

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

TUESDAY

MARCH 18, 2014

+ + + + +

The Public Meeting convened in Room 280 North, 441 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001, pursuant to notice at 10:00 a.m., Deborah K. Nichols, Chairperson, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS MEMBERS PRESENT:

DEBORAH K. NICHOLS, Chairperson
STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY, Board Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS STAFF PRESENT:

CLIFFORD D. TATUM, Executive Director
KENNETH J. MCGHIE, General Counsel
TAMARA ROBINSON, Public Information Officer

The transcript constitutes the minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on March 18, 2014.

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2 10:32 a.m.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Good morning.

4 Welcome. I hereby call to order the Special
5 Meeting of the Board of Elections to declare
6 and certify a vacancy in the Office of the
7 Ward 8 Member of the State Board of Education
8 among other information and to receive a
9 preliminary update of the April 1, 2014
10 primary election preparation update.

11 It is Tuesday, March 18th. The
12 time is 10:34 a.m.

13 I am Deborah Nichols, Chairman of
14 the Board of Elections.

15 Present with me this morning is
16 Mr. Stephen Danzansky.

17 We are meeting in Room 280 North
18 in One Judiciary Square.

19 Also present this morning are Mr.
20 Kenneth McGhie, the General Counsel to the
21 Board and Mr. Clifford Tatum, the Board's
22 Executive Director.

1 I will turn the meeting over to
2 Mr. Tatum to make a presentation regarding the
3 vacancy in the Office of the Ward 8 Member of
4 the State Board of Education.

5 MR. MCGHIE: Before Mr. --

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Oh, I'm sorry.
7 I'll turn it over to Mr. McGhie for the legal
8 citation.

9 MR. MCGHIE: Yes, Mr. Trayon White
10 who was the Ward 8 Member of the Board of
11 Education submitted his letter of resignation
12 on Friday which was -- no, on Monday, March
13 10th and pursuant to D.C. Code Section 1-
14 1001.10(e)(1), the Board of Elections has to
15 declare -- certify a vacancy in that office
16 and after a vacancy has been certified, the
17 Board must establish or set an election date.

18 So, the Board at this meeting will
19 be required to entertain two motions. One
20 would be to certify the Office of Ward 8
21 Member of the Board of Education as vacant and
22 then to certify an -- or schedule an election

1 date.

2 And Mr. Tatum has prepared an
3 outline of how the Board would
4 administratively go about that process.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: All right. Thank
6 you, Mr. McGhie. Mr. Tatum.

7 MR. TATUM: Thank you, Madam
8 Chair. Mr. McGhie is correct in that we
9 received a notice of resignation from Mr.
10 Trayon White and as a result of that notice,
11 the Board is required to certify a vacancy and
12 then announce the election date.

13 Based on the date that we received
14 the notice, the resignation, the Board has
15 according to the statute the requirement to
16 hold an election on the first Tuesday within
17 or outside of 114 days at which the contest is
18 certified vacant. So, as the Board certifies
19 that vacancy for today, well, actually it's
20 certifying it vacant as of yesterday, March
21 17th, the staff has determined that the first
22 Tuesday after March 17th would be July 15th,

1 2014.

2 And as a result of that date, July
3 15, 2014, we then look to the calendar to
4 determine when the nominating petitions would
5 be made available and when the challenge
6 period would be and I'm prepared to give the
7 Board those dates and set them forth in the
8 calendar.

9 According to the statute, the
10 nominating petition would begin 90 days before
11 the election contest itself. So, as of March
12 the 24th, the staff would make the nominating
13 petitions available for the Ward 8 vacancy.
14 The nominating petition deadline would be
15 April the 16th, 2014. The challenge period
16 for those nominating petitions would be April
17 the 19th, 2014. The challenge period would
18 end on April the 28th, 2014.

19 At which point, the Board would
20 then have 20 days to resolve any challenges.
21 The deadline for the Board to resolve all
22 challenge petitions would be May 19th, 2014

1 which would then result in the contest
2 appearing on the ballot on July 15, 2014.

3 This would be a Ward 8 only
4 contest. There are 17 precincts in Ward 8 and
5 one early vote center. We would be required
6 to do the in-person absentee as well as the
7 early voting. The question then becomes
8 whether we'd open up a satellite location or
9 simply conduct an in-person here in Judiciary
10 Square.

11 We have done some preliminary
12 projections on the cost for this election and
13 we looked to our historical records for
14 conducting a ward only contest and we found
15 that in May 2012 we conducted a ward only
16 contest and that contest cost exactly \$280,536
17 and that contest was, of course, two years
18 ago. So, we believe that conducting the
19 contest for this special would cost us
20 approximately the same. We, of course, would
21 attempt to mitigate costs where possible to
22 reduce the cost as much as possible.

1 We have looked at alternative
2 options for this election for the Board to
3 consider and those options are, number one, to
4 conduct a vote by mail program for this
5 special election wherein the Board would send
6 a paper absentee ballot to every registered
7 voter in Ward 8. There are currently 54,087
8 voters in Ward 8 and we would expend postage
9 on the ballot going out to Ward 8 voters and
10 the postage on the ballot returning to us from
11 the Ward 8 voters and we project that that
12 cost would at the current postage rate at 69
13 cents per ballot would cost us approximately
14 \$1.40 per ballot which would equate to
15 \$75,000.

16 And additional costs associated to
17 ordering those ballots and extra ballots and
18 establishing staff and working the vote
19 center, we project that at a minimum the early
20 -- if we conducted a vote by mail project, it
21 would cost us approximately \$162,000.

22 The second option is to

1 communicate to the Council and request an
2 amendment of the vacancy statute which would
3 allow the Board to waive the 114-day special
4 election requirement to move the special
5 election to the November general ballot so
6 that there wouldn't be a special election on
7 a separate day. We could hold that election
8 on the same day as the November general
9 election. That option would cost the Board no
10 additional cost.

11 The third option that we discussed
12 is to ask the Council to consider amending the
13 statute to allow for the State Board or some
14 interested stakeholder to appoint a
15 replacement for the vacant seat that would
16 fulfill that seat until holding a special
17 election in the November general election.

