



**Pulaski County Election Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
January 29, 2021  
5:00 p.m.**

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Members Present:

Evelyn D. Gomez  
Joshua A. Price  
Kristi M. Stahr

Staff Present:

Shawn Camp  
Betty Green  
Amanda Dickens

Visitors Present: Sydney Rasch; Martha Myrick, KTHV Channel 11; State Representative Keith Brooks; State Representative David Ray; June Matheny

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The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Gomez. A quorum was present, with all commissioners in attendance, Commissioner Price present via Zoom. The staff, Mrs. Rasch, Mrs. Myrick, State Representative Ray were present via Zoom. The commissioners gave Ms. Green permission to utilize their signature stamps for their time sheet.

The pledge of allegiance was State Representative Brooks.

*Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes*

Commissioner Stahr moved to review of previous meeting minutes at next meeting February 5, 2021; seconded by Commissioner Price. Motion passed by voice vote. Commissioner Stahr reminded the commissioners that a second to a motion is not needed.

**Business**

*November 2020 Election Tabulation of Ballots*

The voting equipment for the November 3, 2020 General Election was left at precinct 59, C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center. Commissioner Stahr shared that she had received notification from a poll worker that voting equipment was left at the polling location. Commissioner Stahr contacted Mrs. Dickens regarding the equipment. Mrs. Dickens

told her that Mr. Moreland would pick up the equipment. Commissioner Stahr shared that she did not have a phone number for Assistant Director Camp which is the reason she contacted Mrs. Dickens. Commissioner Stahr that her concern was making sure that the chain of custody was kept intact. She stated that she was told by someone that Mr. Moreland was not the person that picked up the equipment, so she contacted Mrs. Dickens again to confirm who the person was that picked up the equipment. Mrs. Dickens confirmed that it was Mr. Moreland that picked up the equipment.

Commissioner Stahr shared that Mrs. Dickens had informed her that if she had any questions that she needed to direct them to Assistant Director Camp. Chair Gomez requested clarification as to whether Mrs. Dickens can speak with her because Mrs. Dickens did not respond to an email from Chair Gomez.

Commissioner Stahr sent a photo that she had received to Ms. Green and requested that it be put on share screen. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification regarding the items in the photo. Assistant Director Camp stated that on the afternoon of January 28, 2021, Mrs. Dickens received a notification from Commissioner Stahr regarding this matter around 2:30 p.m. He stated that Mrs. Dickens informed Mr. Moreland. Assistant Director Camp stated that Mr. Moreland went to the location to retrieve the equipment.

Assistant Director Camp stated that items that Mr. Moreland found at the location were one DS200, one ExpressVote, two ExpressPoll pollbooks, one box of cleaning supplies, table shields, some vote here signs. These are also the items that were in the picture that Commissioner Stahr provided. Assistant Director Camp also provided some photos of the items that were brought to the office by Mr. Moreland. All photos are attached. Mr. Moreland delivered the equipment to the office on the afternoon of January 28, 2021.

Assistant Director Camp stated that all items were in a locked room at the C.A. Vines 4-H Center. All the equipment appeared to be packed properly for pick up after the election. He stated that the equipment contained no uncounted votes because the election day media was tallied and accounted for on election night. Assistant Director Camp also stated that a visual inspection of the equipment showed that the poll workers followed proper procedure when packing the equipment. All closures were locked, and no keys were present. There were no signs that the equipment was tampered with. He also shared that the County Judge's office has been notified regarding this matter and that an immediate inventory of all election equipment has been ordered. Assistant Director Camp stated that the inventory process has begun.

Assistant Director Camp described the photos of the equipment that he took of the equipment at the office. The items in the photos that both he and Commissioner Stahr provided coincide with the items that Assistant Director Camp named. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification regarding a white box that was sitting on top of the box of COVID-19 cleaning supplies box. Assistant Director Camp stated that it is a box of four to six voting booths. Commissioner Price requested clarification if the voting booths are privacy screens. Assistant Director Camp stated that they are the privacy screens. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to whether Assistant Director Camp was present at the office to open the box of voting booths. He was not at the office. Commissioner Stahr stated that the box looks like a ballot box, Assistant Director Camp stated that it was not.

Commissioner Stahr requested clarification regarding the loose pieces of paper laying on the table. Assistant Director Camp stated that it was signs and that a manual was also at the polling location. She requested clarification as to whether any provisional complaint sheets or other materials left at the location. Assistant Director Camp stated not that he was aware of, all those materials are checked in on election night by the area coordinators and returned to headquarters.

Commissioner Stahr request clarification as when the equipment was supposed to be picked up. Assistant Director Camp stated that it depends upon the size of the election, smaller elections it can take a few days, larger elections it can take about two weeks.

Chair Gomez requested clarification as to whether this precinct was one of those that no one voted at on election day. Mrs. Dickens stated there were 421 voters on election day. Chair Gomez requested clarification as to whether the media was removed from the equipment. Mrs. Dickens stated yes, that is how she was able to read it into the totals.

Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to the number of provisional voters were at that precinct. Mrs. Dickens stated that none were tabulated. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification that none were tabulated. Mrs. Dickens stated that is correct. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to whether it was common not to have provisional votes. Mrs. Dickens said yes. Commissioner Stahr again requested clarification as to whether there were provisional votes in the equipment. Assistant Director Camp stated that the equipment will be opened and inspected on Monday, February 1, 2021 when there is more than one person in the office. The commissioners requested that when the equipment is inspected for it to be live streamed for transparency.

