

## **Davidson County Election Commission Meeting on 9/9/2016**

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on September 9, 2016. Commissioner Neil was not in attendance.

At the meeting, the Commissioners unanimously approved the poll officials for the November 8, 2016 general election. On November 8, two officials, one from each party, will serve each district as inspectors. The Commission also unanimously approved the ballots November 8 election. There were twenty-two ballot faces customized for the various districts and precincts.

The Commission unanimously set November 14 at 9:00 a.m. as the date and time to for the provisional counting board to convene and count the provisional ballots.

Staff presented revisions to the Commission's credit card policy that reflect the fact that credit card expenditures are not "reimbursable." Employees using the cards do not pay them off and then seek reimbursement; rather, Metro covers the payments after proper approvals are obtained. The policy also requires that purchases over \$100 must come before the Commission and sets out a procedure for approval of expenditures when the Director of Finance is unavailable. It was noted that Metro's Department of Treasury and its Audit Department had approved the revisions. Staff also noted that the Departments of Treasury and Human Resources had approved revisions to the "Speak Up" policy regarding reporting of questionable activities.

The Commission set the date and time for opening the "Presidential Only" ballots. These ballots are from voters who moved within 30 days of the election and are no longer eligible to cast votes in local elections. The Commission voted to count those votes at 8:00 p.m. on November 8.

The Commission's Administrator of Elections reported that the various candidates' financial disclosures will be added to the Commission website in the near future. It was noted that staff planned a voter check up effort to encourage voters to be sure they are registered at the correct address. Staff also intended to make an effort for local libraries to register voters on October 8, the final day to register to vote in the November election. The administrator read some comments from poll officials that were complementary regarding improvements in procedures during elections. Staff also reported that after considerable effort, the polls were sufficiently staffed, enabling a focus on worker qualifications beyond simply having a warm body. It was noted that the intent was to be even more selective in hiring poll workers in 2017 with an effort to keep workers nearer their own neighborhoods. After an inquiry on the status of on-line registration, it was noted that staff had participated in a single telephone call with state officials on the issue and there was speculation that delay was likely due to security concerns. It was noted that some other states had stopped their on-line registration efforts due to security issues.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 8, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. or at the call of the chair.