 2019 – Talbot County Elections Board Meeting**

The Talbot County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, April 9, 2019. Present were Marjorie Howard, Wycene Willis, Pat Allport, Patricia Robinson, and Pamela Bulloch. Mrs. Howard called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Our Moment of Inspiration was given by Mrs. Patricia Robinson.

The March 2019 minutes were given out for everyone to read. Mrs. Robinson made a motion to accept these minutes. Pat Allport seconded and all voted to approve.

Pamela Bulloch presented the Deceased Report. Pat Allport presented the Moved out of County/State Report. Wycene Willis had no felons to report. She said that before we can cancel any voter that has been convicted of a felony, a letter has to be sent to them, and they have thirty days to contest. If we do not hear anything back from them, then they can be cancelled. She said that Jamie Johnson and Nicholas Simmons are the probation officers for Talbot County. Wycene will try to get phone numbers of these officers for us to have in our office. Mrs. Robinson gave us the New Registered Voters' Report. She explained that "No Change" was when nothing has been changed. A "Duplicate" is when there is a minor change. Anytime a change is done, we are to add what change was done, such as, DOB, name, etc. Wycene made a motion to accept all the reports and Pat Allport seconded. All voted in favor.

**S.O.S., Firefly, Open Records & Legislative Updates:** Marjorie wants us all to read Section 21-2-51 in our code book, regarding "Open Records Request." This request should be made in writing. GEMS Data is never a part of open records. GEMS Data Base, Express Poll has to be gotten through the Secretary of State's Office.

HB 316 has been approved and signed by Governor Brian Kemp. It consists of thirty nine pages. Mrs. Howard said we can pull up HB 316 and read it.

**Special Election June 18<sup>th</sup> - City of Talbotton:** Mrs. Howard said that the IG Agreement has been signed with the City of Talbotton, and is to go before County Manager, Carol Ison. The Talbotton City Clerk is to run the ad in the Talbotton New Era, the first week of May, regarding qualifying for the Talbotton City Council Seat that was held by Dennis Collier, who passed away last year. The second week of May will be qualifying. Early voting for this election will begin on Tuesday, 5/28/19 and end on Friday, 6/14/19.

**Residency Challenge:** Attorney, Alfonzo Whitaker, is representing Wayne Biggs in the residency challenge against Talbot County Board of Education Member, Carlton Mahone. Mrs. Howard has talked to Clerk of Superior Court, Penny Mahone. We are on the calendar for 4/17/19 at 10:00 a.m., but Mr. Whitaker has not responded as to whether he will be available on that day. A letter will have to be sent to Mr. Mahone and Mr. Biggs from Mr. Edward Davis, Talbot County Attorney, to give them at least three days notice before the hearing date, in order for them to be prepared. If Marjorie does not get an e-mail response from Mr. Davis, she will follow up with Mr. Whitaker, to see if he will be there on 4/17/19.

If not, Penny will have to reschedule the hearing date. The hearing will take place in the Talbot County Superior Court Room. Mrs. Howard said that we will listen to both parties. She wants us to read our code book to see what establishes residency. After the hearing, our Board will meet within twenty four hours. Marjorie would like to meet immediately after the hearing to make our decision. That way, we can let them know our decision, the next day.

**Conference overview: 2019/2020 Changes/Preparations:** The selection for our new voting machines has not been decided by the Secretary of State's Office. We will be getting more information from Chris Harvey when this decision is made. Mrs. Howard said that the state will give us one machine per 250 voters. Any additional machines will have to be purchased through the county. Mrs. Howard wants a listing of all registered voters in each precinct. We will plan to have an open house to introduce the voters to the new machines. We will put a notice in the newspaper and put up flyers to get the word out.

Homeland Security will be visiting all 159 counties this year. They will want to check out our office and the EMS Building. Mrs. Howard has talked to Ronnie Hendricks and Carol Ison about this inspection. Marjorie will ask Ronnie about getting some help to get the EMS Building cleaned up. She wants us to clean our desk and work areas in preparation for this inspection.

Mrs. Howard checked to make sure that we all have a copy of expense report to complete for reimbursement for our conference at Jekyll Island. She reminded us to stay on top of everything on Dashboard and get things done timely. She reminded us about SAFE. Secure, Assessible, and Fair Elections.

**Roundtable discussion:** Mrs. Robinson thought it would be a good idea to have a training here in our office. She will read up and train us in regard to Absentee Ballots. Mrs. Bulloch reported that all the DDS had been done except for three that could not be processed. These were transfers but could not be done because their county was holding an election. A short discussion was held about next years' Census. Everyone agreed that the conference was a good one. There is an Ethics Meeting in Columbus on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Mrs. Robinson, Sharita Trice, and Mrs. Howard plan to attend.

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Robinson made a motion to adjourn and Wycene Willis seconded the motion. All voted to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela O. Bulloch,  
Recording Secretary