Commissioner Price requested clarification as to the reason the equipment was not picked up. Assistant Director Camp stated that an investigation has begun to see what occurred. Assistant Director Camp stated that each part of the process will be investigated, and changes will be made accordingly to improve the process. Commissioner Price requested clarification regarding the delivery and pickup crew, as to whether they are poll workers. Assistant Director Camp stated they are not. Assistant Director Camp stated that the equipment with the seals was placed in the room at the polling location on election night by the poll workers and remained there until it was picked up by Mr. Moreland.

Commissioner Price requested clarification as to whether the delivery crew would normally do pickup and delivery of the equipment at the warehouse. Assistant Director Camp stated that is correct. Assistant Director Camp stated that normally the delivery crew would go to the polling locations after the election and pick up the equipment returning it to the warehouse.

Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to where the checklist for the delivery and pickup of equipment is kept, is it on a shared drive, or a printed sheet that someone initials. Assistant Director Camp stated that he is not familiar with the checklist, that Mr. Moreland and the delivery crew has the checklist. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to whether the checklist or the process for pickup and delivery of equipment is available on the shared drive the commissioners have access to. Assistant Director Camp stated that he did not know.

Commissioner Stahr requested clarification from Mrs. Matheny regarding how she obtained the photo that was sent to her. She stated it was sent to her. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to how the person that sent the photo was able to obtain the photo. Mrs. Matheny stated that the person was in the room where the photo was taken. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification regarding how the person had access to the room. Mrs. Matheny stated that the 4-H center is open, and people can attend meetings at the building. Commissioner Stahr requested clarification as to whether the room was locked. Mrs. Matheny stated not to her knowledge.

Commissioner Price requested clarification regarding the 4-H center being open, why was this the first notification received that the equipment was still there. Assistant Director Camp stated that Mr. Moreland had spoken with the secretary who stated that no one had used the room and that it is kept locked with no one having entered it since election night as far as the secretary knew. Commissioner Stahr requested the

name of the contact at the facility. Assistant Director Camp stated that he did not have that information.

Commissioner Price requested clarification regarding whether anything that was sensitive left behind. Assistant Director Camp stated that nothing was left behind of a sensitive nature. Commissioner Stahr reiterated that things of a sensitive nature have been left at polling locations in the past and this time expensive election equipment was left at the location. Commissioner Stahr reiterated that the immediate concerns would be whether provisional ballots, election media, or complaint forms were left at the polling location.

Commissioner Stahr that she had requested information the morning of January 29, 2021 regarding what was left at the polling location. Assistant Director Camp stated that he had not received any communication from her. He stated that election related things should have gone through the Assistant Director, since he is the Acting Director. Commissioner Stahr stated that she did not have to go through the Assistant Director and stated that she had contacted Mrs. Dickens. Commissioner Stahr also stated that Assistant Director Camp was notified because she had a text message from Mrs. Dickens that stated any election inquiries needed to be directed to Assistant Director Camp and that she provided her his phone number.

Chair Gomez reiterated that she also sent multiple emails to Assistant Director Camp requesting an inventory of the equipment and to have the staff bring the items to the meeting. Assistant Director Camp stated that no one communicated the information directly to him and apologized that he did not see the last email from Chair Gomez. Commissioner Stahr stated that she contacted the person that she had a phone number for, that Assistant Director Camp has not been very responsive to previous communication from her and requested that in the future if he would please respond to her in a timely manner. She also requested that his cell phone number be provided. Assistant Director Camp also reiterated that requests the commissioners have of the election department they need contact either the director or acting director, because they might have information that the staff members do not have. Commissioner Stahr stated that it is better to go the source of the information and not very efficient.

Commissioner Price requested clarification regarding the next step in the investigation. Assistant Director Camp stated that the investigation has begun. He has already spoken with Mr. Moreland. Assistant Director Camp stated that an inventory has begun where Mr. Moreland is comparing the county inventory tags to the list of the equipment, and Mr. Dildy will need to inventory the tablets. Assistant Director Camp stated that part two will be to determine the deficiencies. Assistant Director

Camp stated that part three will be to develop a strategies, procedures and checklists that can help resolve any deficiencies that are found. Commissioner Stahr stated that the commissioners need to be kept in the process since they are the commission.

Commissioner Stahr requested clarification regarding the estimated timeline of completion. Assistant Director Camp stated that it will take several weeks to complete the inventory. She requested an estimated timeline for reviewing the equipment that was left behind. Assistant Director Camp stated the information would be known on Monday, February 1, 2021. The commissioners requested three staff members be present when the equipment is opened on Monday.

### **Other Business**

#### *Decertification of Director Poe*

Chair Gomez will present the documentation regarding the decertification of Director Poe at the next meeting. Commissioner Price requested clarification as to whether documentation had been sent to human resources or to the county judge regarding this matter. Chair Gomez and Commissioner Stahr stated that it is not a requirement to submit anything to them. Commissioner Stahr stated that it is a removal of duties from the director. Commissioner Stahr stated that the commissioners do not know what the director's job duties are because they do not have access to his job duties. She stated that other duties as assigned could be something that he is assigned to do, and that any employee can be moved to another position under the same business area without going through human resources.

#### *Lessons Learned Document*

Commissioner Stahr moved to have the lessons learned document available for the commissioners at the next meeting. Motion passed by voice vote.

#### *State Board of Election Commission Complaints*

Chair Gomez shared that the complaints to the State Board of Election Commissioners will probably be resolved within the next month.

#### *Public Comments*

State Representative Brooks requested the contact information for Assistant Director Camp.

#### *Schedule of Upcoming Meetings*

February 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. to complete any unfinished business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.