Worcester County Board of Elections 201 Belt Street, Suite C, Snow Hill MD 21863 VIA Conference Call January 5, 2022

ATTENDEES: **BOARD**:

Ed Rodier, Jr., President - Republican Board President - ABSENT

Kay Ann Hickman – Vice President – Democratic Board VP Board Member

Linda A. Moran - Secretary - Republican Secretary Board Member

Audrey Wahl - Republican Board Member

Martina Barnes-Wharton - Democratic Board Member

STAFF:

Patricia Jackson - Election Director

Teresa Riggin – Deputy Director

Lindsey West – Attorney for Worcester County Board of Elections - ABSENT

Guest:

Loretta Spinuzza – Worcester County Republican Central Committee

Meeting called to order at 10:24 am by Vice President Hickman.

Because of technical difficulties the meeting started late.

Minutes from October 6, 2021 were approved by Mrs. Hickman and 2nd by Ms. Wharton.

Budget report was approved by Mrs. Moran and 2nd by Mrs. Hickman.

There was no correspondence to review.

Old Business:

Mail ballots – The State of MD is encouraging everyone to vote by mail and therefore they will send out mail ballot applications that voters can complete and return if they want to vote by mail in the 2022 elections.

General Elections and Canvass:

Ms. Jackson reminded us that Ms. Wharton will be out of the Country for this Election, and Mrs. Hickman states she will definitely be present to represent the Democratic Party on Election Day and during the canvasses and certification.

New Business:

Ballot drop box discussion for southern part of the County. It was discussed and approved by the Board to add a 3rd Drop box in Pocomoke, preferably at the Community Center (owned by the Pocomoke Fire Dept.) where the voting will take place. The Police Department is right next door. We must get the approval from the Pocomoke Fire Dept. as the box will need to be secure and have 24-hour camera surveillance. We will need to hire two people, one from each party to collect the ballots daily once the box has been placed. It was approved by Ms. Wharton and 2nd by Mrs. Hickman.

The office space used by the Election Office for judges training, canvasses and election certification has been rented out to another business, so it will be necessary to move the training room. Ms. Jackson has taken care of all of the logistics of the move and wanted us to be aware. The new area for training, etc. will be in the warehouse located at the office of the Board of Elections.

On a personal note, Ms. Jackson informed us that she may be out of the office for medical leave Jan.17th, but will confirm when finalized so that we are aware and Ms. Riggin will be available if we need any questions answered.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:39 am by Mrs. Hickman with Mrs. Wahl approving and 2nd by Mrs. Moran.

Respectfully submitted by: Secretary Linda Moran

And approved by

Vice President Kay Hickman