

# Minutes of the Davidson County Election Commission

March 31, 2011

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met at 1:00 p.m. on March 31, 2011 in the Metro Office Building. Commissioners Lynn Greer, Patricia Heim, Steve Abernathy, Eddie Bryan, and A. J. Starling were present. DCEC staff members present included Administrator of Elections (AOE) Albert U. Tieche, Joan Nixon, Lionel Barrett, Tom Cunningham, Bobby Medley, and Kelley Harrison.

Chairman Lynn Greer convened the meeting.

**Approve minutes from February 17, 2011 meeting:** Commissioner Heim made a motion to approve the minutes from February 17, 2011 as presented. Commissioner Starling seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Approve minutes from March 4, 2011 Special Called meeting:** Commissioner Heim made a motion to approve the minutes from March 4, 2011 Special Called meeting as presented. Commissioner Abernathy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Certify Lakewood Referendum Election (March 15, 2011):** A motion was made by Commissioner Heim to certify vote results from March 15, 2011 as presented 458 yes and 447 no. Commissioner Starling seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Heim inquired about TCA 2-12-101 C 1 in regards to the Election Commission being sued from a contested election and a municipality paying for the cost of legal expenses. Commissioner Heim made a motion for Metro Department of Law to determine the cost of the defense of Lakewood I contested election and bill the City of Lakewood. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and it passed unanimously.

**Finalize Early Voting sites for August and September elections:** Discussion ensued regarding early voting sites for the two upcoming elections and Belle Meade City Hall's reluctance on being an early voting site. Commissioner Bryan made a motion to ask Belle Meade City Hall officials to make a decision regarding the DCEC using their facility as an early voting site by their next city commission meeting or the DCEC will use the Belle Meade United Methodist Church. The motion was seconded by Commission Starling. After some discussion, Commissioner Bryan withdrew his motion; and Commissioner Starling withdrew his second. AOE Tieche suggested he send a letter to Belle

(Minutes Continued)

Meade City Hall informing them of the DCEC's plans to use the Belle Meade City Hall as an early voting site and they have the right to decline if so moved.

Commissioner Heim made a motion to choose the following nine (9) sites for Early Voting for both August and September: DCEC main office, Belle Meade City Hall-if they choose to have us (if not, then Belle Meade United Methodist Church), Bellevue Community Center, Edmondson Pike Library, Green Hills Library, Bordeaux Library, Madison Library, Hermitage Library, and Living Word Church (Antioch/Hickory Hollow area). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Heim made a motion for August Early voting schedule as follows: July 15<sup>th</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup>, hours from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and it passed unanimously.

The motion was made by Commissioner Heim for the September Run-Off election as follows: The satellite locations begin on September 6<sup>th</sup> – September 10<sup>th</sup>, hours from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. and the DCEC main office open from August 26<sup>th</sup> – September 10<sup>th</sup> (closed on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and September 5<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day) with same hours as listed above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and it passed unanimously.

**Discuss how DCEC should handle nominating petitions and redistricting:**

Discussion ensued among the commission and AOE Tieche informed the commission of the office's policy not to issue nominating petitions for "proposed" council districts. Metro Council is scheduled to begin consideration on Tuesday, April 5 of the proposed district plan as recommended by Metro Planning Commission. If the Council proceeds accordingly to the Vice-Mayor's schedule, the DCEC should know by Wednesday, April 13 whether or not candidates will qualify under current district lines or under the lines recommended by Planning Commission. Once Planning Commission has submitted a recommended plan to Council, the DCEC will evaluate petitions already returned to determine whether such candidates might need additional signatures to meet the minimum threshold to appear on the August 4, 2011 ballot, or if a candidate might potentially reside in a different numbered district from the nominating petition as originally issued by the DCEC. Such actions will enable the DCEC to immediately notify candidates on April 13 should any further action be required by the affected candidate (s) to meet the nominating petition requirement.

**List Maintenance:** Agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

(Minutes Continued)

**Administrator's Reports:**

- Tom Cunningham introduced as DCEC's new IT lead person
- Eight (8) resumes for the poll recruiter position

**Any old/new business:** None stated

**Set date for next meeting:** The next scheduled meeting will be set for April 14, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

**Review registration cards:** Agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned.

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Lynn Greer, Chairman

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Eddie Bryan, Secretary

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Patricia Heim, Member

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Steve Abernathy, Member

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A .J. Starling, Member