

OPERATIONS & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
May 21, 2018 **5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Smith, Chair
John Jackson
Patty Cox
Bill Oliver
Dave Drobisch

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kevin Meachum
Jerry Potts

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Steve Bean, County Clerk
Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce
Carol Reed, Auditor
Jay Dunn, County Board Chairman
Mary Eaton, Recorder
Josh Tanner, S of A
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting, April 23, 2018 made by Mr. Drobisch, seconded by Mr. Jackson and motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND CLAIMS

Motion to approve payroll as presented made by Ms. Cox, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve the claims as presented was made by Ms. Cox, seconded by Mr. Jackson and motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Auditor's Office –

Ms. Reed had no report

County Board -

Macon County Board Ordinance Approving Wages of Laborers, Mechanics & Workers Employed in Any Public Works by the State, County, City or any Public Body or any Political Subdivisions or by Anyone Under Contract for Public Works

Mr. Dunn explained that this has to be passed by Statute every year. It is for the prevailing wage.

Ms. Cox made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 5-0.

County Clerk –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the County Clerk's

Election Budget

Mr. Bean explained that the State of Illinois told them, before June 30 of last year, that they were going to give the allotment a year early for voter registration. This caused all the counties to go out and pay for their purge, etc... last year. The General Assembly ended up not paying last year. So that meant we had \$30,000 some odd dollars worth of expenses that we got hung for last year. They offered the money this year. We only had about \$31,000 worth of expenses since the voter registration expenses and we moved some precincts so we could send those billings out and get reimbursed by the state. Ten years ago, the first set of computers (laptops) were bought and went into the polling places for same day registration. They allow us to use that expense anytime you do anything with same day registration and get reimbursed from the state. So, we didn't have that expense in the budget so we're going to get, out of the \$65,000, we will get about \$57,000 reimbursement from the state in September. Mr. Bean explained that what he needs to do is increase the appropriation line for election supplies by \$25,000 to pay for the purchase of laptops to replace the laptops that are basically 10 years old, have been breaking down and are starting to show the wear of 10 year old laptops.

Mr. Drobisch made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Oliver.

Mr. Dunn asked what would happen to the old laptops. Mr. Bean explained that part of them would be used in training. He said they turn them back in because they are pretty . . . Mr. Tanner offered further explanation, but his comments could not be heard over the microphone. Mr. Bean said that they are basically dropping dead, but the plan is to use them for training in November and put a laptop in front of everybody in the classroom for better hands on training. Bigger computers can now be bought cheaper than what was paid 10 years ago. That has been the biggest complaint since the election judges are usually older. It is really difficult to read the little computers. Not all of them will be replaced. There are 60+ currently and only 50 are being purchased.

Ms. Cox asked if the money is going to come in as a grant. Mr. Bean confirmed. He said they had to spend it. In the past, it was usually spent on venter costs for the voter registration program and updates. Half usually goes to that and anytime a mailing is done with precincts, it is paid for. In the past when all 75000 cards are mailed out, that was usually paid for out of the \$65,000 allotment. But, because we only have \$30,000+ in expenses, and not wanting to give back \$30,000, Mr. Bean said he felt it was best to save the county the expense out of the general fund and pay the \$25,000 for the laptops out of this allotment.

The motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Election Judges through March 2020

Mr. Bean explained that he would not be at the June O&P meeting, he would like to present this resolution now so it can go to the July County Board meeting. He distributed a list and explained

that this is what they have so far. Of the previous Election Judges, and out of all the Precinct Committeemen elected, only 4 committeemen – 3 Democrats and only 1 Republican – have ever sent anybody in to service the election judges. That is the biggest problem. He said they have to pass this in July, so this will be for the July County Board meeting. This is the same phraseology used in the past that was given by the State Board years ago and has been used the last few times. If any vacancies occur, we go to the two political party chairmen. He said he sent the party chairmen, again this list. It was sent prior to the primary, after the primary and it was sent to the elected committeemen trying to get election judges, but this is just to have a resolution in place. A newer list of poll workers will be included when it goes before the board.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Oliver and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Bean handed out a legislative briefing from his County Clerk Association and commented about a grant he would be receiving and explained that he had gone to more meetings on cyber security in the last two years. He said that Josh had gone with him a lot and that Josh & Dawn would be going to a meeting while he is on vacation. He said they were going to have to adapt to some other changes because of possible threats. He said he would send out a Five Thirty Eight article by Nate Silver that talks about what they feel the real problem is going to be. It is not actually hacking into the voter equipment. They've hacked into the voter registration files in Illinois in the City of Galesburg. They are worried about the Russians or other foreign interests going in and changing the addresses or voter status showing they voted prior to election day. He said they are looking at different procedures for protection of that. That is part of the meeting that Josh & Dawn are going to go to next month. There is supposed to be an allocation of federal funds for cyber security and elections.

