

MI COUNCIL OF ELECTION OFFICIALS MEETING NOTES

(Held at Delta Township Hall - Lansing)
September 17, 2008

Present:

County Clerks: Lauri Braid (Shiawasee), Mary Hollinrake (chair, Kent), Larry Kestenbaum (Washtenaw), Joyce Watts (Allegan); *Local Clerks:* Ann Becker (Muskegon), Evan Hope (Delhi Township), Heidi Isakson (Wyoming), Sue Morrow (Plainfield Township), Chris Swope (Lansing), Sharon Tischler (Southfield Township).

Also Present: Chris Thomas (BOE), Bill Zaagman (GCSI)

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Hollinrake at 11:00 a.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes from last meeting (5/21/08) postponed.
- 3) Special Recognition
 - Kathy Dornan, Farmington Hills Clerk, was awarded the President's Award by the IMMC at its 2008 annual Spring meeting
- 4) Reports
 - A) Chris Thomas (BOE)
 - BOE emailed out Kathy Dornan's suggested precinct layouts to improve flow.
 - Lawsuits
 - a) Lost in USDC on recall petitions – circulators need not be registered voters or resident of district.
 - b) ACLU will sue:
 - i. when driver moves to another state, gets new DL from new state and MI removes that voter from MI rolls if the voter does not respond to the notice sent by local clerk.
 - ii. ACLU does *not* want that voter removed from the lists when notice comes back undelivered
 - c) Foreclosures – being in foreclosure is *not* proof that voter no longer lives at that address. Do not allow such challenges.
 - Recounts – after the August Primary, there was an excessive number of ballot cans not sealed properly so that recounts could not occur in those precincts.
 - a) Chris suggests that county clerks have local clerks *prove* to them that the local clerk knows how to seal.
 - b) Wants locals to look at each bag/can and sign certificate that each was sealed properly.
 - Obama staff want to attend election worker training. Chris wants us to dissuade them from doing so.
 - B) Bill Zaagman (GCSI)

- Bill wants CEO to decide what new legislation we want passed in the next legislative session and what old legislation which will die on 12/31/08 re-introduced in the next session.

5) Legislation

- HB 6398 – extend 100ft rule to 500ft – Corriveau will not take bill up
- SB 1379 – delivery of election materials to county clerk the day after election – no movement.

6) Old Business

- Deputizing Clerks in other counties to help first-time voters who registered by mail. (MH left the meeting at this point. Evan Hope took over as chair and Larry K explained the proposal.)

7) New Business – None

8) Miscellaneous – Correspondence from Sen. Brown

- Larry K explained that Senator Brown is Vice Chair of the Senate Campaign and Election Oversight Committee and wanted to meet with Clerks about the bills that are held up in that Committee Chaired by Senator McManus. The consensus was that it would be most effective to meet with Senator Brown as one group (MACC Legislative, MAMC Legislative and CEO).

Adjourned at 12:15 p.m. on motion of Larry Kestenbaum, seconded by Sharon.

Next Meeting: TBD
Delta Township Hall
Lansing, MI