**Monroe County Election Board Meeting**

*March 7th, 2024*

**Nat U Hill Room & Via Zoom**

Call To Order

*The Monroe County Election Board meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by John Fernandez, Democratic Party and Board Chair. Judith Benckart, Republican Party Board Member, Nicole Browne, Monroe County Clerk and Board Secretary, County Attorney Molly King-Turner, Chief Deputy Laura Wert and Election Supervisor Kylie Moreland were also present.*

Approval of Minutes

 *Chairperson Fernandez asks for approval of the February 2024, minutes. Clerk Browne motioned to approve the minutes and* *Member Benckart seconded .* **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Old Business

Candidate Asare was invited to the meeting regarding his CFA 11 that was not filed with his Pre-Election Report. This was his first offense. Clerk Browne motioned for a warning, members Benckart and Fernandez seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Member Benckart motions to approve the 2024 Poll Site Locations, Clerk Browne and Chairperson Fernandez seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

New Business

**Clerks Update:**

Clerk Browne gave a Legislative update: House Bill 1133 – passed, House Bill 1264- passed, House Bill 1265- passed, Senate Bill 150- passed, Senate Bill 170- passed,

Clerk Nicole Browne introduced the new Chief Deputy, Laura Wert, and new Election Supervisor, Kylie Moreland.

The last day to register in person to vote in the upcoming Primary Election is NOON, April 9th. Online registration ends April 8, 2024, at 11:59 PM.

The Board called for a CFA-4 late filing’s hearing:

Candidate Kelson was 13 minutes late for filing. Member Benckart motioned to issue a warning, Chairperson Fernandez and Clerk Browne seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Ellis filed late on Feb 5; This was the candidate’s first offense. Clerk Browne motioned to issue a warning, members Fernandez and Benckart seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Oliphant filed late; this was the candidate’s first offense. Clerk Browne motioned to issue a warning, members Fernandez and Benckart seconded the motion. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Volan was invited to the meeting regarding his CFA 4. He did not appear at the hearing and was fined $50. Volan was also invited regarding his CFA 11. He has not turned in his form at this time. Member Benckart motioned to fine Volan $50 if he does not turn in his form by the March meeting. Clerk Browne and Chairperson Fernandez seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Oldham appeared at the Voter Registration Office in person to fix an issue of filing. This was his first filing. Clerk Browne motioned to issue a warning; members Fernandez and Benckart seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Wright filed 2 hours and 20 minutes late. This was Connor’s first late filing. Clerk Browne motioned to issue a warning; members Fernandez and Benckart seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

Candidate Fuentes-Rohwer was 7 minutes late. This is her first late filing. Clerk Browne motioned to issue a warning; members Fernandez and Benckart seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

The 2024 Primary ABS Poll Workers nominations were reviewed. Clerk Browne made a motion to accept the list of Absentee Workers, members Fernandez and Benckart seconded it. **Motion Passes Unanimously**

The Election Board has until March 18th to make requests for nominations. The party Chairs have until March 22nd to provide the nominations and those can be appointed at the April meeting. The status of the State Convention Delegates non-contested races will not be on the ballot. The LAB testing list of the machines were addressed by the committee. The County Council is considering making an amendment to the salary ordinance to eliminate confusion. They have presented three options to consider.

Public Comment –Cheryl Langdon shared her opinion.

**Election Operations Update:**

Early voting starts April 9th from8AM-6PM. Public ballot review and public LAB testing are coming up in the next month. The date for this is TBD.

Public Comment – None

**Vote Center Committee Update:**

The Committee is gathering more data about voting patterns in Monroe County to weigh the Pro’s and Cons of a Vote Center. Ilana Stonebraker has appointed proxy Emily Alford.

Public Comment – None

Motion To Recess

*Clerk Browne motion to recess. Chairperson Fernandez and Judith Benckart seconds the motion until the next Election Board meeting on April 4th, 2024 in the NAT U Hill Room.*

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

**Next County Election Board Meeting**

***Thursday April 4th, 2024, at 1:00 PM***

**Nat U Hill Room, 3rd Floor, Monroe County Courthouse**

A recording of this meeting is available at Community Access Television Service (CATS). <http://carstv.net>