

## **Campbell County Electoral Board**

### **General Registrar's Office**

**June 9, 2023**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Wenger, Smith, and Millson-Martula

Guests present: General Registrar Martin and twelve members of the public

Chairperson Wenger called the meeting to order at 10:12 am.

At 10:13 am, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session to conduct the annual performance evaluation of General Registrar Martin and determine if she should be appointed for a new term beginning July 1, 2023. The Board voted unanimously to leave the closed session at 12:08 pm.

Approval of the minutes of the meetings of April 28, 2023 and May 9, 2023

The Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes.

New polling location for the Bedford Springs precinct

General Registrar Martin reported that she had received no expressions of interest from churches that would serve as appropriate polling places. Therefore, the new polling place will be the basement of the Timbrook Library on Leesville Rd., which is slightly outside the precinct boundary.

Public comments and discussion regarding the General Registrar term of 2023-2027

Seven members of the public addressed the Board. The group consisted of Claude Harris (Republican poll watcher), Al Wilson, Linda Carroll (Republican election official), Debbie Raner (Republican election official), David Gifford (Republican election official), Jim Bowman, and Betty Gibbs (Republican Electoral Board member from Lynchburg).

A number of election officials offered suggestions for improving the effectiveness and success of future elections, and the Board will take those suggestions under consideration.

No speaker offered any criticism of the county's election administration process, the performance of the Registrar's office, or the performance of General Registrar Martin.

## Other Business

### 1. Meeting agendas

- a. The Board unanimously agreed that all Board members may submit items for the agenda. As long as items are submitted in sufficient time, all items will appear on the printed agenda.
- b. The Board unanimously agreed to publish the agendas of all meetings.

### 2. Politicization of the electoral process

Millson-Martula described how he had worked with a number of Republican Electoral Board members who took seriously their responsibility to provide efficient, safe, and fair elections in a non-partisan manner. Now, however, with the appointment of new Republican Board members across the state, a number of localities were voting to replace highly competent General Registrars likely for political reasons. Millson-Martula expressed his fervent hope that such a situation would not develop in Campbell County. Virginia needs to continue the tradition of nonpartisan administration of elections.

### 3. Items regarding the General Registrar position

Millson-Martula made a motion to reappoint General Registrar Martin for a new term beginning July 1, 2023. Wenger made a motion to commence the process for hiring a new General Registrar. No votes were taken on either motion. Wenger unilaterally tabled both motions.

The next meeting will be Friday, June 30 at 10:00 am.

The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 1:04 pm.

Submitted by:



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Christopher Millson-Martula, Secretary