

The Bloomington Board of Election Commissioners met at 9:30am on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Commissioner Kim Kiser, Commissioner Robert Felton, Executive Director Tim Mitchell, Assistant Executive Director Lindsey Collins, and Attorney Steve Mahrt were present.

Commissioner Kiser called the meeting to order at 9:30am and called for a motion to approve the January 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 minutes. Commissioner Felton motioned to approve the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Commissioner Kiser asked for approval of the bills and checks shown below which are drawn on the PNC Bank. Commissioner Felton motioned to approve the December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed.

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Election Systems & Software LLC	\$37,499.54
Domain Registry	\$90.00
McLean County Auditor	\$1,108.86
Ancel Glink Diamond Bush DiCianni & Krafthefer P.C.	\$665.00
Illinois Office Supply	\$1,328.40
Pearl Technology	\$30.00
Frontier	\$1,587.34
Votec	\$7,440.00
Confidential On Site Paper Shredding	\$180.61
PNC Bank	\$60.90
AECOI	\$750.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,740.65</b>

Commissioner Kiser called for Public Comment, no one present for comment.

Mr. Mitchell reported no problems with PNC over the last month Mr. Mitchell indicated that First State Bank of Bloomington is likely our best option, but the office will wait till after the April Consolidated Election to look at switching banks

Mr. Mitchell meet with the City about the office potentially moving to the first floor with shared space with the City Clerk's office. Several issues will need to be addressed. These issues are the hours the office is open as the City may have different hours and holiday schedule. There is also a discrepancy in pay between the city clerk workers and our clerk. Mr. Mitchell is of the opinion we should be comparable as our clerk would likely help out at the counter occasionally. Commissioner Williams said she would do some additional research on the issue and report back to the commission. BEC would likely need to procure new furniture as our current furniture is very old and many pieces are falling apart. Mr. Mitchell estimated it might cost \$5,000 for new furniture. The city did confirm that they would be responsible for the cost of the move. Mr. Mitchell will continue to meet with the City for further discussions.

The Consolidated Primary for Ward 7 is on 2/23/2021. Early Voting began on 1/14/2021 in the office. Turnout has been extremely low. Grossinger Motors Arena is being used as a Covid-19 vaccination site and is not an option for early voting in April. Mr. Mitchell met with the city about using BCPA and

they were acceptable to allowing BEC to use BCPA for early voting in the ball room. Mr. Mitchell toured the location and found it acceptable for our needs. We have offered county to co-locate with us and are waiting for a response. The date to begin early voting was discussed as we have our primary on 2/23/2021 and the election will not be certified till 3/8/2021. The date for election authorities who have a primary to start early voting is 3/12/2021. Mr. Mitchell asked the SBE for guidance as the primary is only for one ward. The SBE said we only had to hold off early voting for ward 7. However, this creates a problem generating our ballot. We consulted with our attorney Mr. Mahart and his opinion was we should start all early voting on 3/12/2021. The commissioners agreed with this.

The plan to do a work session to review the election was put on hold at this time due to Covid-19 issues and the increasing infections. The office staff will review the election in the office.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed Unity software for ENR and a demo is going to be set up in the near future after the April consolidated election. IT was in favor of this.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the Covid-19 vaccine and if our staff and judges are eligible to receive it. There has been no word from the health department or SBE on election staff's eligibility in group 1B

Mr. Mitchell indicated that our Frontier DSL is no longer needed as we are on City IT, but there is a penalty to cancel it. The commissioners decided to cancel it at this time.

Mr. Mitchell informed the commissioners that our phone number is portable to the city and we would be on a new modern phone system when we move.

Mr. Mitchell indicated that we renewed our domain name for 2 years and we can decide if we want to take our website to the city or another direction other than Wordpress.

Mr. Mitchell brought up the issue that the weekend before the April 6<sup>th</sup> consolidated election is Easter and should we have early voting that weekend. SBE did not provide any guidance on this issue. Mr. Mitchell is concerned about staffing that weekend as well as turn out. It was decided that we would not have early voting this weekend. The county is taking the same position.

At 10:25 am, a motion was made by Commissioner Williams to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Felton and the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 9:30am

  
Denise Williams, Secretary