

State of Maryland 

State Board of Elections Meeting – April 28, 2011

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Attendees: Robert Walker, Chair  
David McManus, Member  
Rachel McGuckian, Member  
Charles Thomann, Member  
Linda H. Lamone, Administrator  
Ross Goldstein, Deputy Administrator  
Jeff Darsie, Assistant Attorney General  
Paul Aumayr, Voting Systems Project Manager  
Vicki Smith, Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division  
Nikki Trella, Election Reform Director  
Rick Urps, Election Reform Deputy Director  
Mary Wagner, Voter Registration Division Director

Also Present: Rebecca Weir Nelson  
Mary Ann Keeffe, incoming member of the Montgomery County Board of Elections  
Jerrold Garson, Montgomery County Board of Elections  
Armstead Jones, Baltimore City Board of Elections  
Lynn Garland

#### **DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm and declared that a quorum was present. Mr. Walker reflected that the State of Maryland lost a great icon last week and he had the honor of serving former Governor William Donald Schaefer on the Baltimore City Board of Education and as Secretary of Agriculture. He asked for a moment of silence in tribute to former Governor Schaefer.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 24, 2011, board meeting were presented for approval. Mr. McManus made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. McGuckian seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Goldstein presented the Administrator's Report.

##### **1. Meetings and Important Dates**

###### Voter Registration Modernization Meeting

On March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, Linda Lamone and Mary Wagner attended a Voter Registration Modernization meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, hosted by the Pew Charitable Trusts. The project involves an interstate data exchange with other member states and enables states to maintain more accurate voter lists by sharing information about voters who have moved, been convicted of a felony, or died. To accomplish this data exchange, Pew and the participating states are establishing the *Electronic Registration Information Center* (ERIC). Pew is funding all of the ERIC start-up costs, and after ERIC is fully operational (anticipated date January 2012), the states that have signed membership agreements will make up the ERIC's governing body and will manage and maintain ERIC. The main purpose of the March meeting was to work on the governing bylaws, and preliminary costs were also addressed. In response to questions from Mr. Walker, Ms. Wagner stated that there are currently 16 states participating in the discussions and explained how the information is secured in the data sharing.

In order to be eligible to take part in this initiative, several states, including Maryland, required changes to certain voter registration laws. HB 561/SB 765 authorizes SBE to obtain and share information with other states that will assist in maintaining voter registration lists. Information

would include voter registration records, MVA records, criminal convictions, vital statistics and NVRA agency records.

#### Joint MAEO Conference and SBE Biennial Meeting

Mr. Goldstein explained that State law requires SBE to have a conference in non-election years and in 2011, this conference will be held in conjunction with the Maryland Association of Election Officials' (MAEO) annual conference on June 13<sup>th</sup> in Ocean City. On June 13<sup>th</sup>, MAEO will be presenting lessons learned and best practices, and Jeff Darsie will be leading an all-day discussion for the local board attorneys.

On Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, SBE will be offering two courses in its Election Preparedness and Professional Development Program. This will be the first offering for the two courses – Pre-Election and Post-Election. Topics covered in the Pre-Election course will include candidate filings, ballot preparation, absentee ballot distribution, polling place management, estimating turnout and supply ordering, and security plans. The Post-Election course will cover absentee and provisional ballot verification and canvassing, election night statistics and reports, and post-election audits and reconciliations. Because of the diversity of topics, multiple SBE staff members will be leading the courses.

Mr. Goldstein asked the board members to let him know if they were planning on attending the conference.

#### Premier Contractual Dispute Settlement

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Public Works approved the Contract Dispute Settlement between SBE and Premier Voting Systems, Inc. The settlement requires SBE and the local boards of elections to pay \$2.9 million of the \$3.6 million owed from outstanding invoices. Also, as part of the settlement, SBE and the local boards will receive 300 TSX units for all local boards to expedite the GEMS upload and download process, pollbook software licenses (ExpressPoll and EPIC) at no cost through FY 2016, and voting system licenses (BallotStation and GEMS) at no cost through FY 2014. The total value of the voting units, software licenses, and services is \$3.4 million.

