

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ABSENTEE SESSION
Board of Elections Conference Room
March 1, 2016
9:00 AM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dyatt Smathers called the meeting of the Madison County Board of Elections to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Madison County Administrative Offices Building Board of Elections Office. In attendance were Dyatt Smathers, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Jerry Wallin, Member; and Kathy Ray, Director.

AGENDA

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to set the agenda and add a closed personnel session to "Other Matters".

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Smathers commented that it is Super Tuesday.

MEMBERS' REPORTS

Member Wallin inquired if anyone is aware of any pending judicial changes to the upcoming election.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

The Director inquired if Board members had received and read the Numbered Memo 2016-03 from State Board of Elections Executive Director Kim Strach.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve 17 civilian absentee ballot applications.

Tabulating absentee ballots was postponed until the March 8th meeting.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to employ Jacob Ray for a guaranteed three hours per day as a temporary office assistant through June 7th. He will also continue to work additional office assistance hours as needed.

Vacancies exist for poll workers at the Hot Springs (D), South Marshall (R), Ebbs Chapel (R), and Walnut (D) Precincts. Party chairs are working to fill them.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the recommendation of Republican Poll Worker Assistant William Briggs III at the Ebbs Chapel Precinct.

Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to approve the recommendation of Elizabeth Staude as the temporary replacement Democratic Judge at the Hot Springs Precinct for the March 15, 2016 Primary Election.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to publish Letter to Voters in the local newspaper. The letter is endorsed by all three Board members.

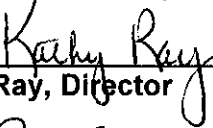
Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to move into Closed Session to discuss a personnel issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next absentee meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Smathers highlighted the guidance in Numbered Memo 2016-03 that the US House of Representative contest results be kept confidential. A discussion ensued regarding the process for redaction of the contest results and how to maintain confidentiality.

Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.



Kathy Ray, Director



Dyatt Smathers, Chair



Ray Lewis, Secretary