Minutes  
State Election Commission Meeting  
December 5, 2011

The State Election Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Judy Blackburn at 1:00 p.m. Central Time, December 5, 2011. The following members and staff were present: Chairman Blackburn; Commissioners DuBois, Head, Wallace, Wheeler and Younce; Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins; and Kathy Summers, Elections Specialist.

Pursuant to TCA § 2-13-304(a) Secretary of State Tre Hargett appeared before the State Election Commission to announced the nine Republican candidates and one Democrat who are scheduled to compete in Tennessee’s March 6 Presidential Preference Primary elections. (See attached letter from Secretary Hargett.)

The Republican candidates are: Michele Bachmann, Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Gary Johnson, Ron Paul, Rick Perry, Charles “Buddy” Roemer, Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum. The Democrat is President Barack Obama.

Secretary Hargett stated if any of the listed candidates do not wish to participate in the Tennessee primaries they have until NOON December 13th to withdraw; otherwise their names will appear on Tennessee’s ballot.

Chairman Blackburn proceeded with the regularly scheduled meeting.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on October 10, 2011.

Pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 2-12-101 and 2-12-106, 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, December 5, 2011. (For appointments made, see attached list.)

Old Business
  • NONE

New Business
  • Commissioner DuBois requested fellow commission members sign a letter he has written to recognize a local poll official who passed away recently.

Coordinator Update
• Training has been given to East, Middle and West Tennessee TACE members.
• Continuing efforts are being done to educate the public on state- or federally-issued Photo ID requirement.
• AARP – has helped conduct telephone conferences to educate their members regarding the requirement of a Photo ID when voting.
• Voter outreach programs were held in all ninety – five (95) counties on November 1, 2011, to educate the public on the new requirement of a state- or federally-issued Photo ID when voting.
• Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature has agreed to help get the information into the college and university campuses regarding the requirement of a state- or federally-issued Photo ID and that a student ID will not be acceptable ID for voting.
• Challenge procedures will apply if Photo ID provided is questionable.

Tennessee Disability Coalition staff members Courtney Jenkins and Melanie Bull provided a handout on disability etiquette. (See attached handout.)

Angela Webster, Public Policy Analyst with the Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee, also spoke regarding education efforts and appreciated the support of Coordinator Goins and his staff.

Dick Williams with Common Cause addressed voting machine certification with the commission members.

The next meeting will be held on January 9, 2012 at Noon – Central Time 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,

Tommy Head
Tommy Head - Secretary
State Election Commission
Vacant Status

05-Dec-11

Hickman
D Greg Duckett
R Tom DuBois

D

Loudon
D Tom Wheeler
R Judy Blackburn

R

Madison
D Greg Duckett
R Jimmy Wallace

R

Van Buren
D Tommy Head
R Kent Younce

R

Total Vacancies: 4
## Holdover Status

### Gibson
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Kathleen Smith
  - Robert S. Phelan

### Giles
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Henry A. Inman
  - Judy C. Mitchell

### Haywood
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
  - Aubrey Lee Bond
  - Ida Ruth Bradford

### Henderson
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Appointment: 4/17/2001
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
  - Pope Thomas
  - Cornelia T. Morris

### Henry
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Appointment: 4/6/2009
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
  - Paul David Hessing
  - Sylvia C. Humphreys

### Humphreys
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Appointment: 1/14/2003
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
  - Jess S. Bowen, III
  - Von Gardner

### Lewis
- **Greg Duckett**
  - R  
  - D  
  - Appointment: 4/5/1993
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
  - Paul H. Gandy
  - Ronnie James

- **Tom DuBois**
  - D  
  - Appointment: 3/21/2006
  - Reappointment: 4/6/2009
### Putnam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Reappointment</th>
</tr>
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### Weakley

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Reappointment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Greg Dukeett</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Jimmy Wallace</td>
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**Total Holdovers: 18**
# New Appointment Status

**06-Dec-11**

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<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Unique ID</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Appointment Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hickman</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Greg Ducket</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>R Tom DuBois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Faye Burton</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/5/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Greg Ducket</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>R Jimmy Wallace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Jim Thompson</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/5/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Buren</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Tommy Head</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>R Kent Younce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Leon Dewese</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/5/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakley</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Greg Ducket</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>R Jimmy Wallace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Raymond Stevenson</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/5/2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total New Commissioners:** 4
MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Judy Blackburn
Secretary Tommy Head
Commissioner Tom DuBois
Commissioner Greg Duckett
Commissioner Jimmy Wallace
Commissioner Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Kent Younce

From: The Honorable Tre Hargett
Secretary of State

Date: December 5, 2011

Subject: Announcement of Nationally Recognized Candidates for Presidential Preference Primary

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 2-13-304(a), the following nationally recognized candidates will be placed on the March 6, 2012, Presidential Preference Primary ballot.

Republican Primary Ballot

Michele Bachmann
Newt Gingrich
Jon Huntsman
Gary Johnson
Ron Paul
Rick Perry
Charles "Buddy" Roemer
Mitt Romney
Rick Santorum

Democratic Primary Ballot

Barack Obama
Research Alliance for
Accessible Voting (RAAV)

Researching how to improve voter accessibility through technologies and approaches that address disability.

The Tennessee Disability Coalition is working closely with Paraquad, Inc., in St. Louis, Missouri, one of the oldest and largest Centers for Independent Living in the country.

We will learn what presents barriers between the Disability Community and the polls. With the help of the Tennessee Secretary of State’s Office and local election authorities, we will develop comprehensive, disability sensitive poll worker training models and pilot them in the 2012 Election cycle.

www.tndisability.org/raav
Don’t let fear and uncertainty keep you from getting to know people with disabilities. Fear of the unknown and lack of knowledge about interacting can lead to uneasiness when meeting a person who has a disability.

