Beaufort County Council

Board of Elections & Registration
15 John Galt Road
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Beaufort County Board of Canvassers
June 24, 2010
11:00 a.m.
15 John

Meeting was called to order by Ron Clifford, Chairman, at 11:05. The Oath was administered to Mr. Clifford by Mr. Marshall, the Executive Director. Mr. Clifford administered the Oath to the board members and Mrs. Marie Smalls, Acting Secretary.

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Rupert Williams.

Board Members Present:
Ron Clifford, Chairman Rupert Williams Marilyn Caprielian, Vice Chairman
James Rowe Emile Bernard

Staff Members Present:
Scott Marshall, Executive Director Eric Montgomery, Programmer
Marie Smalls, Deputy Director

Public Present:
Norma Stewart Marty Caprielian

Mr. Marshall then stated that the purpose of the meeting was to certify the Republican Primary Runoff results of June 22, 2010. Mr. Clifford informed the Board that Mr. Marshall had created a table with explanations and recommendations for the provisional and failsafe ballots being presented. Mr. Clifford said that his format is a good idea and should make the canvassing process more efficient. There were a total of thirty provisional and failsafe ballots to be reviewed by the Board. Seal Number 0338851 was broken away from the transfer case used to secure the ballots. The ballots discussed below are indexed by number and correspond to the attached table.

absentee Precinct:

- There were seven absentee ballots challenged by the absentee Precinct clerk because they were missing witness signatures. Dr. Bernard examined the ballots and verified that none of the ballots were opened. absentee Voters 1 – 7 were

listed with no witness signatures. (See the attached table). The Board voted unanimously to reject these absentee ballots because the SC Code of Laws requires that absentee envelopes contain a witness signature in order to be valid.

Ms. Caprielian asked to be on record that she supports the pending bill that will alleviate witness signatures from the mail-in absentee ballots. Mr. Marshall stated that recent federal legislation allowed UOCAVA voters to omit witness signatures and hoped that this trend will result in changes at the state level as well.

Ms. Stewart asked who to talk when trying to make such changes. Ms. Caprielian responded that the South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials has been lobbying the South Carolina Legislature for this change.

Failsafe Ballots:

- There were seven failsafe ballots issued at various precincts due to voter address changes. Voters 8 – 15 on the attached table represented those who issued failsafe ballots. Ms. Caprielian questioned the entry for voter 12 because she did not understand the explanation for issuing that ballot. Ms. Marshall explained that the poll worker's explanation was a little confusing, because the voter was already eligible to vote in District 123 race.

  The board voted unanimously to accept the failsafe ballots 8 – 15 listed on the attached table. (See the attached table). The ballots were counted in the 950-Virtual Precinct.

Provisional Ballots:

- There were 16 provisional ballots that were issued at various precincts due to a variety of reasons. The Board decided to discuss these individually due to the uniqueness of the ballots.

  Joseph P. Otterbine (Bluffton 2B) – the voter was issued a provisional ballot because he was marked in the poll book as having voted in Democratic Primary. Research revealed that the voter signed the Republican Primary Voter's Oath List on June 8 on Page 1, Line 7. Board voted unanimously to correct the poll book and accept the ballot.

  No name voter (Bluffton 2B) – The challenger claimed that voter was not registered but did not include the name of the voter. The challenger's name was also omitted from the envelope. Research on this ballot was not possible due to lack of information. The Board voted unanimously to reject the ballot.

Sheila G. Rumsey (Hilton Head 11) – the voter was issued provisional ballot because she received her mail-in absentee ballot on Thursday night prior to the Tuesday Runoff, and didn't think it could be returned to the office by Tuesday. Research revealed her absentee runoff ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to count the provisional ballot.

John L. Rumsey (Hilton Head 11) - the voter was issued provisional ballot because he received his mail-in absentee ballot on Thursday night prior to the Tuesday Runoff, and didn't think it could be returned to the office by Tuesday. Research revealed the absentee runoff ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

Patricia Freeman (Hilton Head 12) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because her name was not found by the poll manager in the poll book. Research revealed she is registered ion Precinct Hilton Head 14. Board voted unanimously to accept the ballot and change the voter's address per voter's request.

Marie G. Saprony (Hilton Head 12) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because her name was not found in the poll book. Research revealed she is registered in Precinct Bluffton 4A. Board voted unanimously to accept the ballot and change the voter's address per the voter's request.

Wendy W. Corbitt (Hilton Head 15A) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because her name was not found in the poll book. Research revealed that the voter was registered in Precinct Hilton Head 14, though her current address is located in Precinct Hilton Head 15A. Board voted unanimously to accept the ballot and change the voter's address per the voter's request.

Doris Facchiano (Hilton Head 1B) – the voter was issued a provisional ballot because the voter was issued an absentee ballot; voter said she did not return it. Research revealed that the absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

Anthony Facchiano (Hilton Head 1B) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because the voter was issued an absentee ballot; voter said he did not return it. Research revealed that the absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

Alfred V. Mossburger (Hilton Head 7A) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because his name could not be found in the poll book. Research revealed that the

voter was indeed listed under the correct spelling of his name "Moosburger" vice "Mossburger." Board voted unanimously to accept the ballot and offer an apology to voter.

Andrea O. Purple (Hilton Head 9B) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because the post office returned her mail-in absentee ballot as "undeliverable." Research revealed her absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

William C. Purple, Jr. (Hilton Head 9B) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because the post office returned his mail-in absentee ballot as "undeliverable. " Research revealed his absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

Karla Cummings (Mossy Oaks 1B) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because the voter name was not found in the poll book. Research revealed the voter registered on June 8, 2010, after the eligibility deadline of May 8, 2010h for this election. Board voted unanimously to reject the ballot.

Sandra H. Baggette (Port Royal 2) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because her mail-in absentee ballot was received too late to return, in her opinion. Research revealed her absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

John C. Baggette – (Port Royal 2) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because his mail-in absentee ballot was received too late to return, in his opinion. Research revealed his absentee ballot was not returned. Board voted unanimously to accept the provisional ballot.

Chester Jackiewicz (Sun City 1A) - the voter was issued a provisional ballot because he was marked in the poll book as having voted in Democratic Primary. Researched revealed that the voter signed the Republican Primary Voter's Oath List on June 8 on Page 4, Line 160. Board voted unanimously to accept the ballot and correct the poll book to reflect the voter as having voted a Republican ballot on June 8, 2010.

The board recessed to allow the staff an opportunity to count the Failsafe and provisional ballots that were accepted.

After reconvening, Mr. Marshall read the vote totals. They were as follows:

Republican Primary Runoff Results

Governor
Gresham Barrett - 3,694; Nikki R Haley- 8,493

Lieutenant Governor
Ken Ard - 4,594; Bill Connor – 5,684;

Attorney General
Leighton Lord – 4,364; Alan Wilson – 6,771

State Superintendent of Education
Elizabeth Moffly – 5,916; Mick Zais- 4,338

State House of Representatives Dist 123
Richard Chalk – 1,453; Andy Patrick – 3,438

The Board members voted unanimously to certify the vote totals as read by Mr. Marshall.

The Board of Canvassers signed the certification statement and Mr. Clifford adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:15 p.m.