18 Both of those options would
19 require -- all three of the options would
20 require an amendment to the legislation by
21 Council. So, as the General Counsel's pointed
22 out, we would have to amend 1-1001.10(b)(1) to

1 allow for mailing ballots. That statute
2 requires us to open polling places on election
3 day. So, we would add in the mailing option.

4 The second option would be to
5 amend 1-1001.10(e)(1) to waive the 114-day
6 time line to extent the contest to the
7 November ballot.

8 And the third option would be to
9 name a replacement which is also in 1-1001.10
10 and I don't have the specific -- (f), 1-
11 1001.10(f). Yes, 10(f).

12 So, those are the three options
13 for conducting this election. The first
14 option would cost us -- the main -- the
15 current statutory obligation would cost us a
16 minimum of \$280,000. The second option would
17 cost us nothing. I'm sorry. The second
18 option would cost us a minimum of \$162,000.
19 The third option would cost no money.

20 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Mr. Tatum --
21 may I ask, Madam Chair?

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Yes.

1 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Do we have
2 money in our budget, the \$280,000, given the
3 fact that we're holding a major election this
4 year in November and primary in April?

5 MR. TATUM: No, we do not have
6 those funds in our budget.

7 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: So, this would
9 require a supplemental budget from the
10 Council.

11 MR. TATUM: This would require a
12 supplemental budget from the Council and --

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: And the Executive.

14 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Well, perhaps,
15 this may not require a motion, but it seems to
16 me that it might be our sense of the Board
17 that we notify the Council of the fact that
18 there are not sufficient funds to conduct a
19 selection and give them the three options
20 because it will require legislation on their
21 part and do that in some formal way with
22 proper notification to other parties who may

1 be of interest.

2 Is that all right, Madam Chair?

3 That sense.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: I agree with that,
5 Mr. Danzansky and that I don't think it would
6 require a motion.

7 MEMBER DANZANSKY: No, not a
8 motion. Just a sense of the Board.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: That is a sense of
10 the Board. Yes, that we should present these
11 options with a recommendation --

12 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Absolutely.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- to the Council
14 as to the course of action we would recommend
15 to make this most efficient and economical
16 election to replace this member -- to fill his
17 seat.

18 So, with that in mind, are there
19 any other questions?

20 I will entertain a motion to
21 certify the vacancy in the seat of the Ward 8
22 member of the Board of Education as of March

1 17th, 2014.

2 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay. Madam
3 Chair, I move that the Board declare and
4 certify a vacancy in the Ward 8 Member of the
5 State Board of Education as of March -- sorry.
6 What was the date?

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Seventeenth.

8 MEMBER DANZANSKY: March 17, 2014.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Motion is before
10 us. All in favor.

11 (Ayes.)

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: All opposed.

13 Hearing no opposition, the motion carries and
14 the next motion is to schedule the election to
15 fill this vacancy for Tuesday, July 15th,
16 2014.

17 I will entertain a motion to that
18 effect.

19 MEMBER DANZANSKY: So moved, Madam
20 Chair.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Motion is before
22 us. All in favor.

1 (Ayes.)

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: All opposed. Ayes
3 have it.

4 Mr. Tatum, we'll go back to you
5 to --

6 MR. TATUM: Madam Chair, based on
7 the establishing of the July 15th date, we'll
8 have staff complete a full calendar that shows
9 all the particulars --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: -- associated to
12 qualifying for the seat and all the statutory
13 deadlines that we have to meet based on that
14 -- on those -- on that July 15th date.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Can we go back
16 momentarily to the options that are available
17 to us that require Council action to find out
18 when that action may occur and how it would
19 affect any of the options other than having to
20 conduct this with the November general
21 election? What impact would that have?

22 MR. TATUM: Yes, ma'am. The

1 Council is meeting on a structured schedule if
2 you will during this primary season. They're
3 having one meeting per month. Their next
4 meeting is scheduled for April. I'm not sure
5 of the exact date. I think it's April the 8th
6 which is after our -- we have a Board meeting
7 scheduled for --

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

9 MR. TATUM: Actually, I think our
10 Board meeting is scheduled later in the month.
11 So, I think we'll -- I think they're meeting
12 the first or second week in April. So, we
13 would communicate our recommendations to
14 Council -- to the Government Operations
15 Committee and then the Council Members.

16 If they take up the
17 recommendation, it would require emergency
18 legislation on their part and assuming that
19 they pass emergency legislation, then that
20 would be by waiving the 114 days and announcing
21 or either waiving the 114 days and/or creating
22 the ability for the State Board to appoint a

1 Board Member, that would waive the 114 days
2 which would then take our election off of the
3 calendar.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

5 MR. TATUM: We would then announce
6 that the special election will be held on the
7 November general election and then thus to
8 qualifying period would pick up for the
9 general election which would be June 13.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: And then the entire
12 contest would fall onto the November general
13 election calendar for all the qualifying
14 periods and the challenge period and the like.

15 MEMBER DANZANSKY: In the
16 meantime, we follow the statutory order and
17 petitions and all that. Correct?

18 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

19 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay.

20 MR. TATUM: That's correct. That
21 would -- that includes publishing the vacancy
22 in the register and announcing to the world

1 that the contest is scheduled for July 15th.

2 MEMBER DANZANSKY: And there are
3 other costs associated with that. I assume
4 so.

5 MR. TATUM: There are no costs
6 associated to publishing in the register. I
7 think we have a general -- that's a general
8 account with the register. So.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: But, everything
10 that's done up to that point we might be able
11 to take it off the calendar. We do incur some
12 cost.

13 MR. TATUM: There are some --
14 there are some staff costs obviously --

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Staff costs.

16 MR. TATUM: -- in creating the
17 petitions. I suspect as soon as we -- we know
18 that there are a number of candidates who
19 expressed interest. So, as soon as we make
20 the petitions available, I suspect folks would
21 start coming in, completing declaration pages
22 as well as picking up petitions and various

1 costs associated there. Staff cost and some
2 resources.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Are there -- does
4 this election have to meet the overseas, the
5 Move?

