

Meeting Minutes Starke County Election Board
February 1, 2019

The Starke County Election Board met February 1, 2019, at the Starke County Courthouse, 2nd floor meeting room, Knox, IN at 9:30 am (CST). This meeting was rescheduled from January 23, 2019 due to in climate weather conditions.

Those present were: CEB President, Harrison Fields, Peg Brettin, member, Bernadette Manuel, Starke County Clerk/ CEB Secretary; also, Shelby Mullins, Deputy Clerk, and Crystal Taylor, Voter Registration Clerk. Other persons present: Colleen Hodge, Deputy Clerk, Brenda Stanojevic, Republican Party Chairperson, Kenneth Wallace Democrat Chairperson, members of the Starke County Sheriff's Department; Adam Gray, Rob Olejniczak, and Larry Keiser; other members of the public; Shirley Fields and David Trail. Lastly, Michael Gallenberger, WKVI news reporter.

The first CEB meeting of the year 2019 was called to order by President Harrison Fields with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Peg Brettin made the motion to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2018 regular meeting and the special Hearing meeting regarding delinquent fees that was held on December 19, 2018. Secretary Bernadette Manuel, seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0)

First order of business was Reorganization of the CEB. Bernadette Manuel made a motion for President to Peg Brettin. Harrison Fields seconded that motion. The motion carried unanimous (3-0)

Mrs. Brettin called upon Thomas DeCola to address the CEB per his written request. Mr. Tom DeCola did not respond. He was not present. Mrs. Brettin stated to let the Minutes to reflect his non presence and asked the CEB to be able to move agenda item to end of meeting to see if he had appeared by that time.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion was held on Microvote regarding the updating of 45 voting machines, plus the need to approach the Commissioners and Council for appropriations to have them all upgraded soon. Brettin mentioned that the original request (2017) was discussed again on January 28, 2018 for updates with the payment over three (3) years for \$66,000 with the Commissioners. Brettin made the motion to revisit the discussion with Microvote to New Business with the Senate Bill 570. Manuel seconded. Motion carried. (3-0)

Brettin discussed the HAVA grant and if there is any money to help with the security of the room for the Microvote machines. Manuel stated that she didn't know the status on the HAVA grant, being new. It was further discussed about future bids to renovate the room currently being used for the machines and other equipment. Brettin requested that Manuel would contact Dan Haas from Microvote about the special shelving for all of the machines and equipment and meet with the CEB to bring Manuel on board, and up to date.

New Business:

Discussion was held on the dates for the Knox City filings. The last day to file is on February 8, 2019, by

noon (CST) sharp.

The CEB is considering the reduction of Sheriff's for the Knox City Primary election, May 7, 2019. Discussion was held in behalf the four precincts that will be voting at the Dembowski Community Center if they would be able to get by with only two sheriff's rather than four. One Democrat and One Republican was suggested. Kenneth Wallace, Democrat Party Chair and Brenda Stanojevic, Republican Party Chair, being present were in the discussion. They both felt it would work and were in support of the suggestion. That would be the same for the Fall election for the Knox general election. Brettin said there is time to make adjustments before the election. Fields made the motion to approve the reduction of election sheriff's and Manuel made the second. Motion carried. (3-0)

Discussion was held on the Hamlet and North Judson conventions that will be held if they have candidates. The last day to file for them is August 1, 2019 by 12:00 pm (sharp). Candidates will appear on the fall general ballot.

Also, discussed was the Indiana Senate Bill (SB) 570. Manuel stated that this bill suggests that each voter that vote on a machine will receive a paper ballot that comes from the machine, for the voter to look it over, place in a special envelope and place it in a secure ballot box. Along with the earlier discussion in the meeting about the company Microvote, the CEB members agreed that Manuel call Steven Shamo, our Microvote representative about meeting with us, since this new information from the SB 570 will have bearing on any upcoming meeting with the Council and Commissioners. These changes in the SB, if it passes, will also have additional changes that will be effecting future elections.

Discussion on Danny Hoffer, Jr. and his delinquency of his CFA-4 forms, his refusal to pay and to sign for the certified mailing was in question in how it should be handled. Fields made the motion for the gentleman to be notified by the Sheriff's Department and serve a court-issued letter regarding this delinquency. Brettin made the second. The vote being taken was two in favor and one vote not in favor of motion. Brettin stated that the vote calls for a unanimous vote. Manuel requested a re-vote. The vote being taken the second time on the same motion was all members of the CEB voted in favor to have Mr. Hoffer, Jr. served with the papers. (3-0)

The very last piece of business was the call from Mrs. Brettin asking if Mr. Tom DeCola was present. There was no response and he was not present. Again she stated that the CEB did receive a request to come before them. The request was in writing.

Having no further business, Brettin made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Fields made the second. Motion carried. (3-0)

The meeting February 1, 2019, was recorded.

Secretary

Bernadette Manuel,
Starke county Clerk/CEB Secretary