

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 2010**  
**ELECTION BOARD MEETING**

The Monroe County Election Board met in regular session on March 25, 2010 with all members present.

Chair Jan Ellis called the meeting to order and welcomed members of the public.

The minutes of the March 18, 2010 Election Board were reviewed; Member Ille-Smith moved for approval, seconded by Chair Ellis and passed unanimously.

The poll worker instructions from May, 2008 had been provided to the members for review. Member Ille-Smith stated she would rather the Board Members each appoint 2 representatives and that each of the 3 Members and the 6 appointees work on the instructions throughout the summer rather than hurry through and adopt them now. Secretary Fielder was asked his opinion on this and Fielder stated he would like to see the materials formalized and adopted as soon as possible so they would be taken care of and that the same instructions had been used for several years with no problems until the 2008 General election. Chair Ellis stated that she had asked members of the League of Women Voters to review the materials. Poll worker Jim Faber was present and asked a series of questions about the current instructions and stated there was some interpretation needed for the poll workers. He asked if it was possible to have half days for the poll workers. Fielder stated this had been tried and it was a bookkeeping nightmare in getting all the paperwork signed for two shifts and also that there had been a problem with those on the second shift showing up to relieve those on the first shift.

Fielder advised that Auditor Amy Gerstman had sent an email to him saying she had attended an Auditor's conference and that withholding taxes would have to be taken out on poll workers again. It was pointed out that the elderly workers that only had poll worker stipend in addition to their Social Security could check the exempt box on the W-4 form and then the only thing that would be taken out would be Social Security withholdings. The announcement of having to tax the poll workers again (this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of "you have to tax them, no you don't have to tax them and now- you have to tax them" again and that this news would not be something the poll workers would want to hear. Hopefully, this will not result in poll workers not wanting to work.

Other remarks and questions from the public included "how many feet away from workers and voters do challengers have to be?" Chair Ellis stated at least 3 feet. The question of where the chute begins was asked and the Board Members agreed this depended on the polling site itself- some can be measured from the actual door and some have to be measured from the inside. There was a discussion about cell phone usage at the polling sites and Fielder informed the Board that signs had been sent in 2006 and 2008 elections that cell phones should be shut off once in the chute area. The Board discussed that this needed to be enforced as well as the usage of ipods and other smart

phone equipment. It was decided by the Board that signage should state that “all electronic devices be shut off while in the polling area.” The Board discussed the necessity of poll workers to check off those that voted absentee as quickly as possible so the couriers could run to other precincts and the absentee counters be able to start counting absentee ballots in the Justice Building since we are a central count county and we have to wait on couriers to return with the A, B and C lists to start the counting of absentee ballots.

The Board worked on the written instructions and concluded that we had preliminarily approved those instructions with final approval to be at the April 6 meeting.

Member Ille-Smith moved for adjournment, seconded by Fielder and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Fielder, Secretary  
Monroe County Election Board