## **2. Election Reform & Management**

#### Voters with Multiple Voting Credit – 2010 General Election

Mr. Goldstein reported that Nikki Trella has completed the review of voters with multiple voting credit from the 2010 General Election. The review identified 84 voters who appear to have voted more than once in this election. Letters were sent to 60 voters notifying them that it appears that they voted twice and alerting them that voting more than once is a violation of State law. SBE and the State Prosecutor are trying to schedule a meeting to discuss this and other issues, and information about these 84 individuals will be provided to the State Prosecutor at the meeting. In response to a question from Mr. Walker, Ms. Trella explained that letters were sent to voters who appeared to be confused or voted an absentee ballot and provisional ballot and she will prioritize the remaining voters in the referral to the State Prosecutor.

#### Online Absentee Ballot Delivery System

Two vendors with online absentee ballot delivery solutions have demonstrated their solutions. Staff has been interested in integrating a ballot marking wizard into the existing system and exploring solutions that ease the duplication of electronically delivered ballots during canvassing. A ballot marking wizard would enable the voter to use his or her computer to make selections and when the ballot is printed, the voter's selections are marked. It appears that the most common solution to the duplication issue is to print a barcode on the voter's ballot representing the voter's selections. When the ballot is returned for canvassing, the barcode is scanned and a ballot is printed on card stock paper by a ballot-on-demand printer. This ballot is then compared against the ballot returned by the voter and fed into the optical scan voting unit.

### Challengers and Watchers

Ms. Trella attended the April board meeting of the Worcester County Board of Elections to discuss the board's concerns with challengers and watchers. As a result of this discussion, SBE will be making some clarifying changes to the *Instructions and Information for Challengers, Watchers, and Other Election Observers* and has asked for input from the local boards of elections. A revised version of the manual will be presented for approval at a future meeting.

In response to a question, Ms. Trella explained that the Worcester County Board of Elections had some energetic challengers and watchers in the 2010 elections who were unfamiliar with the roles and responsibilities of challengers and watchers. Ms. Trella has agreed to provide a flier that election judges can distribute to challengers and watchers who are unfamiliar with election day procedures.

## 3. **Voter Registration**

### First MDVOTERS Release for 2011

Installation of version 3.0, the first MDVOTERS software release to be delivered by the new contractor, the Canton Group, is scheduled for the weekend of May 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. (The date was moved from late April to allow installation of Oracle database software patches prior to the new release.) The Voter Registration Division has been testing the new software, and the Canton Group's product has been excellent. After installation, three on-line "Go To" meetings training sessions will be held by the Canton Group for the local boards. This release enhances the election worker assignment process and reporting, improves numerous screen formats, and fixes a variety of issues.

### MVA Electronic Interface

Meetings between MVA and SBE regarding technical requirements are ongoing. The goal is to have the interface fully implemented by January 2012.

### MVA Driver's License Match

MVA will be providing SBE with driver license Soundex numbers for voter registration records not currently populated with that information. It is expected that the match will take place in August 2011.

### Petitions

Donna Duncan, Jared DeMarinis and Ms. Wagner met several times with Delegate Neil Parrott regarding SB167 – Public Institutions of Higher Education – Tuition Rates – Exemptions. A referendum petition effort is currently underway. Mr. Goldstein explained that the petition sponsors must submit signatures of 55,736 valid registered voters to get a question on the ballot. The first third of the signatures are due to the Secretary of State's office by May 31, 2011. If those signatures are deemed valid and meet the threshold, the remaining two thirds of the signatures are due by June 30, 2011. The local boards of elections have 20 days to perform the signature verification. In response to a question from Mr. Thomann, Ms. Wagner explained that, under the most recent decision of the Court of Appeals, if a voter signs his or her name with a first name, middle initial, and last name, the signature will be accepted.

### Party Petitions

Ms. Wagner and Janet Smith are working closely with Mr. Darsie in reviewing petition pages regarding rejections codes and verification and re-verifying petitions that have already been filed.

## 4. **Candidacy and Campaign Finance**

### Candidacy

As of April 21, 2011, seven candidates have filed for office for the 2012 Presidential Election.

### Enforcement Actions

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, Jerry Mathis was found guilty of improper authority lines for a sample ballot he produced and distributed during the 2010 Primary Election. The Candidacy and Campaign

Finance Division as well the Office of Attorney General and Office of State Prosecutor received the complaint on the matter.

