

Bristol Virginia Electoral Board

Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2020

Present: Chair Sarah Williams; Vice-Chair Kevin France; Secretary Joyce Kistner and General Registrar, Penny R. Limburg. One member of the public, Miss Lindsey J. Holman attended on behalf of Vote Yes for Bristol Hotel and Casino

Next meeting: November 4, 2020

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Williams.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from August 31, 2020 and September 10, 2020 – France moved to accept both sets of minutes as printed with a second from Kistner. The motion passed with all in agreement and were filed for record.
3. **New Business**
 - **§24.2-625.1C** – Intent to conduct site visits on Election Day. Mr. France made a motion of intent to visit polling precincts on Election Day with a second by Kistner. The motion passed with all in agreement.
 - **Authorized observers** – Miss Holman, representing Vote Yes for Bristol Hotel and Casino referendum made a request to allow an authorized observer in each polling precinct on Election Day. After some discussion regarding the rules for authorized observers, France moved to allow observers followed by a second from Kistner and approved by all. A letter was issued from the board to be presented by the individual observer to present to the precinct chief upon arrival to the precinct.
 - **Precinct Assignments** – Limburg presented a list of election officers who would be working at each precinct on Election Day. She stated that nineteen new officers would be working to fill the gap of those officers who did not feel comfortable working due to the COVID pandemic. All officers were trained and several had worked early voting in the weeks prior to the election.
 - **Preprocessing and Early Voting update**– Limburg stated that three election officers worked two full days on preprocessing the mail absentee ballots that had been received. Notice was provided ahead of time to each party chairman but none were in attendance. She said to date, 2,716 had voted early in person and over 1,700 ballots had been mailed.
 - **Election Day close of polls** – The registrar informed the board that it could take longer to receive election results from the precincts. The absentee precinct would have three scanner machines to process due to having separate machines for early voting and preprocessing. Van Pelt precinct would have two machines to process.
 - **Post-election process** – The registrar explained that §24.2-709 of the Code now requires that mail in ballots postmarked by Election Day and received by noon on the Friday following the election shall be counted if the affidavit is complete. This will delay certification of the results. Additionally, the registrar expects to see an increase in provisional ballots due to voters who requested a mail ballot showing up to vote on Election Day but do not bring the ballot which was mailed to them.
 - **Logic and Accuracy** – Due to the prospect of having more ballots to count on the Friday following the election than can easily be hand-counted, the board witnessed logic and accuracy testing on one additional scanner machine. The machine performed as expected and was sealed.
4. **Public Comment** – There was none.

5. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Signature of secretary

Date