

GREB WorkGroup
Final Minutes 7/27/16

The GREB WorkGroup, meeting in the Speaker's Conference Room, 6th Floor, GAB, was called to order July 27, 2016 at 10:10 am by Co-Chairs John Hager and Kate Hanley. Present: former Lt. Gov. John Hager, Fairfax EB Secretary Kate Hanley, SBE Secretary Clara Belle Wheeler, former SBE Chair Charlie Judd, Directors of Election Larry Haake of Chesterfield, and Barbara Gunter of Bedford, and Electoral Board Secretaries Bill Bell of Isle of Wight, and Robin Lind of Goochland.

On a motion by Co-Chair John Hager, seconded by Co-Chair Hanley, the proposed Agenda was adopted unanimously and Robin Lind was appointed temporary recording secretary.

Discussion ensued regarding the taking of minutes, with appreciation expressed to Fauquier County Assistant Registrar Diana Dutton for volunteering to take minutes from the previous meeting; after further discussion on the appropriate process for posting minutes online, either in draft or approved form, Co-Chair John Hager moved, seconded by Co-Chair Hanley, to approve draft minutes from June 28, as amended. Passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued on the revised language of the "Electoral Board Job Description" proposed by DoE Larry Haake and EB member Renee Andrews. After queries about the legal interpretation of specific words, several substitutes were proposed; on a motion by Ms. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Judd, the WorkGroup voted unanimously to adopt the revised document with substitute language in the first sentence of the final paragraph to now read "Service on the Electoral Board is a year-round obligation."

Ms. Hanley then queried the distribution of the Job Description to EB members and the larger audience concerned with elections. Mr. Lind moved that the WorkGroup recommend to the State Board of Elections that they direct the Department of Elections to add a paragraph to Document ELECT-119, REV 12.2015 "Certificate of Eligibility For Appointment to Electoral Board."

The proposed paragraph: "I have read the Electoral Board Job Description provided by the Director of Elections as part of this certificate and affirm that I will faithfully discharge all the duties and responsibilities described therein."

No action was taken.

Co-Chair Hager then directed attention to the draft of the revised WorkPlan for 2016 submitted by Mr. Haake and Mr. Lind.

On Charge 1, dealing with reliable data on the cost of elections, Ms. Hanley reported that the March Presidential Primary had cost over \$990,000 in Fairfax County of which only 60% had been reimbursed by the Commonwealth. Ms. Gunter discussed a further survey

of localities and indicated that the previous survey didn't generate sufficient actionable data because people didn't understand the questions.

On Charge 2, dealing with support for Directors of Election, on motion by Ms. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Judd, the WorkGroup voted unanimously to delete the second part of the second paragraph.

On Charge 3, dealing with Continuing Education Standards, a lengthy discussion ensued on the lack of data on salary supplements, and the difference between local practices and State Board of Compensation scales for Constitutional Officers. On a motion by Mr. Judd, seconded by Ms. Hanley, the WorkGroup acknowledged the importance of the issue but voted unanimously to defer action on the Charge.

On Charge 4, dealing with Funding Mechanisms, discussion ensued about wording, changing the lead sentence to read "The GREB WorkGroup recommends the Department of Elections reintroduce..." before the WorkGroup voted unanimously to again recommend support.

On Charge 5, dealing with Funding of ELECT, lengthy discussion ensued regarding the erosion of support to localities, the exhaustion of HAVA funds, and the need to provide sufficient funding to prevent "voids" in service. On a motion by Mr. Haake, seconded by Mr. Lind, the Workgroup voted unanimously to delete the second paragraph in the draft.

On Charge 6, dealing with responsibilities of EB Members, discussion resumed on the motion of Mr. Lind that he introduced earlier in the report on Electoral Board Member Job Description.

The Workgroup approved unanimously the motion to recommend the revision to incorporate the Job Description in the Certificate of Eligibility.

[The revised document, as amended, is included herewith.]

The WorkGroup also agreed to delete paragraphs four and five.

On Charge 7, dealing with Recodification of §24.2, discussion ensued on the need and the lack of clarity on the process. Ms. Hanley agreed to contact legislators who might be helpful. Mr. Haake agreed to re-craft the language of the Charge and re-send it to members of the WorkGroup.

The revised Draft WorkPlan, as amended, is included herewith.]

Discussion ensued on the proposed SBE Training Standards for Officers of Elections and the draft prepared by Mr. Haake and Mr. Lind. Concerns included the vast disparity in size of jurisdictions and the impact on uniformity when Fairfax County has over 3200

Officers of Election, Chesterfield more than 1,000 and smallest jurisdictions having less than 50.

On a motion by Mr. Judd, seconded by Ms. Hanley, the WorkGroup moved unanimously to defer the matter for further discussion at the next meeting.

Discussion returned to Charges 1 and 2 of the WorkPlan. Ms. Gunter described archaic language in §24.2-112 and the need to survey Directors of Election on the staffing issue; she agreed to conduct the survey with help from other VRAV members.

Discussion also ensued about the possibility of merging Charges 1 and 2 in the draft WorkPlan.

The WorkGroup agreed to meet on August 23 at 10 am, again in the Speaker's Conference Room. Tentative dates for future meetings are:

September 13 — *[Since deferred because of conflicts of multiple members.]*

November 21

December 19

January — in the event SBE is tied up in November and December with Electoral College and Special Election canvass.

There being no public discussion and no further business the Workgroup voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:46 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Lind,
Secretary Goochland County Electoral Board,
Temporary Recording Secretary