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Olivia Harris, the former Treasurer of Senator Currie, was sentenced to one year in jail for theft of committee funds and must make restitution to the committee. This conviction was a result of a referral by the Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division to the Office of the State Prosecutor regarding expenditure issues.

#### Procurement

Mr. Goldstein reported that the request for proposals for a Campaign Finance Reporting and Management System (CFRMS) received multiple bids, and oral demonstrations are being conducted. A final decision will be coming shortly. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Goldstein explained that this system would provide for online filing of campaign finance data and online reporting of that data.

### 5. **Voting Systems**

#### Post Election Maintenance

The post election maintenance on the voting equipment is continuing. Approximately 11,500 touchscreens (out of 18,810 units in inventory) have undergone the post election maintenance. Approximately 200 voting units have not passed the maintenance testing. A touchscreen unit will not pass due to any one of a range of issues, such as a battery not charging, a broken leg or a nonresponsive screen. In many cases, the voting units can be repaired at the local board by local staff or with help from Cirdan regional managers.

#### TS Batteries

Each touchscreen unit has a battery that will keep the unit operational for up to four hours in the event of a power outage. The batteries need to be replaced in 20 of the counties (the four Phase I counties already replaced their batteries). SBE is in the process of procuring 8,000 batteries. In response to a question, Paul Aumayr estimated that the batteries cost approximately \$20 - \$25 each and reported that the final cost will be known when the bids have been returned.

#### Election Management Servers

SBE is also procuring new servers to run the election management system (GEMS) for the voting system. These GEMS servers define and create the ballots as well as tabulate election results. SBE will be obtaining new servers for every local board to replace their current servers, which have worked well but are at the end of their supportable life. Mr. Goldstein noted that the servers being purchased are standard, off-the-shelf servers that will be capable of being used with the new voting system when it is implemented.

#### Municipal Election Support

The Voting System Division prepared electronic pollbook databases and reports to support six municipal elections occurring in May:

- Taneytown (Carroll)
- Hampstead (Carroll)
- Manchester (Carroll)
- Indian Head (Charles)
- Havre de Grace (Harford)
- Rock Hall (Kent)

#### Montgomery County – Student Member of the Board Election

Over 400 voting units and 206 pollbooks were used in the annual election of the student member of the Montgomery County Board of Education. Bob Murphy completed post-election analysis of the election for the Montgomery County public schools. Overall turnout was 84%, ranging from a high of 97% at Hoover Middle School to a low of 64% at Watkins Mill High School. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Aumayr will provide the total number of voters in the school board election.

### Test Scripts

Mr. Goldstein reported that Mr. Murphy and Andrew Johnson have developed test scripts consisting of thousands of queries that mimic actual voter look-ups on the electronic pollbook. This tool will enable SBE to compare the performance of the various SQLite versions available and will assist with designing optimal indexing schemes for voter look-up.

### Software Upgrade

Work on the ExpressPoll software upgrade for 2011 is ongoing. SBE has submitted to the ES&S software development team in Vancouver, British Columbia a punch-list of 35 changes, including ten items that improve functionality and 25 enhancements. The goal is to have the upgraded software available for testing in late June and ready for use in the Baltimore City elections.

### Battery Replacement

Like most computer devices, the pollbooks have a small CMOS battery (like a watch battery) that maintains the system settings and time. These batteries need to be replaced for all 6,200 electronic pollbooks statewide. The batteries have been ordered and received at SBE. Batteries will be distributed to the local boards and installation schedules confirmed by May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## 6. **Information Technology**

Mr. Goldstein referred the board members to the list of information technology-related activities in the written report, which include:

- Updated several SBE system maintenance contracts
- Updated several SBE hardware/software licenses
- Completed several third party software upgrades/patches
- Provided updates to the data tables for the University of Maryland webhosting
- Conducted testing of ELECTrack
- Completed several corrections to latest ELECTrack patch
- Completed several website updates
- Completed numerous updates to the Online Library
- Completed monthly updates to PBX
- Completed material inventory updates to 24 local boards and SBE
- Completed Microsoft system security updates
- Assisted a total of 22 local boards with equipment installation and removal, resolving network issues, inventory corrections and updates, and other hardware issues.
- Provided support for seven campaign finance committees
- Ongoing security support including background checks and clearances