6 MR. TATUM: It doesn't have to
7 meet the --

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Military --

9 MR. TATUM: -- Federal.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: It doesn't have to
12 meet the Federal law in that we wouldn't
13 report anything to the DOJ.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

15 MR. TATUM: But, the District has
16 incorporated the Move Act into local
17 legislation.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

19 MR. TATUM: So, we would still
20 have to meet our military --

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: The time lines.

22 MR. TATUM: The time lines.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Okay.

2 MR. TATUM: As to -- which is 45
3 days. Ballots going out 45 days before the
4 election.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: And will we do
6 early voting or just the election on this?

7 MR. TATUM: Early. Early voting.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: You have to do
9 early voting?

10 MR. TATUM: The question becomes
11 whether we -- the question becomes how many
12 sites we'd open.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see. Okay.

14 MR. TATUM: Whether we'd be --
15 whether there would be a satellite location or
16 we'd just use the one location downstairs.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

18 MR. TATUM: Which will be the in-
19 person location and that would be the only
20 location of early voting.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: But, under the
22 current law on election day, to fill this

1 whenever that day -- if it does not occur with
2 the November general election, we would have
3 to open all precincts --

4 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- in Ward 8.

6 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: All right. All
8 right. Thank you, Mr. Tatum.

9 MR. TATUM: Thank you, Madam
10 Chair.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: We'll move to the
12 next item.

13 MR. TATUM: The next item is an
14 update on the April 1, 2014 election
15 preparation and up until yesterday, things
16 were chugging along rather smoothly I would
17 say. We generated our ballots and our
18 absentee ballots meeting our February 7th,
19 2014 deadline and that included the supplies
20 for absentee envelopes, instructions sheets
21 and we've mailed out over 3,000 absentee
22 ballots to domestic voters as well as 250-plus

1 ballots to military and overseas voters.

2 So, ballot-wise, we've received
3 all of the paper ballots delivered to the
4 warehouse from the vendor. We're going
5 through and dividing the ballots. Accounting
6 for all the ballot orders to make sure we've
7 ordered the -- we've received the correct
8 numbers and we're placing the ballot orders
9 onto what we call the truck delivery schedule
10 so that we can have ballots delivered to the
11 precincts.

12 We conducted L&A on all M100s that
13 are going out on election day and are used for
14 early voting and we've completed the L&A for
15 the iVotronics that are being used for early
16 voting as well as for election day. There are
17 a total of 130 units being used. Those being
18 used for early voting and 286 units -- I'm
19 sorry. Three hundred units being used for
20 election day.

21 Every polling place will receive
22 two iVotronics. There is 12 polling places

1 that will receive three iVotronics and that's
2 based on the captains requesting additional
3 units based on their -- the demand from
4 registered voters there.

5 Voter registration, the deadline
6 to register by mail is March the 14th.
7 Actually, it was March the 4th. The deadline
8 to register in person at the DMV or at our --
9 or at any NVRA location was March the 14th.
10 That has come and gone. We are processing
11 applications into the system, any last minute
12 applications, that came in through the mail
13 postmarked as of the 14th into the system.

14 We're conducting a vote at the
15 jail program and based on the snow that
16 happened on Monday, we weren't able to pick up
17 the applications from those folks. So, we're
18 picking those up today. Those applications
19 will be added into the system and that will be
20 the last of the NVRA applications being added,
21 registered voters being added to the system.

22 Any other voter that wants to

1 register now will have to do so same-day
2 registration at the early voting center or at
3 their polling place on election day.

4 We have -- as part of the early
5 voting process, we have opened One Judiciary
6 Square downstairs for in-person absentee --
7 in-person absentee runs from Monday, March
8 17th through Saturday, March 22nd and then
9 early voting starts March 22nd through March
10 29th with the exception we're closed on
11 Sunday, March 23rd.

12 The early vote center for One
13 Judiciary Square has both paper ballots for
14 every polling place as well as an iVotronic.
15 We were able to program the iVotronics to have
16 every ballot style on a single iVotronic. So,
17 we didn't have to bifurcate any of the
18 iVotronic machines. So, when a voter comes
19 in, they can go any machine and vote their
20 particular precinct ballot.

21 We talked about the early voting
22 queue which demonstrates -- indicates that the

1 wait times at the early vote centers --we've
2 deployed the queue and as of today, it's
3 working well and it shows that the early vote
4 center at One Judiciary Square is open and as
5 of last night, at the close of business
6 yesterday, at the close of the early vote
7 center, we had 158 voters who appeared at the
8 early vote center to vote.

9 As part of the election process
10 yesterday, we did observe and witness what we
11 would describe as an error on the Spanish
12 ballot, electronic Spanish ballot, in that the
13 final page of the electronic Spanish ballot
14 has a misinterpretation if the voter --
15 wherein the voter who has not cast a vote in
16 all of the contests on the ballot receives a
17 message that has been misinterpreted between
18 English and Spanish and so, what we know is
19 that when a voter votes on the touch screen,
20 if they make every selection, the summary
21 screen tells them you've voted your ballot,
22 press confirm and cast your ballot.

1 If you skip a contest, the
2 instruction sheet tells you that you've
3 skipped a contest. The misinterpretation in
4 the case is that you've left your ballot
5 blank. That's an incorrect interpretation.

6 It does not impact the way the
7 machine actually tabulates the votes. The
8 votes -- any selections that the voter has
9 made will be tabulated. The instructions
10 simply misinforms the voter.

11 So, to address that, we have
12 created what we call a Spanish insert that
13 will be handed to every Spanish-speaking voter
14 that wants to vote on the touch screen. That
15 advises them there's a misinterpretation on
16 the last page. This is what it should say and
17 your ballot will be counted regardless of
18 whether you vote every contest or not.

19 We will deploy that Spanish insert
20 to every early vote center and to every
21 polling place to be used on election day. We
22 will also do a press release that announces

1 that there's a misinterpretation and this is
2 how we intend to resolve it.

3 We believe that that will address
4 the misinterpretation, but we'll be prepared
5 to address any questions that actually come
6 forward.

7 We have at the early vote center
8 downstairs sample Spanish paper ballots that
9 we will pass out to the voters that come in
10 that want to vote in Spanish. That gives them
11 the Spanish interpretation of the paper
12 ballot. So, if they prefer to vote a paper
13 ballot, we have the sample Spanish ballot so
14 that they can vote the English paper ballot
15 and we'll do that same thing for the election
16 day voting precincts.