Remember: a person with a disability is a person with feelings. Treat him or her as you would want to be treated, and then let common sense and friendship break down any barriers you may encounter.

INSIDE:
- Meeting a person with a disability
- Engaging a person who uses a wheelchair
- Meeting someone with a cognitive impairment
- And more …
Meeting a person with a disability

1. A handshake is NOT a standard greeting for everyone. When in doubt, ASK the person whether he or she would like to shake hands with you. A smile along with a spoken greeting is always appropriate.

2. Speak directly to the person with a disability, not just to persons who may be accompanying him or her.

3. Don't mention the person's disability, unless he or she talks about it or it is relevant to the conversation.

4. Treat adults as adults. Don't patronize or talk down to people with disabilities. Likewise, don't lavish praise on a person with a disability for having the "courage" to overcome a disability.

5. Be patient and give your undivided attention, especially with someone who speaks slowly or with great effort.

6. Never pretend to understand what a person is saying. Ask the person to repeat or rephrase.

7. It is okay to use common expressions like "see you soon" or "I'd better be running along."

8. Relax. We all make mistakes. Offer an apology if you forget some courtesy. Keep a sense of humor and a willingness to communicate.

Interacting with a wheelchair user

1. Personal space – Do not push, lean on, or hold onto a person's wheelchair unless the person asks you to. The wheelchair is part of his or her personal space.

2. Eye-to-Eye – Try to put yourself at eye level when talking with someone in a wheelchair. Sit or kneel in front of the person.

3. Clear a path – Rearrange furniture or objects to accommodate a wheelchair before the person arrives.

4. Know the geography – If asked, know where someone can find accessible restrooms, telephones, and water fountains in the building.

5. Directions – When giving directions to a person in a wheelchair, consider distance, weather conditions, and physical obstacles (curbs, stairs, steep hills, etc).

Meeting someone with a cognitive impairment that affects learning, intelligence, or brain function

1. Keep your communication simple. Use short sentences and rephrase comments or questions for better clarity.

2. Stay on point by focusing on one topic at a time.

3. Allow the person time to respond, ask questions and clarify your comments.

4. Focus on the person as he or she responds to you and pay attention to body language.

5. Repetition. If appropriate, repeat back any messages to confirm mutual understanding.
Engaging someone who is blind or has a disability that affects vision

1. **Greetings** – When meeting the person, identify yourself and introduce others who may be present.
2. **Departing** – Don’t leave the person without excusing yourself first.
3. **Guiding** – When asked to guide someone, never push or pull the person. Offer your arm and allow him or her to reach for you, then walk slightly ahead. Point out doors, stairs, and curbs as you approach them.
4. **The landscape** – As you guide a person into a room, describe the layout, the location of furniture, and note who else is nearby.
5. **Details matter** – Be specific when describing the location of objects. (Example: “There is a chair three feet from you at eleven o’clock.”)
6. **Guide dogs** – Don’t pet or distract a guide dog. The dog is responsible for its owner’s safety and is always working. It is not a pet.

Meeting a person with a disability that affects speech

1. **Pay attention, be patient, and wait** for the person to complete a word or thought. Do not finish it for the person.
2. **Ask the person to repeat what is said** if you do not understand. Tell the person what you heard and see if it is close to what he or she is saying.
3. **Be prepared for persons who use assistive technology** to enhance or augment speech. Don’t be afraid to communicate with someone who uses an alphabet board or a computer to communicate.

Communicating with someone who is deaf or uses an assisted hearing device

1. **Let the person take the lead** in establishing the communication mode, such as lip-reading, sign language, or writing notes.
2. **Talk directly to the person** even when a sign language interpreter is present.
3. **If the person lip-reads**, face him or her directly, speak clearly and with a moderate pace.
4. **With some people** it may help to simplify your sentences and use more facial expressions and body language.
Meeting a person with a disability

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3. **Allow the person time** to respond, ask questions and clarify your comments.

4. **Focus on the person** as he or she responds to you and pay attention to body language.

5. **Repetition.** If appropriate, repeat back any messages to confirm mutual understanding.
The preferred “people first language” recognizes that someone is a person first, and that the disability is a part of, but not the whole person. However, some people with disabilities reject use of people first language. These guidelines have developed independently within distinct disability communities, and they may sometimes appear contradictory. For example, some persons with reduced vision find the term “visually-impaired” acceptable, but some persons with reduced hearing find the term “hearing-impaired” offensive and prefer “hard of hearing.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS &amp; PHRASES TO AVOID</th>
<th>PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a disabled person</td>
<td>person with a disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the handicapped or the crippled</td>
<td>person with a disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>normal, healthy or able-bodied person/person</td>
<td>people without disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wheelchair-bound or confined to a wheelchair</td>
<td>typical person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>birth defect or affliction</td>
<td>a wheelchair user</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a victim of cerebral palsy (or other condition)</td>
<td>uses a wheelchair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suffers from polio, afflicted with polio or post-polios</td>
<td>congenital disability or birth anomaly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mentally retarded, a retard slow or special</td>
<td>has cerebral palsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Down’s person or Mongoloid</td>
<td>has (insert condition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the epileptic or epileptics fits or epileptic fits</td>
<td>has had polio, experienced polio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the mentally ill crazy, psycho, nuts, mental case</td>
<td>has a disability due to polio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the blind or blind as a bat</td>
<td>person with an intellectual or developmental disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>person with Down Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>person with epilepsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>person with a seizure disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>seizure or epileptic episode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>people who have mental illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>person with a mental or emotional disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>people who are blind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or visually impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hearing-impaired</td>
<td>person who is hard of hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deaf-mute, deaf and dumb</td>
<td>the Deaf, a person who is deaf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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