

Switzerland County Election Board
September 11, 2024

The Switzerland County Election Board meet at 11:00 A.M. in the basement of the Courthouse. Those in attendance were: Tom Conroy, Will Johnson, Karin Dutkiewicz, Ryan Bland, Lisa Fisher and Cindy Haskell.

Will Johnson called the meeting to order. At this time Will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon completion of the Pledge of Allegiance, Will asked for a moment of silence in honor of the Twin Towers incident and the lives lost on this day.

Karin Dutkiewicz had presented the previous Board minutes, dating March 12, March 15, March 28, 2024. After review Tom made the motion to approve the minutes as is and seconded by Karin and passing unanimously.

Under new business: Voting locations were presented to be changed from Posey Fire House to Posey Town Hall in town. Karin stated the area had been redone and the Town Hall has room to accommodate the voters. There is a handicapped ramp in the back for safe exiting and on the side for their entrance. Good Wi-Fi is available (which we struggled with at the Fire House) it all has been repaved. We feel this would be a good move. Karin stated she would like to make the motion we move the voting location to Posey Town Hall. Motion was seconded by Tom and passed unanimously.

Setting dates and times for election are up next. Will read the dates, times and location as presented (attached). Motion by Tom to accept the dates, times and location as presented and seconded by Karin passing unanimously. Karin will email the Election Division and share the approved voting locations.

Mandatory poll workers meeting and the alternates. This will be for each worker and will be a review of what we need to do at the polls. We will be moving everyone around this year to be able to cover all positions if we need to. Some of us will be doing different jobs this election. We have ordered new poll pads. Instead of just using one or two at a time, these poll pads are battery operated and we can sign more than two at a time. We can register more if there's a line and move the public through quicker. Poll training will be used to just brush up on what is needed to be done.

Karin stated she would work to see exactly what will be needed to be reviewed for poll workers and their needs.

Public testing is set for October 2, 2024 at 1:00 PM in the basement of the Courthouse. Karin will place the advertisement in the local paper and put this on our website and the Courthouse website. This is an opportunity for the community to come and see exactly how the machines work and how secure the voting is for our county. We have our vendor coming for the machines that you may ask any questions of and they can explain the working of the machines and how the votes are cast. They will also be here to make sure all of our machines are in perfect working condition.

Lisa Fisher, Republican Chair ask how the machines work with the council members. We have 3 seats open but we have 6 people running for the seats. If a person votes straight ticket will that mark them party of their choice? Karin stated this has be picked individually. Straight ticket will not mark the republican or democratic individually.

Karin stated she would make sure the information is advertised in the September 19, 2024 newspaper regarding the public testing date.

On Monday August 12, 2024 the Help America Vote Act Grant was awarded to Switzerland County for \$40,418.55. This will be used to purchase new Election equipment such as 5 new poll pads, new rolling carts for the staff, replacement signs will be completed, and a new GOV app has been purchased. This app will be places and the community and can be added it to their phones and it will easier for them to complete applications, absentee voting requests, and anything to do with the election materials voters or candidates.

Karin explained how the new poll pads will be more secure for the voters and secretive. She also explained the chute for the voting line has changed from 50 ft in length to 50 ft in diameter starting in November, 2024.

We have signed up for a post-election audit with V-Stop. This will consist of them pulling sample ballots and running these through to make sure all of our equipment is working currently. V-Stop has to obtain permission from the state to do this. It looks like we will be doing this in the up and coming years, we will be ahead of the game.

We will be the 23 county to join the audit.

With no further business to go over, Karin made the motion to adjourn and seconded by Tom and passing unanimously.