17 The other early vote center sites,
18 they only have iVotronic voting. So, if
19 someone wants to vote a paper ballot at those
20 early voting sites, they'll have to come down
21 to One Judiciary Square or they'll have to
22 wait and go vote on main election day.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: So, not to
2 interpret you but just to be clear, the issue
3 is with the instructions only on the
4 electronic ballot. The paper ballot
5 instructions are accurate.

6 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: But, also, all the
8 votes that you cast whether you cast them on
9 every contests or not will be counted.

10 MR. TATUM: That is correct. That
11 is correct.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Will be counted.

13 MR. TATUM: If you make a
14 selection, it will be counted.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: It will be
16 counted.

17 MR. TATUM: And we conducted L&A
18 launching accuracy on every touch screen unit
19 as well as M100. So, we know that if you make
20 a selection, that vote will be counted
21 regardless of what that written instruction
22 says.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Instruction says
2 and we will have individuals at all of our
3 early voting sites and on election day to make
4 this clear --

5 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- to any of our
7 Spanish-speaking voters who come in and need
8 that kind of clarification.

9 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

12 MEMBER DANZANSKY: And this was a
13 translation issue from English to Spanish on
14 the iVotronic only.

15 MR. TATUM: That is correct. Yes,
16 just a translation issue from English to
17 Spanish.

18 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay. And
19 we're correcting that.

20 MR. TATUM: We can't correct it on
21 the iVotronic. In that, we can't reopen the
22 election database to fix it. So, the most

1 that we can do is to provide them with written
2 instructions that corrects the interpretation.

3 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: But, when it comes
5 to the November general election --

6 MR. TATUM: Yes.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- we will have
8 corrected this issue --

9 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- at that time.

11 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

13 MR. TATUM: For the November
14 general, we will have it corrected. If we end
15 up holding this special July election, we will
16 have it corrected.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. At all the
18 special election.

19 MR. TATUM: It will be corrected
20 as soon as we can --

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: After this
22 primary.

1 MR. TATUM: -- after this primary
2 and I might add that that is the hard-wire
3 language instruction. So, once we correct it,
4 it'll be corrected.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: But, we will proof.
7 We proof every --

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: We'll do a better
9 job on this in the future.

10 MR. TATUM: Absolutely.
11 Absolutely and I'm prepared to apologize to
12 our Spanish-speaking community because it
13 wasn't intentional --

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: No, it's not.

15 MR. TATUM: And I want them to be
16 aware that every vote is precious and we
17 expect every vote to be counted.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Absolutely.

19 MR. TATUM: And we know that every
20 vote that's cast will be counted.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Absolutely.

22 MR. TATUM: The absentee process,

1 as indicated, is moving forward. The deadline
2 to request an absentee ballot is March the
3 25th. As of today, we -- as applications come
4 in, we're turning those applications around
5 within the next business day. So, we're being
6 steadfast in getting the absentee ballot out
7 as quickly as it comes in.

8 The e-Poll Books at the early vote
9 center are operating according to plan. They
10 are syncing with one another and are syncing
11 with what we call the broker here in the
12 accounting center.

13 And at the end of the night, we're
14 able to update the voter registration system
15 with every voter that's voted on election --
16 during early voting so that we will update
17 that list on election day. So, if you voted
18 early voting, it will show that you voted
19 early voting. If you go to your polling place
20 on election day, it will already show that you
21 voted and if you insist that you didn't, you
22 will have to vote a special ballot.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

2 MR. TATUM: And for this election
3 cycle, we've included -- we've added the --
4 well, we've reshaped the signature capture
5 period. So, we'll be able to see every
6 signature that's cast on the early voting to
7 compare that signature from your early voting
8 sign-in to your signature on the special
9 ballot --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: So, we'll be able to
12 see whether -- if perhaps -- we know
13 historically folks have -- not hysterically,
14 but historically some folks have signed in on
15 the wrong line.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Right.
17 Right. Right.

18 MR. TATUM: So, we'll be on the
19 lookout for that.

20 The early vote center connectivity
21 at the satellite locations have been tested
22 and they're ready to go. We will retest them

1 on Thursday and Friday and deploy all
2 equipment to the satellite locations on Friday
3 night for opening on Saturday, the 23nd.

4 All notifications for precinct
5 relocations have been mailed out to voters.
6 So, everyone that had a precinct reassignment
7 or relocation has received notice of that.
8 The website has been updated with notice of
9 those relocations.

10 Voter Guides have been mailed out
11 to every resident in the District.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

13 MR. TATUM: And staff did a good
14 job on the Voter Guide. It contained no
15 errors. I'm pleased to say that and it also
16 lists the precincts that have been relocated.

17 The poll workers are being
18 trained. We obviously missed training a group
19 of captains yesterday because of the snow day.
20 Once the government was closed, the building
21 was closed. So, we didn't have a training
22 class. So, we'll reschedule those captains.

1 We've already rescheduled those captains to
2 later this week and next week and anticipate
3 having all the training completed by Wednesday
4 or Thursday of next week. Which is well in
5 time for the April 1 primary.

6 The media, we've been doing bus
7 signs. So, running on the back of the buses
8 throughout the city. We've placed what we
9 call sandwich boards, the stationary ads, at
10 key locations within the Metro stations. TV
11 PSAs are running. Print -- not print and
12 radio, but radio PSAs will begin --

13 MS. ROBINSON: Actually, they
14 started on March 3rd.

15 MR. TATUM: Okay. So, radio PSAs
16 are running as of March 3rd and print
17 publications will go out on March the 16th.
18 The Washington Post.

19 MS. ROBINSON: Well, the sample
20 ballot will go out on the 16th, but there have
21 been ads that have been running in communities
22 and --

1 MR. TATUM: All right.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: So, that was --
3 the 16th was Sunday.

4 MS. ROBINSON: I believe so.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Print. Okay.
6 Yes. Okay. So, that's already out.

7 MS. ROBINSON: Yes, it should be
8 out.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: So, the local --
11 Tamara, can you give us a quick update of the
12 media, the local media pieces that we've been
13 running.

14 MS. ROBINSON: So --

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Identify yourself
16 for the record. I can see him.

17 MS. ROBINSON: My name is Tamara
18 Robinson T-A-M-A-R-A and I'm the Public
19 Information Officer.

20 So, we've run not necessarily --
21 what we've done is we've done a two-part
22 system. We have the sample ballot that is

1 running in The Washington Post.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

3 MS. ROBINSON: But, we did
4 basically a voter FAQ that has been running in
5 community newspapers such as East of the
6 River, Senior Beacon. Just several varied
7 community based. The Current, The Washington
8 Informer and so, those ads have already run --

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MS. ROBINSON: -- within the last
11 two weeks.

12 MR. TATUM: Great.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

14 MR. TATUM: And The Washington
15 Post will run their large insert on Thursday.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Who's handling our
17 twitter feed?

18 MS. ROBINSON: That is me.

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: That's you.

20 MS. ROBINSON: Yes, that's me.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Great job.

22 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

1 MR. TATUM: Twitter is -- we're
2 getting really good feedback on Twitter as
3 you're seeing.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: Good. Good. Yes.
5 Yes.

6 MR. TATUM: And Tamara's doing a
7 great job of steering the communication the
8 way it needs to go.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Great.

10 MR. TATUM: Someone that wants to
11 air some complaint, she's asking them to
12 communicate directly with us. But, otherwise,
13 she's doing a great job.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, all of a
15 sudden my @DCBOEE went live and I just kept
16 getting a lot of them. You got a lot of
17 compliments also --

18 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- for the Voter
20 Guide and BOE being open on time. Well, not
21 -- in spite of the snow I should say for the
22 beginning of early voting. So, all that has

1 been good news. Very good job.

2 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

3 MR. TATUM: And she might add
4 she's ramping up for election day and we'll
5 have --

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Great.

7 MR. TATUM: -- some additional
8 support coming in to assist for the Twitter --
9 Twitter --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: I'm sure. Yes.

11 MS. ROBINSON: Right. Absolutely.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: That'll tie you
13 down if you don't.

14 MR. TATUM: So, as we mentioned,
15 outreach is going forward. Kathy Fairley is
16 visiting senior citizens' locations taking
17 absentee ballots to those folks that -- to
18 those facilities that, number one, always asks
19 for those there. Some of them that are
20 permanent requesters and then there are some
21 new additions that have been added.

22 We have two schools that have

1 contacted us to place students at some of the
2 polling places on election day and I think
3 that's Chavez and there's the other school
4 that I can't recall a particular name, but
5 there's two. We're going to -- Tamara's going
6 to focus on expanding the school outreach
7 after this primary election to all of the high
8 schools to try to get them involved.

9 Poll watchers are being issued
10 badges. I think today -- yes, today was the
11 last day to request poll watcher badges and
12 we've seen a number of candidates who has
13 requested a good number of poll worker badges
14 and we anticipate those folks to be at the
15 early vote centers as well as at the polling
16 places on election day.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Is there a way we
18 could get a list of who those individuals are?
19 I think at least for -- for me when I got to
20 the -- visiting the polling places that folks
21 were kind of walking in and not that I would
22 know these people personally, but to have an

1 idea of who these individuals are as a Member
2 of the Board would help me out a lot when we
3 get some feedback from precinct captains, you
4 know, on some of the activities that may be
5 occurring if we'd know names, you know.

6 MR. TATUM: And there is a list
7 that's created. In fact, we publish a list
8 of --

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: -- poll watchers that
11 are -- am I saying that right? Do we --

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Poll watchers.

13 MR. TATUM: No, this is poll
14 workers.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Poll workers or
16 poll --

17 MR. TATUM: We reject poll
18 watchers. Did we ever reject poll watchers?

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: And that's what we
20 get feedback on from some of the precinct
21 captains who find it difficult to control the
22 poll watchers.

1 MR. TATUM: Yes.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: I want poll
3 watchers not --

4 MR. TATUM: Yes.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- not poll
6 workers.

7 MR. TATUM: The poll watchers.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: The poll watchers.

9 MR. TATUM: The poll watchers.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: To know who they
11 are so that, you know, for example, when a
12 poll captain expresses concern about a poll
13 watcher, we can see if that poll watchers name
14 appears on the list of people that you have
15 certified.

16 MR. TATUM: Yes. That's correct.
17 Yes.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Because I'm
19 getting the sense sometimes that they are not
20 -- that they are kind of informal poll
21 watchers that have not been issued any kind of
22 badges, but have taken it upon themselves to

1 come and police their -- whoever they are
2 representing. That count on the machine.
3 Okay.

4 MR. TATUM: We will do that. Yes,
5 we can do --

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Yes, just so
7 we can --

8 MR. TATUM: Yes, we should.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Great.

10 MR. TATUM: Okay. And that -- I'm
11 sure I could go on and on and on, but --

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Well, go on and on
13 and on.

14 MR. TATUM: The call center will
15 be functioning on Saturday for all of the
16 early vote centers. So, that the captain --
17 the site coordinators who are running the
18 early voting sites if they are -- if they need
19 assistance, they can call down to the call
20 center and we have operators who will be
21 manning the call center to take those calls.

22 We've tested payroll for all the

1 poll workers and the call center workers, the
2 early voting center workers. Treasury
3 actually processes payroll for us. So, we
4 give them a list of all the workers who should
5 receive a pay check and we work that system
6 down to where the Treasury is returning -- is
7 turning around the pay to workers within a
8 week --

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: -- of working the
11 election. So, we're checking, dotting our i's
12 and crossing our t's on the final preparations
13 for the election day. Obviously, as early
14 voting closes on next Saturday the 29th, we'll
15 spend Saturday night and Sunday finalizing the
16 e-Poll Books for election day and there's
17 roughly 600 e-Poll Books that we have to
18 finalize during that window of time and we'll
19 then pack the trucks on Sunday to go to the
20 parking lot to spend the night Sunday and then
21 Monday we deliver those. Monday, the 31st,
22 we'll deliver all the supplies, the voting

1 equipment to the precincts for a Tuesday
2 election.