## 7. **Passed Legislation**

Mr. Goldstein reported that the following legislation passed during the 2011 Legislative Session:

- House Bill 257 – Access to Voting Room and Voting Booth by Minors: This bill allows any child under the age of 18 to accompany his or her parent or caregiver into the polling room and to the voting booth (provided the child is not otherwise qualified to vote). Prior to this bill, the child had to be under the age of 13 to accompany his or her parent or caregiver.
- House Bill 534 – Carroll and Montgomery County Polling Places – Electioneering Boundaries: This bill permits the Carroll and Montgomery County Boards of Elections to establish an electioneering boundary line as close as 25 feet from the entrance of the polling place. This is a departure from the statewide uniform no-electioneering zone of 100 feet.

Mr. Goldstein reported that MAEO and SBE staff has concerns with this legislation. First, the legislation is inconsistent with the goal of maintaining a uniform election law and second, it will frustrate voters' expectations of privacy when voting. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Goldstein explained that SBE took no position on this bill but explained the challenges with the legislation. He reported that the Carroll County Board

of Elections was not aware that they were added to the bill, and Ms. Lamone explained that the legislation was hard to stop because it was a local delegation bill. Mr. Goldstein explained that, under current law, there is flexibility with where to draw the no-electioneering line. Mr. Walker stated that voters will need to be educated about the law, because they will be complaining about the electioneering activities.

- House Bill 561/Senate Bill 765 – Voter Registration – Exchange of Information: This bill permits the exchange of data for voter registration purposes. Mr. Goldstein explained that there is uncodified language in the legislation addressing data sharing improvements with MVA.
- House Bill 671 – Federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE): This bill alters the dates of the primary election and many associated deadlines to comply with the requirement to transmit absentee ballots 45 days before an election. April 3, 2012 will be the Presidential Primary Election (first Tuesday in April), and June 24, 2014 will be the Gubernatorial Primary Election (last Tuesday in June). In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Goldstein reported that these changes will enable the State to meet the deadline to transmit absentee ballots 45 days before an election, although he pointed out the calendar for the gubernatorial primary election will be a challenge because the legislature wanted the candidacy filing deadline after the legislation session. This compresses the time between the filing deadline and the election.
- House Bill 740/Senate Bill 806 – Online Voter Registration: This bill authorizes an individual to apply to register to vote online, provided the individual provides certain information and the individual's signature is on file at the MVA.
- House Bill 93 – Election Law – Independent Expenditure – Reporting: This bill requires an entity that makes an independent expenditure of \$10,000 or more to file an independent expenditure report with SBE. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Goldstein explained that this is the first non-political committee reporting requirement. Mr. Darsie noted that the Attorney General's task force noted that the non-disclosure of expenditures by a non-political committee was a defect in the current campaign finance system. Mr. Goldstein explained that, under this law, there is no reporting distinction between a political committee or non-political committee. If there is an expenditure for or against a candidate, the expenditure must be disclosed. Mr. Darsie noted that the language in this bill is similar to language in federal disclosure requirements, which have been upheld.
- House Joint Resolution 7 – Commission to Study Campaign Finance Law: This resolution establishes a 17 member commission to study and make recommendations on various aspects of the campaign finance laws. An interim report must be filed by December 31, 2011, and a final report by December 31, 2012. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Darsie stated that the legislation does not require involvement by the Attorney General and that SBE representatives will serve on this commission and served on the Attorney General's task force. Mr. Darsie noted that the Deputy Attorney General would like to address the State Board to advocate for changes that SBE can make.

Various bills passed changing the membership of the local boards from three regular members and two substitute members to five regular members, and the local boards are: Allegany, Caroline, Charles, Frederick, Harford and Washington Counties. These counties join Montgomery, Prince George's, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties (Montgomery and Prince George's still have substitute members).

Mr. Walker welcomed Mary Ann Keeffe, an incoming member of the Montgomery County Board of Elections.

