

Warren County Board of Elections
Virtual
January 27, 2021 12:00 p.m.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the Board of Elections meeting to order with Commissioner Tricia Durbin and Commissioner Jeff Eggleston present.

Staff Present: Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections, Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk, Reilly Enlow, Finance, and Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt

Citizens Present: Josh Cotton (WTO), and Lorri Drumm (Titusville Herald)

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the meeting to order stating that the meeting is being recorded.

Old Business:

New Business:

Polling location for Warren South: Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt explained that the voting location or Warren South has been moved a couple of times. There needs to be a decision made on where this precinct will be located for the 2021 primary and future elections.

Discussions took place as to why it was moved in 2020 after receiving a letter from Mr. Raible of the EOC stating that they did not want this used as a polling location; they needed the room.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt stated that based upon review, the Board of Elections can ask the school to make arrangements so that the location can be used for voting as long as it is practical. Only when there is no building available within the precinct area can they go outside for a new location.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt requested that they make an inquiry with EOC to make a compelling reason as to why their building can no longer be used.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to request from the administration of South Side school that their building be used as the polling location for Warren South for the 2021 primary and elections beyond.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that he does not have an issue with the solicitor's request, but before we make this request, we need to ask the administration what their concerns are, and what if any accommodations can be made to allow this to be a polling location.

Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections stated that she has no objections with using the South Side school, but the administration stated that the room we were using was going to be used as a class room. She then stated that if a polling location is being moved, each voter in that precinct needs to get a new voter registration card. She stated that the mail in and absentee ballot applications just got mailed, and that took a hit on her budget as there were 4,500 sent out. Lisa stated that a decision needs to be made, and we need to stick with it.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston gave some detail on last years election and why it was moved to St. Joes. He then stated that St. Joes administration does not want us to put a second precinct in their building as COVID is a concern.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston then stated that he would like to talk to the EOC to find out the specifics as to why they requested we no longer be in that building.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt asked Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections for a copy of the letter that she received from the EOC, and then asked the board not to use Days Inn as it is not a public building, it is privately owned.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston disagreed with Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt on the reasoning for not using Days Inn.

Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections stated that she has a concern that the Days Inn serves alcohol, and the vicinity of the polling location to the bar. Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that it is separate from the bar and the front entrance does not have to be used.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt again stated that the Board can talk to the South Side School administration but needs to be prepared to find a location within the precinct area.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston, seconded by Commissioner Tricia Durbin to rescind the above motion and make the motion to table this discussion until the February 10, 2021 meeting until more information can be gathered. Motion carried unanimously.

Vacancies with in elections: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin asked Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections if she has gotten the vacancy information to both the Democratic and Republican parties. Lisa stated she is starting to get the information from the municipalities, and should be able to provide it by end of the week.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt stated that he is working on a from that anyone who is interested in filling a vacancy can complete, a choice made, and they can be appointed by the courts.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that is what Lisa is working on. Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin then asked that Lisa and Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt work together so that each are on the same page before the Board votes on the process.

Public Comment:

Adjournment: Motion was made Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully,



Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk

