Council of Election Officials  
February 15, 2017  
Minutes

Council of Election Officials was called to order at 9:15 a.m. at Delta Township Hall, 7710 W. Saginaw, Lansing, MI by Chair Sue Courtade.

MACC Members Present: Tim Snow, Sharon Tyler, Lindsay Oswald, Terry Kubasiak, John Gleason  
MAMC Members Present: Sue Courtade, Mary Clark, Terri Kowal, Jan Roncelli, Sarah Bydalek, Michelle LaVoy  
Other MACC Members: Kristen Millard, Diana Bosworth, Barb Byrum, Joan Runyan, Marney Kast, Judy Leedy, Cynthia Luczak  
Other MAMC Members: Ann Bollin, Lisa Hathaway, Joe Bridgman, Rob Crawford, Lanie McManus, Kim Meltzer, Sharon Tischler, Jennifer Venema  
Also present were: Bill Zaagman (GCSI) and Sally Williams (BOE)

1. Minutes of January 18, 2017 – Sharon Tischler noted that she was present, as did Debbie Miller and Michelle LaVoy. Mary Clark moved, seconded by Sarah Bydalek to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

2. Legislative Updates – Bill Zaagman distributed the bill summary, noting that 19 election bills have been introduced so far. The House Elections & Ethics Committee met last week, and Chris Thomas addressed them. The Committee will be meeting February 16, but there are no elections bills on the agenda.
   a. Stamas Bill on voting equipment – This bill is in a draft stage and looks 10 years in the future when new election equipment is potentially selected. It deals with who is going to decide, who is going to pay, etc. Those present offered several thoughts regarding the possible bill. Ideas regarding this possible legislation can be e-mailed to Sue Courtade or Nancy Waters.
   b. The leadership of CEO and MACC/MAMC Legislative Committees and Bill met with the BOE last week to discuss legislative priorities. Following the meeting, Justin Roebuck compiled a summary:
      i. Collaboration between clerks on election functions.
      ii. Post Election Audit process improvements – including some hand counts
      iii. SOS Branch Offices ability to transmit voter registrations electronically
      iv. Local Clerks ability to return Precinct Envelopes to County Clerk by 11 am Wednesday following an election, as long as data is electronically transmitted on election night.
      v. Changing recountability standards
      vi. Increase recount fee to $250 per precinct for those outside a 5% variance
      vii. Receive MOVE ballots electronically

It was noted that rules would have to be established regarding what clerks are to do with an electronic ballot once it is received.

Bill noted that the recount fee bill will be introduced soon.

Other ideas suggested were:
• Precinct Delegate write-in candidates file by 2nd Friday before the election – the same as all other write-in candidates
• All filing fees made non-refundable and fees placed in a Voter Technology Fund
• Precinct Delegate certification done by County Clerks/Boards of Canvassers rather than in the precincts
• Elimination of Precinct Delegates – or make terms of precinct delegates 4 years.

3. Bureau of Elections – Sally Williams
   a. The audit report on the City of Detroit following the State recount was released recently. About 130 precincts in Detroit had balancing issues, but most of them were human errors. There were also many ePollbook issues, Provisional Ballot issues and Receiving Board problems. The BOE has worked closely with the City of Detroit and has reviewed their training program – which appears to be satisfactory. The City Clerk is working on training programs and poll worker recruitment.
   b. The report regarding possible double voting was also released. The BOE is looking at possible EPB changes to help with this issue. Sally noted that there is human error in entering voting history, but the BOE was able to find necessary information in order to get the number of possible double voting cases to 31, all of whom have been referred to the Attorney General.
   c. Sally noted that it took too long to collect necessary information from local clerks.
   d. Regarding the election equipment purchase, Sally noted that comparative data was released 2 weeks ago, and the costs of each system were made public. State dollars (HAVA and Legislature) will cover most of the costs. Counties and local clerks should look carefully about the maintenance costs for years 6-10. County Clerks will be making these decisions in consultation with local clerks.
   e. There will be a grant agreement transferring ownership of the equipment to local clerks, which will be similar to the 2004 agreement.
   f. The final testing of vendors is being completed.
   g. Absent voter counting board equipment information will be coming soon.
   h. The State Board of Canvassers will be meeting on February 28 to confirm the contracts with the 3 vendors.
   i. There are several items on Secretary Johnson’s list of priorities:
      i. Remove old sections of election law.
      ii. Emergency preparedness for election days
      iii. Recount rules
      iv. Fraud issues
      v. No reason AV Ballots with an ID
      vi. Electronic voter registration
      vii. Counties report all out of balance precincts

It was noted that MAMC members will not be available on March 15, so there will not be a CEO meeting that day. The next CEO meeting will be April 19.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Timothy A. Snow, CMC, MCCO
Kalamazoo County Clerk & Register of Deeds