## **ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Darsie reported that a civil complaint was filed on April 11, 2011, on behalf of the Libertarian and Green parties challenging SBE's determination that their re-certification petitions did not contain the required number of valid petition signatures. SBE is re-processing signatures in light of the Court of Appeals' decision in *Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Ass'n v. Montgomery County Bd. of Elections*, but the parties disagree on what the new signature standards should be. Mr. Darsie reported that it is likely that these issues will be briefed and argued. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Ms. Wagner stated that the parties have about one-half of the signatures that they need to be re-certified and that the rejection rate is higher than the rejection rate under the *Doe* decision.

Mr. Darsie also reported that, on April 12, 2011, the Attorney General's office obtained a conviction against a former Prince George's County council candidate for violating campaign finance laws in connection with his circulation of fraudulent campaign materials during early voting for the 2010 Primary Election. The defendant, Jerry Mathis, was found guilty on three misdemeanor counts, including the lack of a proper authority line on a false and misleading "sample ballot." that was mailed to voters and distributed outside the Oxon Hill early voting center and is facing up to a year in prison and \$25,000 in fines. Sentencing is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Darsie that the Attorney General's role and the conviction is unprecedented.

## **APPROVAL OF EARLY VOTING CENTERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY ELECTIONS**

Mr. Goldstein presented the five proposed early voting centers for the 2011 City Elections. He explained that two of the sites used in the 2010 elections are not being re-proposed for the 2011 elections and that two new locations are being proposed. The two new locations are the League for People with Disabilities' facility (replacing Northwood/Library #10) and the Moravia Park Drive Apartments (replacing the Pleasant View Apartments). The Baltimore City Board of Elections submitted the required documents for the new locations, and both locations meet all of the requirements for early voting centers.

Armstead Jones, Election Director for the Baltimore City Board of Elections, explained that the local board will place signs at the former early voting centers giving voters the new locations of the early voting centers and are ready to print fliers and brochures with the new locations. In response to a question from Mr. McManus, Mr. Jones explained that the Moravia Park Drive Apartments are about five miles away from the Pleasant View Apartments and that the neighborhood surrounding the Pleasant View Apartments generally does not vote. In response to a question from Ms. McGuckian, Mr. Jones explained that all of the early voting centers are accessible by public transportation and have parking.

## **APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

Ms. Trella presented proposed changes to Regulations 33.16.02.01 and 33.17.04.03. As SBE has collected more election results and is getting better at predicting turnout, SBE and the local boards are getting better at estimating quantities for election-related supplies. The proposed changes remove from regulations the specific number of provisional ballot applications that must be deployed and permits the State Administrator to establish the number of applications to deploy. Ms. McGuckian made a motion to adopt the proposed changes to Regulations 33.16.02.01 and 33.17.04.03, and Mr. Thomann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Trella then presented proposed changes to Regulations 33.17.02.01 and 33.17.07.04. The proposed change to Regulation 33.17.02.01 requires that the determination of the number of registered voters be made eight months before a primary election, rather than a specific date. The number of registered voters is used to determine the number of early voting centers in each county. With the change in the date of the primary election, Ms. Trella noted that date specified in the regulation was too early.

Ms. Trella explained that the proposed change to Regulation 33.17.07.04 is similar to an emergency regulation the State Board had previously approved. The proposed changes address when a local board can begin aggregating early voting results and reporting them to SBE. Under the proposed changes, a local board can start the process no earlier than 9:00 am on election day and must report returns to SBE between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Mr. McManus made a motion to approve the proposed changes to

Regulations 33.17.02.01 and 33.17.07.04, and Mr. Thomann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF PETITION FORM**

Ms. Wagner presented a new petition form and distributed the current version of the form. Mr. Thomann noted that the proposed form has room for five signatures, while the current form has room for ten signatures. In response to questions from Mr. Thomann, Ms. Wagner responded that a statewide referendum petition would have the text printed on the back of the petition form and that current petition forms would continue to be accepted. In response to a question from Mr. Walker, Ms. Wagner responded that no petition circulators had been charged with perjury.

