

## **Minutes State Election Commission Meeting April 6, 2009**

---

---

The State Election Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Head at 2:15 p.m. with Commissioners DuBois and Wallace present. Election staff members present were Mark Goins - Coordinator of Elections, Beth Henry – Robertson - Assistant Coordinator of Elections, Cara Harr - HAVA Attorney, Lauren Varney - SOS staff member and Kathy Summers - Elections Specialist.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes from March 17, 2009.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 2-12-101 and 2-12-104, motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the nominations for county election commission appointments as submitted and to leave the nomination process open until 4:30 p.m. central time April 6, 2009. **(See attached New Appointment Status Report for appointments made.)**

Coordinator Goins presented a draft letter to the commissioners regarding the motion adopted at the March 17, 2009, State Election Commission meeting. The motion previously approved is requesting the General Assembly to consider adding the requirement that all County Election Commissioners (CEC) and Administrators of Elections (AOE) file ethics reports with the TN Ethics Commission (TEC).

### Coordinator Goins - Update:

- ⇒ Coordinator Goins updated Commissioners on the Voter Confidence Act. There are two pieces of legislation that would either repeal the Act or delay the Act until 2012. The Elections Division is currently supporting a delay as there are no machines certified to the 2005 EAC standards as is currently required under the current Act. Local county officials have determined that the legislation would cost \$11.7 million dollars in 2010.
- ⇒ The State Election Commission is up for Sunset Review prior to July 1, 2009.
- ⇒ Senator Norris wants to add two (2) additional members to the State Election Commission. The two (2) new members would be Republican. If passed the makeup of the commission would be four (4) Republicans and (3) Democrats. Senator Norris added an amendment to reduce the compensation that commissioners

currently receive. Senator Kyle amended the bill to do away with any compensation for State Election Commissioners. This bill has passed the Senate and has not been heard by the House. Coordinator Goins does not support eliminating State Election Commissioners compensation.

⇒ The Tennessee Association of County Election Officials (TACEO) will hold their annual meeting and seminar June 28 through July 1, 2009 in Memphis.

Dick Williams with Common Cause attended the meeting and expressed concern over the lack of State Election Commission minutes on the Elections website.

Several voting machine vendors and other county election commission officials attended the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on April 20, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the Robertson Room 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,

Jimmy Wallace, Secretary  
State Election Commission