

Davidson County Election Commission Meeting of 3/22/2016

The **Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC)** held a specially called meeting on March 22, 2016 to deliberate on a response to a report on the use of Metro credit cards by DCEC staff. This request arose after the 2016 resignation of DCEC Chairman **Ron Buchanan** in the wake of a media report critical of certain DCEC expenditures.

At the meeting, it was noted that the report, which reviewed agency transactions from 2012 through January 2016, found no integrity issues. The fact that the Office of Financial Accountability (OFA), the Metro agency responsible for supervising the financial transactions of Metro agencies, investigated and drafted the report rather than Metro's internal auditors, was discussed. It was also reported that DCEC had been the subject of an independent audit conducted within the last several years that had not flagged the transactions cited by OFA.

During the meeting, discussion focused primarily on findings that DCEC employees did not receive sufficient training on the use of credit cards, that some transactions lacked documentation such as proof of employee signatures and some purchases were for personal rather than business use. DCEC staff's response to these findings raised questions about the availability of in-depth training on Metro's credit card policies and noted that documentation of every credit card transaction was available for OFA's review on-line during the period being investigated. It was noted that the DCEC Administrator, **Kent Wall**, agreed to pay for a number of the transactions the report flagged as not for business use.

The DCEC Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt a version of staff's report specially edited and formatted to be acceptable to OFA and include a revised cover letter composed by Chairman **Jim Delanis** in its response.