3 I mentioned and showed to the
4 Board an equipment cart that we were using to
5 transport the iVotronics out to the early
6 voting centers and staff recommended that we
7 run that in a pilot program just to insure
8 that its going to work --

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

10 MR. TATUM: -- successfully at the
11 polling place. So, there are ten precincts
12 that will have the iVote cart function at its
13 location and we'll give you list of those ten
14 voting sites --

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

16 MR. TATUM: -- so that you can see
17 how that new layout will --

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Very good.

19 MR. TATUM: -- work for us and
20 then based on how -- the feedback that we get
21 from that, that'll tell us how to deploy them
22 to the rest of the polling places and we know

1 that there's at least 20 polling places that
2 is not big enough. They aren't big enough for
3 the cart to fit.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. I can
5 imagine.

6 MR. TATUM: So, in those
7 instances, the three -- two or three iVote
8 will just be handcarried in and stand alone on
9 their legs.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Like the old --
11 like they have traditionally.

12 MR. TATUM: That's correct.
13 That's correct.

14 MEMBER DANZANSKY: And we'll know
15 in advance what those precincts are?

16 MR. TATUM: Yes. Yes.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. They'll give
18 us --

19 MR. TATUM: We'll give you a list
20 of what those precincts are.

21 MEMBER DANZANSKY: So, when we
22 take our tours, we can maybe see one or two in

1 operation?

2 MR. TATUM: That's correct.

3 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Okay.

4 MR. TATUM: That's correct. The
5 training, the captain's training, was --
6 training is going very well I might add with
7 the exception of the missed snow days. This
8 has been probably one of the heaviest snow
9 periods that we've had while training. So,
10 we've lost a couple of days, but make-ups have
11 been going rather well.

12 The captain's class was
13 restructured to Saturday. So, we're training
14 all the captains on Saturdays and as opposed
15 to the captains going into one room and being
16 trained on all the positions by one person, we
17 have changed the program to a rotation basis
18 so that we divide the captains into groups of
19 ten to 12 to 15 and we ship them from one
20 class to the next class. So, as a check-in --
21 the check-in is a speciality class. The
22 captains rotate the check-in.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

2 MR. TATUM: And then from check-
3 in, they go to ballot.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

5 MR. TATUM: And then from ballot,
6 they go to special ballot. So --

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Oh, they
8 basically follow the procedure in their
9 training.

10 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

12 MR. TATUM: And we're getting
13 really good feedback from the captains on
14 changing that format which helps them with
15 their attention spans. Sitting in one room
16 hearing the same person has been very
17 monotonous for them. So, we're having them
18 complete surveys. That gives us feedback on
19 how to improve the process. So, we're seeing
20 a really good feedback. I think we're going
21 to see captains perform a lot better.

22 We've added in precinct management

1 for personnel. We've added in logistics, line
2 management techniques. So that if we do get
3 lines at any of the polling places, we've
4 addressed some of the points that they should
5 consider.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Line
7 management.

8 MR. TATUM: Line management.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

10 MR. TATUM: So, we've -- the team
11 has done a good job in identifying changing
12 the curriculum to assist -- to better prepare
13 our captains for election day.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

15 MR. TATUM: So, that's one of the
16 biggest changes that we've had in the training
17 program and we've met our goals of -- I think
18 we've assigned 1600 and some voters -- workers
19 to work election day.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: How many?

21 MR. TATUM: I don't know the exact
22 number, but I'll --

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

2 MR. TATUM: -- supplement the
3 record with that. I think it's 1680, but I
4 know it's 1600.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: We've recruited those
7 folks and now, we're trying to get the last
8 300 of those folks trained. So, we're on
9 schedule.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: And that's for
11 election day or for --

12 MR. TATUM: On election day.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

14 MR. TATUM: All the workers for
15 early voting have been trained.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. So, they're
17 in place. We -- for the early voting sites,
18 we set up site coordinators. In the past,
19 we've used staff to manage those sites. We
20 now have teams of two site coordinators who
21 were working interchangeably to manage the
22 site and then staff is available to bounce

1 from site to site to provide assistance if
2 they need.

3 MR. TATUM: The newer sites will
4 have staff that's appointed, that's assigned
5 to make sure that the new sites are working
6 according to plan, but we're feeling
7 comfortable with the site coordinators and
8 their ability to manage --

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: How do they differ
10 from area refs?

11 MR. TATUM: The site coordinator
12 is assigned specifically to --

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: A specific
14 precinct or voting --

15 MR. TATUM: To an early vote
16 center. That's correct.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Early vote. Is it
18 just early voting?

19 MR. TATUM: Just early voting.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

21 MR. TATUM: And that's a good
22 question though. Some of our site

1 coordinators actually are -- they serve as our
2 area reps on election day.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

4 MR. TATUM: But, the area rep on
5 election day is assigned five precincts.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: I know.

7 MR. TATUM: And they bounce from
8 -- in the past, they've been assigned to
9 eight. So, we've reduced that number.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

11 MR. TATUM: We've increased the
12 number of area reps. So, they'll go to five.
13 They'll support five precincts with whatever
14 supplies, manpower.

15 We have -- we've recruited a
16 number of standby workers if we have some no
17 shows on election morning. Then we got -- I
18 think we've recruited over 100 workers to be
19 on standby --

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

21 MR. TATUM: -- to be sent out to
22 the polling places if there's a shortage and

1 we've rented a number of vans to be able to
2 transport those workers out to those
3 locations. So, those workers will report here
4 and be on site to be sent out if we need to.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: And I think, you
6 know, that this is one of the challenges that
7 we face. We'll see how it goes in this
8 primary, but one of the issues that we saw
9 with the site coordinators, not them per se,
10 but that whole process or operation on
11 election day in November with the difficulty
12 that site coordinators -- area reps, I'm
13 sorry, the area reps encounter when they have
14 to go from one part of the city to get
15 supplies and try to get back to their set of
16 precincts that they are servicing and the time
17 it takes because of traffic, parking.

18 Just a -- and so, that is just one
19 of the logistical issues I think that this
20 Board and Agency are going to have to face in
21 the future as to whether there's a more
22 workable solution for that or can we get more

1 cooperation from the MPD or, you know, some
2 other District agency on the --

3 MR. TATUM: I'm glad you said
4 that. We did address that to some degree.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: So, based on -- we do
7 a projection of what we believe the voter
8 turnout will be at each of those precincts.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

10 MR. TATUM: And we have directed
11 the warehouse to provide the supplies specific
12 to that number of registered voters as opposed
13 to a supply schedule.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

15 MR. TATUM: So, there's more
16 supplies going out to each of those polling
17 places now.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Up front.

