

Minutes
State Election Commission Meeting
February 15, 2017

The State Election Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Donna Barrett at 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time, February 15, 2017. The following members and staff were telephonically connected: Chairman Barrett; Commissioners Blackburn, Duckett, McDonald, Wallace, Wheeler and Younce; Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins, Beth Henry Robertson and Kathy Summers, Elections Specialist.

Pursuant to TCA § 8-44-108(a)(3), the determination of necessity for conducting the State Election Commission meeting by phone was found to make county election commission appointments, to discuss possible election legislation, and to discuss potential change in commission policy regarding former Administrators of Elections attending annual training seminars.

Commissioner McDonald made a motion pursuant to T.C.A. § § 2-12-101 and 2-12-106, seconded by Commissioner Wallace to accept and approve the nomination(s) for county election commission appointments as submitted, and to leave the nomination process open until 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time, Wednesday, February 15, 2017. (Aye votes: Barrett, Blackburn, Duckett, McDonald, Wallace, Wheeler and Younce; No votes: None; Abstention: None.) **(See attached list of appointments made.)**

Chairman Barrett went over the tasks of the subcommittee. The subcommittee was requested to come up with recommendations for modifying, and/or updating both the current policy for maintaining certification status for Administrators of Elections no longer working in elections and TCA § 2-1-112 (a) (1).

Subcommittee Recommendation - Regarding TCA § 2-1-112 (a) (1)

Chairman Barrett went over the current laws and restrictions regarding county election commission appointments. The subcommittee met on January 9, 2017, and recommended the change below which would require legislation to effect the change:

- The subcommittee recommends allowing board members of utility boards, unless they are appointed to the board by an elected official (i.e., mayor, etc.), to serve on local election commissions. These board members are currently prohibited because they are viewed as county employees since they receive payment for services. Most utility board members are elected by the co-op members, and not registered voters in an area nor, are they all appointed by elected officials. This will help smaller counties as they search to find qualified individuals to serve on local election commissions.

Commissioner McDonald made a motion to submit this recommended legislation to the General Assembly. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wallace. Commissioner Blackburn made a motion to table the motion. Commissioner Blackburn's motion failed due to the lack of a second. After discussion, there was a call for the previous question to approve the recommended legislation to the General Assembly. The motion to approve the recommended legislation to the General Assembly passed with six (6) yes votes and one (1) no vote. (Aye votes: Barrett, Duckett, McDonald, Wallace, Wheeler and Younce; No votes: Blackburn; Abstention: None.)

Subcommittee Recommendation - Regarding SEC policy for Administrators of Elections to maintain their certification status after they are no longer employed by the County Election Commission

Chairman Barrett went over the current State Election Commission policy, regarding previous Administrators of Election maintaining their certification status, after they are no longer working in elections. The subcommittee met on January 9, 2017, and recommended the following change:

- If an Administrator of Elections is terminated for cause they lose their certification and may not attend the annual training/seminar.

Commissioner Wallace made a motion to approve the recommended policy change, Commissioner Blackburn seconded the motion and the policy revision was unanimously approved. (Aye votes: Barrett, Blackburn, Duckett, McDonald, Wallace, Wheeler and Younce; No votes: None; Abstention: None.

The next meeting will be held on April 3, 2017 at Noon – Central Standard Time in the Nashville Room on the 3rd Floor of the William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower.

Motion was made to adjourn, and there being no further business to come before the commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike McDonald, Secretary
State Election Commission

Tennessee Secretary of State
Tre Hargett

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Coordinator of Elections

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February 15, 2017

Mr. Cody York, Director
Office of the Secretary of State – Publications Division
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
Nashville, TN 37274

Dear Mr. York,

The State Election Commission met by teleconference at 2:00 p.m., CST on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, in the Election Division of the William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower. The notice requirements of TCA § 8-44-108 (b) were fully complied with. A quorum of the Board was not physically present at the location from which the teleconference originated, although a quorum did participate electronically.

In accordance with TCA § 8-44-108 this constitutes the Board's notice of the occurrence of the meeting and the Statement of Necessity.

A telephonic meeting of the Board was required to make county election commission appointments and to discuss possible election legislation. A Statement of Necessity to that effect was formally adopted by the Board at the beginning of the teleconference, and the Statement of Necessity was included in the Board's minutes.

Sincerely,

Mark Goins
Coordinator of Elections

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Enclosure(s): Meeting Notice and Call Instructions

Vacant Status

15-Feb-17

Knox

D Tom Wheeler
R Judy Blackburn

D

Perry

D Greg Duckett
R Donna Barrett

R

Total Vacancies: 2

New Appointment Status

15-Feb-17

		Appointment
Knox	D Tom Wheeler / R Judy Blackburn	
	D Cameron Brooks	2/15/2017
Perry	D Greg Duckett / R Donna Barrett	
	R Brent Hinson	2/15/2017
Total New Commissioners: 2		