One of the real problems is that the General Assembly, in their wisdom, are giving waivers to individuals such as the one that requires that the fees for birth records be waived for any youth in care as defined in the Children and Family Services Act, or any person under the age of 27 who was in care on or after his or her 18th birthday. Mr. Bean said the ridiculous deal about that is that they are supposed to be given free up to three certificates a year from the time they go from 18 to 27. Nobody else gets them. That has passed both Houses in General Assembly. He said that what they have been doing is what is in the bill described on the distributed pages just above the one he was previously reporting on where with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Department of Corrections, we have forced them to go to the Department of Vital Records which is controlled by the State of Illinois and have the State of Illinois pay for them. For some reason, Cook County pushed this through because they didn't want the Cook County Clerk to have to pay for all of this.

On the next page, one thing that could cost money is the Statement of Economic Interest of filing them electronically which means that a program change will be needed. He said he has not yet spoken with the vender to find out if that will cost anything.

Another thing being worked on . . . The number of Election Judges has been cut from 5 to 3 in precincts. We have these multiple precincts like Maranatha that has 6 precincts. Rather than having 30 people out there, we get by with 18 which we can. If you look at the last election, we were supposed to have 355 people there. By the time we had illnesses, people in Florida, and everything else, we only had 230 show up. That was barely enough to get by. There is a movement to do that.

They are still looking at the initiative from the Illinois Political Campaign Committee which is to go to vote centers. We don't know where that's going.

They are constantly bringing down the age for holding someone in the voter registration file. First it was 17 year olds. Now, they want to go to 16 year olds. The amount of people who move . . . We have people who move 8 to 12 times a year and we don't send them out a card anymore. We hold those people back trying to save ourselves money. What has been done, until someone becomes 17 for this kind of election – they can vote in the Primary and then vote in the General at 18 – is hold them in a computer file to try to save money. He said he did not know what it would be like at 16 and keeping track of them to make sure they live at that address. That is a problem. It's the additional costs to the county. Mr. Jackson asked why he would worry about it. Mr. Bean explained that they want them in the file but not in the file, but to keep them tracked because we're automatically supposed to have them on our file at 17 if its an even year. Mr. Bean said he has offered to all the candidates to attend the election day things and every time he gets something like this legislative update, he sends it out to the candidates. He said he keeps them informed because it is an ever changing thing that we go by with elections, vital records and tax extensions. He said he has tried to do his best to notify the candidates and notify the chairman, Mr. Greenfield and Mr. Smith about these bills. The General Assembly does not talk to us anymore about legislation. They just go on their own and pass it. We've got about 10 days left of the General Assembly and we are not sure exactly what they are going to . . . We don't usually get to see the bill until the last moment and it is usually stuff we don't want. He reiterated that he is trying to reduce the cost to the county by reducing the number of election judges, but when you can't get election people to serve as election judges anymore it is a hard situation.

Recorder –

Ms. Eaton distributed a monthly report and offered to answer questions

Workforce Investments –

Macon County Board Resolution Approving One Stop Coordinator Position

Ms. Wilkerson explained that she would like to get the approval for the One Stop Coordinator position. The cost is allocated to the WIOA grant and is for the adult, youth and dislocated workers. It is based on a cost allocation methodology.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Cox and the motion carried 5-0.

Citizens' Remarks - *none*

Old Business - *none*

New Business – *none*

CLOSED SESSION None needed

NEXT MEETING: June 25, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Jackson, motion carried 5-0, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office