

Convened 10:03AM, March 5, 2018

All Electoral Board and Director of Elections present.

Two general public attendees.

Chair Adkins acknowledge and welcomed guests.

General Registrar Cloeter requested a minutes revision regarding budget items and travel policy. Citing objection to format, Ms. Miles offered alternative minutes. The minutes, with the Registrar's additions, were approved with Ms. Miles dissenting and stating her intended refusal to sign the minute log book.

Mr. Martin asked the chair to move agenda item C, board reorganization, up the first agenda item.

Mr. Adkins moved to make Mr. Martin secretary but accepted Mr. Martin's substitute motion to retain the current structure, which Mr. Adkins seconded. After Ms. Miles registered concern that her superior knowledge, technical acumen, and state of the art equipment should make her secretary, the board voted Mr. Adkins Chair, Ms. Miles Vice-chair, and Mr. Martin Secretary. Ms. Miles voted no.

Under agenda item A, and after completing visits to each of the County's polling places, the Registrar reported recommendations related to potential location changes:

- Precinct 106 Green Hill – Registrar recommended that Fort Lewis Baptist continue in service as the polling place for Precinct 106. The current polling location has ample parking, plenty of room for voters to form lines in the event of a wait, and voting takes place in a very large and nicely-appointed space. Given the considerable size of the Precinct and that it typically has above-average voter turnout, the newly-completed Glenvar Public Library is ill-suited in terms of meeting room size and building layout to accommodate the typical volume of Election Day activity in Precinct 106.
- Precinct 201 Plantation – In light of continuing complaints from voters regarding ADA accessibility of the music room where voting currently takes place at Shenandoah Baptist/Roanoke Valley Christian, the Registrar recommended that the Electoral Board pursue an alternative for Precinct 201. While something more readily accessible would be beneficial to the County's voters given the grade of the parking lot, gap between the pavement and the lip of the sidewalk ramp, unevenness of the sidewalk pavers, long and tight hallway, and size and layout of the assigned room, there are few other suitable facilities located in or near the Precinct's boundaries. The Electoral Board will contact Friendship Manor and Hollins University about potential use of their spaces for polling on Election Day.

- Precinct 106 Garst Mill – Registrar recommended that the Electoral Board consider moving Precinct 106’s polling place from the Cave Spring Rescue Station to one of the larger activity rooms across from the Ceramics Studio at the adjacent Brambleton Center. Upon review of the facility, voter complaints regarding extremely limited parking and difficulty accessing the entrance for those with physical limitations or disabilities seem reasonable. Dependent upon on availability and with additional signage to direct voters, the Brambleton Center could easily house both Precinct 306 – Garst Mill and Precinct 506 – Mt. Vernon; both Precincts are of moderate size, there is plenty of parking on a level lot, the rooms that would be used are at opposite ends of the building, with separate ADA-accessible entrances to each.

Mr. Adkins deferred agenda item B, Personnel Evaluation to the end of the meeting.

Under New Business:

Ms. Miles stated her intention to resume the High School Registration Program.

Ms. Miles said she would have future comment about voter machine security based on information from the VEBA annual conference.

The Registrar reviewed for Ms. Miles the current L&A protocol of having local Registrar’s Office staff and/or technicians complete L&A testing for Town of Vinton elections and special elections affecting a small number of precincts. In contrast, Election Services Online, Inc., the County’s ballot and voting equipment vendor, completes L&A testing for County-wide primaries.

At 11:25AM the Board recessed into executive session for the purpose considering Human Resource items, discussed only Human Resource items, and had no items requiring an open session vote. The board resumed open session at 12:55PM.

Upon determining the lack of additional business or commentary, the meeting adjourned at 12:56PM.