Ms. McGuckian made a motion to adopt the proposed petition form, and Mr. McManus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF SBE POLICY RELATED TO CONTINGENCY PLANS**

Ms. Trella presented a revised SBE policy on contingency plans and explained that the only substantive change was to remove the specific quantities of extended voting envelopes that must be deployed and permit the State Administrator to determine the proper number of envelopes to deploy. Ms. Trella noted that the reason for this proposed change to SBE policy was similar to the reason for proposing changes to the regulations. Mr. McManus made a motion to approve SBE Policy 2011-01: Contingency Plans, and Ms. McGuckian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF WAIVERS OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ENTITIES**

Vicki Smith presented requests for waivers of late fees for the following political committees along with the Administrator's recommendations for approval:

1. Faulkner, Paulette District 23 For, A6924
2. Frazee, Walter Citizens For, A8214
3. Girard, Armand Friends Of, A8244
4. Glotfelty, Denny Friends of, A7181
5. Griffith, Melony Citizens For, A492
6. Groves, Athena Malloy Friends Of, A4661
7. Henry, Bill Citizens for, A8321
8. Holton, Helen Citizens For, A630
9. Johnson, Tricia Friends Of, A8761
10. Kazimer, Kathy Friends To Elect, A4224
11. Kline, Steve Committee To Elect, A6795
12. Kreiner, Derek Citizens for, A7809
13. Lane, Joe For Commissioner, A8394
14. Lewis, Dale R. Committee to Reelect, A7238
15. Marylanders For The Preserv. Of Firearms Ownership PAC, A880
16. McDonald, Randy E. Citizens For, A7069
17. McKee, Bob Citizens for, Committee, A922
18. McNeill, Dottie Friends Of, A7045
19. McWilliams, Patrick Friends of, A8744
20. Miller, Glenn Committee to Elect, A8729
21. Myers, Tom for Harford County, A7866
22. Nottingham, Andre' Friends Of, A7003
23. Oaks, Nathaniel Committee To Re-Elect, A580
24. Ott, Colleen Friends Of, A8445
25. Parsons, Arzella T. Friends to Elect, A7840
26. Ruppensberger, Timmy Citizens To Elect, A7142
27. Ruscito, Joseph M. Jr. Friends Of, A8563
28. Santill, Ken Citizens For, A8667
29. Taylor, Tom Friends for, A8606
30. Veterinary PACMD, A313
31. Wade, Mike Citizens for, A7505
32. Walsh, Tom For Caroline Sheriff, A7120
33. Warner, Jim for Republican Central Committee, A8474
34. Wildoner, James A. Proficient Alternative Community For, A6379
35. Williams, Sylvia Citizens for, A8001
36. Woods, James Citizens For, A8628

Mr. McManus made a motion to approve the State Administrator's recommendations on the requests for waivers of late fees, and Mr. Thomann seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **RECONSIDERATION OF DENIAL OF WAIVER FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE ENTITY**

Mr. Goldstein stated that the State Board had previously granted a waiver of late fees to Citizens for Rebecca Weir Nelson but limited the waiver to the committee's treasurer and the State Administrator had previously denied a waiver of fees to the chairman/candidate. The chairman/candidate requested reconsideration of the State Administrator's denial, and Mr. Goldstein presented the

chairman's/candidate's request for a waiver and noted that the committee has a history going back to 2006 and 2007 of requesting waivers.

Mr. Walker invited Rebecca Weir Nelson to speak on her behalf. Ms. Nelson explained that the most recent report was late due to her treasurer's illnesses and injuries and that she was unaware that she could file the affidavit in lieu of the detailed campaign finance report. In response to questions from Ms. McGuckian, Ms. Weir stated that she would be attending an upcoming seminar hosted by the Maryland State Education Association and that the fund balance in the campaign account was very small. In response to a question from Mr. Darsie, Ms. Nelson responded that she intends to keep the campaign account open.

Ms. McGuckian and Mr. McManus suggested tabling Ms. Nelson's request for reconsideration of the waiver denial until she attends a SBE-sponsored seminar on campaign finance requirements and demonstrates her attendance at both SBE's seminar and the seminar hosted by the Maryland State Education Association.

Ms. Nelson stated her belief that she was singled out when she was notified about the name requirements, to which Mr. Goldstein responded that many candidates received the same letter as Ms. Nelson.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

#### **SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for June 3, 2011, at 2:00 pm.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Walker adjourned the meeting about 3:00 pm.