

Worcester County Board of Elections  
201 Belt Street, Suite C, Snow Hill MD 21863

**Via Conference Call  
October 6, 2021**

Attendees: **BOARD:**

Ed Rodier, Jr., President – Republican Board President - EXCUSED  
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 Riggan – Deputy Director  
Lindsey West – Attorney for Worcester County Board of Elections

Guest: Mary Burgess, Chair – Worcester County Republican Central Committee  
Loretta Spinuzzi – Worcester County Republican Central Committee

**Welcome Guest and Board:**

Meeting called to order at 10:13 am and Quorum Determined: A quorum was declared present, Secretary Linda Moran called the meeting to order. Ms. Moran welcomed Guest; Ms. Burgess and Mrs. Spinuzzi.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion was made by Ms. Wahl and seconded by Ms. Wharton to approve minutes of July 7, 2021.

**Correspondence:**

No Correspondence received.

**Fiscal Year Budget Year to Date Budget Reports** – Budget was reviewed by Members and approved with Ms. Wharton making motion and Ms. Wahl second.

**Old Business** MAEO Conference – There was discussion about the conference and that the information was informative. It was duly noted that two of the Board thought the room was entirely too cold, however. They also thought that the lunch room was too small and people were too close.

**New Business:**

The Board accepted the meeting dates for next year as presented by Ms. Jackson.

The new hours for all primary and early voting will be 7 am to 8 pm.

When the BOE decides to have a new polling place; district/precinct lines, polling places, early voting centers, ballot drop boxes, etc. - HB 745, the larger Cities or areas must be notified. The State will let us know what areas are considered large. Ms. Wahl suggested we added Josh Davis for OPA to the list of media to notify.

State absentee voting will be different. A bill was passed by the Legislature to send out absentee ballots the first of the year (2022) to all of Maryland voters. You may on this form elect to always vote absentee by checking a box. This is new and it will keep the voters from having to send out the form every year. There was a lot of discussion between the Board about if everyone thought this was a good idea. Ms. Jackson is going to obtain the bill and send to us so that we can review and understand. This makes it more important to keep the rolls up to date once someone moves or dies.

Judge pay rise was approved by Worcester County Commissioners as follows: Chief Judge \$50.00; Judge \$25.00 and Provisional \$75.00. The reason for the rise is because there is now more paper work and the added hour.

The State will no longer hire contractual workers. So this now falls on our Staff to hire locally and have to pay.

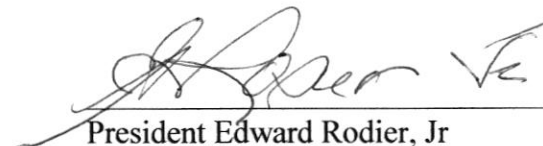
Ms. Wharton advised us that she will be out of the Country on Election Day but will be here up to the Sat. before to help. Ms. Jackson will discuss with the State how to handle a replacement for her and let us know. Ms. Hickman said she can give a few names as needed. This person must be a Democrat because we only have two on our Board.

Ms. Jackson let us know that she is having surgery next week and will be out the remainder of the month. Ms. Riffin will be available if we need anything.

Meeting was closed at 10:45 by Secretary Moran with Ms. Wahl approval and seconded by Ms. Hickman.

Respectfully submitted

Linda A. Moran, Secretary

  
President Edward Rodier, Jr