Legislative Committee
Minutes
October 17, 2007, 9:15 AM

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Todd Blake, at Delta Charter Township Hall on October 17, 2007.

Present: Todd Blake, Ann Ulrich, Chris Swope, Sharon Tischler, Terri Hegarty, Lorna Wilson, Rob Flynn, Ann Marie Becker, Joan Raap and Bill Zaagman (Government Consultant Services)

Absent: Kathy Dornan, Janice Vedder, Susan Morrow, Toni Bartholomew and Terri Kowal,

Agenda. The agenda was approved as submitted.

Minutes. The Minutes of September 19, 2007 were approved with revisions.

MAMC Legislative Priority List: Update

Terri Hegarty requested that ‘uncontested elections’ and ‘write-in filing deadlines’ be added to the list.

The Committee reviewed and updated the 2007 list and approved it as follows:

MAMC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
2007 PRIORITY LIST

Legislative:
- No Reason AV
- Early Voting / In-Person AV’s
- Allow for voter registration at any clerk’s office (legislation introduced)
- Address required retention periods for election materials (i.e. no more fifty year retentions, ballot storage, memory cards (PROMS)) (Amendments awaiting approval by Michigan Records Management Division)
- Standard/Uniform petitions, AV envelopes, print name line on AV applications (legislation introduced)
- Recall process (legislation introduced)
- Revise Absentee Ballot Application Form to use for all election in a year
- Election Consolidation
- Uncontested Elections / Write-in filing deadlines moved back
- Date synchronization: Precinct consolidation, ballot approval, election inspector confirmation
- City Canvass requirement removed

State Elections Division:
- Continue clear communications
- Review registration form with notice for mail in registrants “First time voters in Michigan must vote in person”.
- Standardize forms for AV envelopes and include a line for voter to print name on AV application.
The Committee did not have anyone to recommend for the ‘Township Alternate’ vacancy on the Committee, so Todd will ask the various other active committees for interest.

Bill Zaagman (Government Consultant Services, Inc.).

Bill again reported a ‘negotiated’ school election dates between Don Wotruba, from the MI Assoc of School Boards, the MI Association of County Clerks and the MI Association of Municipal Clerks are tentatively agreed to be:

- May (odd years)
- August (even or every year)
- November (odd years)

There was some concern among the Committee for those schools that have recently chosen ‘Even’ November elections and whether or not they could be grandfathered in with the new legislation.

Bill noted the Presidential Primary date is set for January 15, 2008 and the deadline for Parties to opt out is 4pm on November 14th. A caucus is still scheduled for February 9th if the Democrats bail out. Its still questionable as to whether or not there will be a February 26th Election for State and Local issues with no presidential candidates.

Bill noted SB 758 will most likely not make it out of Senate Committee and that the US Supreme Court has agreed to hear recent rulings regarding the photo identification/affidavit requirement.

Bill will ask Don Wotruba about adding the ‘uncontested elections’ issue to Ward’s HB 4506&7. He noted that Headlee Rollback’s are a concern of the school boards.

Sharon also noted ‘school facilities use’ during elections is becoming a growing issue.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 PM.

Respectfully,

Todd Blake, Committee Chair