
2024 ADAMS COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

Approved 3/21/2024

MINUTES

The Adams County Election Board met on Thursday, February 22, 2024 in the Election Room in the basement of the Adams County Courthouse building.

Those present were:

Dean (“J.”) Swygart, Democratic Board Member
Donald (“Don”) Kuhn, Republican Member
Shelly M. Brite, Clerk of Court
Cassie Hammond, Election Deputy
Jody Affolder, Deputy

Public present were:

Joe Spaulding, Daily Democrat
Judi Merkle

Election Board meeting called to order by J. Swygart at 9:00 a.m.

Upon a motion by Shelly Brite to approved minutes of the January 19, 2024 meeting, seconded by Don Kuhn motion carried (3-0).

OLD BUSINESS:

Vote Center Plan Amendment

After Clerk’s office informed of difficulty in obtaining contact information at the Vote Center in Geneva, Clerk Shelly Brite requested a search for different location. Luckily, Commissioner Steve Kuhn assisted in locating a building. Clerk Brite was informed of Adams Health Network moving to another facility and that the current building is available. Clerk Brite and Election Deputy reviewed and found it to be a good facility for a Vote Center. Therefore, the February 26, 2016 Vote Center Plan’s 2024 Amendment needs to be revised to include the different vote site.

If all agree, upon a motion by J. Swygart to revise the February 26, 2016 Adams County Vote Center Plan’s 2024 Amendment, seconded by Don Kuhn, motion carried (3-0).

Additionally, due to obtaining approval by Election Board, all Vote Center Site Lease Agreements need to be signed in order for County Commissioners to approve and sign. Once these Agreements have been reviewed and signed by Election Board and Commissioners, the Contracts will be sent to the vote center sites.

Upon a motion by Don Kuhn to sign the 2024 Vote Center Site Lease Agreement, seconded by Shelly Brite, motion carried (3-0).

Adams County Election Disaster Emergency Plan

Discussion: Shelly Brite revised some language in the Plan to incorporate the new Geneva Vote Center and to update the Resolution 2012-12 to be approved in the Plan. Don Kuhn informed that he forwarded to law enforcement and fire agencies for their review and all agreed to its language. Should be noted that each town will provide generators should electricity is not met for the voting center.

Resolutions

Amending Resolution 2024-6, in order to allow relatives of opposed and unopposed precinct committeeman and delegates relatives work as election poll worker. Upon a motion by Don Kuhn to sign and approve this amended Resolution, seconded by Shelly Brite , motion carried (3-0).

Due to a scheduling conflict, satellite office, First Missionary Church, will have ABS “early voting,” on April 29, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is reflected in the **Amended Resolution 2024-10** for Establishing Location, Dates and Hours for In-Person Absentee Voting. Upon a motion by Don Kuhn to sign and approve this amended Resolution, seconded by Shelly Brite, motion carried (3-0).

Upon a motion by Shelly Brite to approve, adopt and sign the **Resolution 2024-12**, Emergency Disaster declared preventing registered voters at the polls to file an application and obtain an ABS ballot on election day, seconded by J. Swygart, motion carried (3-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

Ballot Review

J. Swygart, Don Kuhn and Shelly Brite have not received ballots to be reviewed and approved by MicroVote. Once Microvote sends these to Shelly Brite, she will inform the Board for review.

Voter Registration & Student Poll Worker Program – High Schools

We contacted the high schools to schedule at day in classes to obtain voter registrations. Belmont is scheduled for March 12, 2024, AC is scheduled for March 13, 2024 and South Adams is scheduled for March 14, 2024. Additionally, contacted guidance counselors and provided the Student Poll Worker Program to encourage students to work the polls for the primary and if there is time the Clerk’s Office will discuss this program with 16 & 17 years at each school.

Election Board Comments:

Voting Equipment Review Training Comments: Don Kuhn gave Maribeth, a training handout due to missing the training. Don spoke with Art Booth who liked knowing both aspects of not only judge but clerk positions.

Travel Board Voting Equipment: the DRE’s (panels) only are still being used at nursing homes and home bound registered voters to allow for voting. After July, 2024, if an amendment by the State House does not exclude travel boards, then VVPATS need used with the panels. Should this be the case, a resolution will need to be adopted to allow home bound registered voters to vote by paper ballots in the General Election.

Cassie Hammond presented that due to two (2) attempt to contact a potential registered voter to update address. She requested a rejection from the Board due to unable to locate person. Upon a motion by J. Swygart to reject voter registration, seconded by Shelly Brite, motion carried (3-0).

Public Comments:

Judi Merkle asked a question pertaining to why candidates are alphabetical on the ballot. Shelly Brite informed Judi she will find the statute that pertains to this inquiry. Also, she stated that the training was very beneficial and the feedback for poll workers were great.

Upon motion by Don Kuhn to adjourn at 10:03 a.m., seconded by J. Swygart , motion carried (3-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly M. Brite. Secretary CEB