19 MR. TATUM: Up front.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Up front. Okay.

21 MR. TATUM: Up front. So, that
22 we'll have it and then the area reps still

1 have a supply --

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: On their trucks.

3 MR. TATUM: On their trucks.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

5 MR. TATUM: So, right out of the
6 gate, we should be able to handle more volume
7 requests than we have in the past.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

9 MR. TATUM: And then the area reps
10 will not have to serve as many polling places.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Correct. Yes.

12 MR. TATUM: So, then we'll be able
13 to get around to the --

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Quicker.

15 MR. TATUM: -- fewer polling
16 places quicker.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Okay.

18 MR. TATUM: Yes, and with the idea
19 that as you go to -- as you stop at your first
20 polling place, early morning, there won't be
21 a run on supplies, but as you make your second
22 and third stop, you should be assessing their

1 supplies.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

3 MR. TATUM: And specifically for
4 that November election, it was the special
5 ballot envelopes that we ran out of.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: That were -- yes.

7 MR. TATUM: So, we have quadrupled
8 to a trillion. Don't put that in the record.
9 We have hundreds of thousands of special
10 ballot envelopes at the warehouse.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

12 MR. TATUM: So, we will not run
13 short of special ballot envelopes, but we also
14 don't anticipate the special ballot turnout
15 like we have in the past.

16 We've been working the address
17 change with DMV. The online address change
18 with DMV --

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. Okay.

20 MR. TATUM: -- to the voter
21 registration system.

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Oh, okay.

1 MR. TATUM: So --

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: So, that should
3 help streamline that process.

4 MR. TATUM: -- we're picking up --
5 that's right. We're picking up more change of
6 addresses than we have in the past.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

8 MR. TATUM: So, we shouldn't see
9 that same level of special ballot because of
10 the address changes. There will be some.
11 But, it should not be as much.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Now, my next
13 question is this. Do we have enough English
14 speaking -- I mean English language I voted
15 stickers --

16 MR. TATUM: Yes.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- at all --
18 available to all the precincts, early voting
19 sites as well as our Spanish language?

20 MR. TATUM: Yes. Yes, we do. We
21 identified that the number of I voted stickers
22 in English matched the number of projected

1 voters. Come out.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. And a few
3 extra.

4 MR. TATUM: And a few extra.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: And the area reps also
7 have those on their trucks.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: On their trucks.

9 MR. TATUM: That's right.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: So, we know that each
12 then got the I voted English and the I voted
13 Spanish.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

15 MR. TATUM: So, we not see the
16 running out of stickers.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: In the proper --

18 MR. TATUM: In the --

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- requested --

20 MR. TATUM: That's correct.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Or in the
22 requested language.

1 MR. TATUM: In the requested
2 language.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. So, there
4 should be enough of both --

5 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- at each
7 precinct.

8 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: That is correct.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Any other
12 questions? Any questions, Mr. Danzansky?

13 MEMBER DANZANSKY: No, that's --

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: You have any more?
15 I mean you can go on and on because I --

16 MR. TATUM: Which I think that
17 highlights the --

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: The major areas.

19 MR. TATUM: -- the major areas.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

21 MR. TATUM: And the major areas
22 that we realize we needed to refocus on.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

2 MR. TATUM: And the -- it was
3 apropos for the I voted sticker because that's
4 the end of the process.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Exactly.

6 MR. TATUM: They're walking out of
7 the polling place with I voted sticker.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Exactly.

9 MR. TATUM: And I think that's as
10 good --

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Now, well, one
12 other thing I want to bring up is the curbside
13 voting and the bells. I know that there have
14 been some issues in the past about the
15 distance between the bell and the actual
16 location of the buzzer in the precinct with --
17 connectivity has been an issue, you know, and
18 so, how have we -- or the bells didn't work.
19 The buzzers didn't work at all.

20 MR. TATUM: So, we -- another good
21 question. We revisited the curbside voting
22 process and we created larger signs first of

1 all --

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

3 MR. TATUM: -- for curbside
4 voting.

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: So, it's a different
7 billboard that stands higher than it has in
8 the past.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: Shows this is curbside
11 voting.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

13 MR. TATUM: And there's still the
14 orange cones that go out.

15 The curbside bell is a misnomer.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

17 MR. TATUM: The bell should never
18 have been at the curbside.

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

20 MR. TATUM: The bell is supposed
21 to be set at the entrance of the building
22 where the door that needs assistance. Where

1 someone needs assistance --

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. I see.
3 Okay.

4 MR. TATUM: -- rings the bell.
5 So, that puts the bell that much closer to the
6 voting center.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

8 MR. TATUM: So, the signal should
9 travel properly to alert the inside bell.

10 So, when curbside pulls up, they
11 aren't ringing a bell.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

13 MR. TATUM: Our voter assistance
14 clerk is walking back and forth to curbside to
15 process those voters.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

17 MR. TATUM: If a disabled voter is
18 traveling to the polling place and they need
19 to press the bell, the bell is by the door by
20 the disabled entrance.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

22 MR. TATUM: So, that they can

1 press the bell to ring -- press the button to
2 ring the bell on the inside.

3 We've had the teams check all the
4 batteries --

5 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

6 MR. TATUM: -- in each of the --
7 each of the machines. An interesting note,
8 what I didn't realize and I'm not sure why, as
9 we pack batteries -- as we load batteries into
10 those units, somehow, I'm not sure why, but
11 the batteries are corroding very quickly.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Really.

13 MR. TATUM: Yes, so, replacing the
14 batteries days before the election is
15 important.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Okay.

