

# **Carroll County Board of Elections**



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes March 24, 2023

## **Present**

*Board* Griffith Manahan, President, in person Samuel Foster, Vice-President, in person John Woodley, Secretary, in person Carol Coley, Member, in person Harvey Tegeler, Member, in person

*Staff* Katherine Berry, Election Director, in person Erin Perrone, Deputy Director, in person

*Absent* Jay Gullo, Attorney

*Public* Mitch Edelman, Citizen, in person Ben Watson, Citizen, by virtual

### **Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum**

Mr. Manahan called the meeting to order at 10:01 am and declared that a quorum was present.

### **Welcome**

Mr. Manahan welcomed those in attendance.

### Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Manahan asked if any there were any additions to the agenda. Ms. Berry stated that she would like to discuss *HB410 – Election Reform Act of 2023* and the potential of a new space.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### New Business

Ms. Berry opened the discussion about board member compensation. She reminded everyone that the current board cannot set their own salary, however the current board should set the salary for the incoming board whose term begins on June 1, 2023. For thirty

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years and prior to 2019, the salary was \$3,000.00 for members. In 2019, the salary increased to \$4,000.00 for the President and \$3,500.00 for each member. It was decided to increase the salary for President to \$5,000.00, the salary for members to \$4,000.00 and \$150.00 for each day of canvass on a motion by Mr. Woodley, seconded by Ms. Coley. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Berry explained the purpose of her budget hearing before the commissioners. The hearing will be held Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am at 225 N Center Street. The topics to be discussed during the budget hearing is the increase in pay for election judges and the increase in continuing education for staff.

Ms. Berry explained *HB410 – Election Reform Act of 2023.* A letter for each local board of elections was composed by MAEO to be sent to multiple stakeholders to show MAEO's opposition to this bill. The bill was amended to have no less than 5% of the polling places used in 2018. It was stated that in 2018, COVID did not exist, redistricting did not yet occur, and the increase in mail-in voting did not yet happen.

Ms. Berry discussed the potential new space near the airport. Several staff visited the space already, and another walk through is scheduled for Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. There is a total of approximately 21,000 square feet at 1135 Business Parkway. There is also approximately 15,000 square feet at 125 Airport Drive.

Mr. Tegeler asked for an update from Mr. Gullo regarding the recommendations made to the State's Attorney Office at the next meeting. Ms. Perrone will add that topic to the agenda for the April meeting.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

### <u>Adjournment</u>

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Ms. Coley at 10:59 am. The motion passed unanimously.