

# Pulaski County Election Commission Meeting Minutes November 29, 2012 12:00 p.m.

Members Present Ozell Snider

Phil Wyrick Susan Inman

Staff Present Melinda Allen

Pam Walker Bryan Poe

**Amanda Dickens** 

Visitors Present: Larry Crane, Scott Price, Brandon Wood, Shawn Camp, County Clerk's Office; Craig Siebert, Election Systems & Software (ES&S); Bruce Bender, Advance Print Solutions; Karla Burnett, Pulaski County Attorney; Jean Pope, Pulaski County Purchasing

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ozell Snider. A quorum was determined; all members present.

# Approval of Meeting Minutes, November 29, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Inman; seconded by Chairperson Snider. All in favor; motion passed unanimously.

### November 6, 2012 General Election

#### Ballot Printing Issues

Bruce Bender, Advance Print Solutions, and Craig Siebert, ES&S, were invited to discuss issues that occurred with ballots at polling locations in the November 6, 2012 General Election. The Board asked what can/will be done (procedures) to prevent ballot issues from occurring in the future.

Craig Siebert stated that ballot paper stock was purchased from a third-party supplier in Des Moines, IA due to volume needs and time constraints. However, because of problems during the General Election, he guaranteed that all paper stock for Pulaski County will come from the ES&S main supplier in Birmingham, AL from now on.

Bruce Bender stated that he could not guarantee the board that anything won't happen, but he could assure, to the best of his ability, that this will not happen again. Commissioner Wyrick asked that Mr. Bender have in place procedures to prevent errors with ballots where possible.

Karla Hutchens, Pulaski County Attorney, noted her past experience with ES&S and Advance Print Solutions, reflecting on the 2002 General Election where both vendors went beyond the call to make sure that the election took place due to no fault on either vendor.

Commissioner Wyrick asked if the Election Commission has the right to decide if the ballot vendor's services are no longer needed. Karla Hutchens, Pulaski County Attorney stated that the Board can make a recommendation to the Purchasing Department and the County Judge but the County Judge is the only authority to contract on behalf of any county agency and makes the final decision.

Commissioner Inman noted that in the ballot issues that occurred at the polls the most important issue is there were no ballots not counted and no voter was disenfranchised. There will be unavoidable issues to occur with each election and those issues will be addressed.

Chairman Snider thanked Mr. Bender and Mr. Siebert for appearing before the Board to address the issues from the General Election and that any future issues that occur will continue to be addressed and handled with professionalism.

# November 27, 2012 General Runoff Election

# Review of Provisional Ballots

There were 8 unauthorized ballots and 47 authorized ballots. Motion to accept the finding of the County Clerk's office on provisional ballots as submitted was made by Commissioner Inman; seconded by Chairman Snider. All in favor; motion passed unanimously.

Order of Destruction - November 23, 2010 General Runoff Election. Signed by Board.

#### **Other Business**

Next meeting Monday, December 10, 2012, 12:00 p.m. - Certify General Runoff Election Staff Holiday Luncheon at Cheddars, Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.