

December 1, 2016

The Tazewell County Electoral Board met in the General Registrar's office Thursday, December 1, 2016, for the purpose of addressing some year-end items. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Emma Hagy at 12pm. In attendance were Vice Chair, Beth Grindstaff, Secretary, Sherman Cain, and Director of Elections, Brian Earls.

The motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was offered by Beth Grindstaff, and seconded by Emma Hagy. The motion unanimously carried.

Director Earls advised the Board of the need for purchase of a new minutes book. Following a brief discussion on options, costs and recommendations Sherman Cain made the motion to purchase the equipment and material to produce our own book rather than the type book we currently use; seconded by Beth Grindstaff; motion unanimously carried.

Director Earls updated the board concerning the status of the state contract with poll book vendor, Demtech. Currently the cost for poll book maintenance is \$35 per machine x the 60 machines we have. At this time no decisions have been made by the State Board.

The Board was informed by Director Earls annual licensing and software fee of over \$10,000 for the current voting equipment supplied by Unilect will soon be due. The Board's discussions transitioned to the expected decertification by the State Board of our current DRE machines and the feeling of the Board now might be the best opportunity to purchase new equipment. A goal for 2017, Beth Grindstaff made the motion to go forward with the purchase of new optical scan voting equipment; seconded by Emma Hagy; motion unanimously carried. Brian Earls will make contact with the County Administrator to begin discussions and process.

The Board discussions continued on a possible additional goal for 2017. The board is aware the new voting equipment currently certified by the state will have additional storage space and transportation challenges than we currently face with the old equipment.

Sherman Cain stated the most recent election highlighted the fact the registrar's office current 3rd floor courthouse location was the worst possible place to be for the type of activity the office does. For example, no easy access for the voting public and the maintenance and transportation of voting equipment both pre and post-election. Sherman Cain made the motion to have a goal for 2017 to relocate the registrar's office; seconded by Emma Hagy, motion unanimously carried.

There being no further items to discuss, Sherman Cain made the motion to adjourn; Beth Grindstaff seconded, motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Secretary