17 MR. TATUM: That has a direct
18 impact on the functionality of the bell. I'm
19 not sure why that is. It may be that we need
20 to switch to another product. But, that's
21 been identified as what one of the issues is
22 and we'll -- and so, we're keeping an eye on

1 that.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

3 MR. TATUM: We've changed some of
4 the signage at the polling places to be bigger
5 for curbside as well as bigger for the
6 disability entrance. So, it's a much bigger
7 sign that has multi-colors, red -- I think
8 it's red, white, blue. So, we should not have
9 any complaints that folks weren't able to
10 identify the early -- the disability/handicap
11 entrance.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

13 MR. TATUM: For the precincts that
14 have been relocated from one location to the
15 next, we have created signs. We have two
16 signs. That'll be placed at each of those
17 locations and our staff has been instructed to
18 take pictures of those signs when they post
19 them on the old precinct. So, and they've
20 been instructed to send those pictures to
21 Tamara and to --

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

1 MR. TATUM: -- our voter
2 registrar.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

4 MR. TATUM: So, that we can say we
5 posted them. If someone else pulled them down
6 after we posted them, that's fine.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

8 MR. TATUM: But, we'll go back and
9 put up another sign.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. Right.

11 MR. TATUM: So, and we know that
12 happens. Some of the old precincts, they take
13 the signs down. We're not sure why.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: You don't know who
15 or why?

16 MR. TATUM: We don't. We don't
17 know who or why they disappear. But, we're
18 prepared to go back and put the signs up.

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

20 MR. TATUM: And the teams have
21 been instructed make sure you check those
22 signs --

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

2 MR. TATUM: -- election day to
3 make sure the signs are still there.

4 CHAIR NICHOLS: And they're posted
5 on the doors, the entrances to these
6 facilities?

7 MR. TATUM: The entrance to the --
8 on the wall.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

10 MR. TATUM: Some of the facilities
11 may -- if they're doing something else, they
12 may prop their door open.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

14 MR. TATUM: They may not want us
15 to have that sign on the door. Which may be
16 why some of them have come down in the past.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Down.

18 MR. TATUM: So, we're posting in a
19 conspicuous area so that they can be seen.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

21 MR. MCGHIE: I just want to make
22 sure I'm clear. So, we're going to have a

1 worker that's going to be at the curb that's
2 going to go --

3 MR. TATUM: Push the bell.

4 MR. MCGHIE: -- that's going to be
5 walking back and forth?

6 MR. TATUM: Walking back and forth
7 for curbside and then if the bell rings,
8 there's two voter assistance clerks in each
9 polling place. So, one voter assistance clerk
10 will rotate in and out watching the curbside
11 for the people that drive up in their car and
12 the other will be assisting voters on the
13 inside and then they'll keep an eye on the
14 entrance-way. If the bell rings, they know to
15 go to where the door is to open the door.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: And that's in each
17 precinct?

18 MR. TATUM: That's in each
19 precinct.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. So, I
21 should -- when I roll up, I should be able to
22 see --

1 MR. TATUM: That's correct.

2 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- two people
3 standing out front.

4 MR. TATUM: Not standing out
5 front, but because there's a --

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

7 MR. TATUM: There's a table on the
8 inside. So, there's a station on the inside.
9 But, you should see a worker that's working
10 back and forth between the outside and inside.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Because we
12 said at curbside.

13 MR. MCGHIE: So, there's going to
14 be at least one person outside at all times.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: And I think
16 therein lies the issue.

17 MR. TATUM: Therein lies the
18 issues. So, for curbside, most of the
19 precincts you can see when someone pulls up.
20 So, once someone pulls up, the voter
21 assistance clerk then takes the sign-in sheet
22 out to the car and starts processing the

1 voter.

2 For accessible entrance-way,
3 there's some back and forth, but no one is
4 stationed right there to watch. So, as voters
5 are coming in to use the bell, the bell will
6 alert the VAC that she should go help open the
7 door or help the person in to the door.

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

9 MR. MCGHIE: Yes, I'm thinking
10 about the person that just drives up.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. That is
12 not --

13 MR. MCGHIE: That's not coming out
14 their car.

15 MR. TATUM: Right.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: To push that bell.

17 MR. TATUM: So, as I understand
18 the practice, the in and out checking the
19 curbside would not have someone sitting there
20 for any considerable amount of time waiting
21 for someone to come out and check.

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Somebody has to

1 make contact with somebody in the --

2 MR. TATUM: Yes.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- the precinct
4 captain --

5 MR. TATUM: Yes.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: -- to say that
7 there is someone at curbside, but we don't --
8 I've not seen that work well at some
9 precincts. I've seen it work, but I've not
10 seen it work well at some precincts.

11 And I tell you one is my precinct
12 where they got notice that there was someone
13 at curbside who wanted to vote at curbside and
14 the person who was checking people in -- one
15 of the persons who was checking people in got
16 up, went to curbside with the voting material
17 that she needed which meant that there was
18 nobody there taking her place to continue
19 check-in.

20 So, I think that staffing
21 complement is one thing and how many people
22 you have on staff and whether everybody shows

1 up that you don't have sometimes that person
2 who is kind of a swing person that is
3 available, you know, to constantly be back and
4 forth checking to see and handle that.

5 MR. TATUM: And that is -- you've
6 hit the nail on the head. If everyone shows
7 up, if every worker shows up as they should,
8 there will be two voter assistance clerks
9 working voter assistance who will be curbside
10 and assisting voters in and out of the
11 precinct and with any other assistance that
12 they need in the polling place.

13 If someone doesn't show up, we do
14 see that the captain will rotate people around
15 to cover the --

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

17 MR. TATUM: -- lower area. So,
18 what should happen is as the captain has
19 people that didn't show up, they call us. We
20 send out replacements.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

22 MR. TATUM: So that they don't get

1 caught short. But, you're right. We do see
2 that some precincts get caught short.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

4 MR. TATUM: And then they make do
5 with what they have.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. And that
7 impacts sometimes the rest of the process.

8 MR. TATUM: That is exactly right.

9 CHAIR NICHOLS: You know, which,
10 you know, leads me back to that that's an
11 issue, a performance issue that we need to
12 just work on a little better to figure out how
13 to do it that it's more effective.

14 MR. TATUM: That's exactly right.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, you know.

16 MR. TATUM: Typically, we see
17 about --

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: But, we'll keep an
19 eye on that. Yes.

20 MR. TATUM: Typically, we see
21 about ten to 20 curbside voters per election.
22 Some precincts don't have any.

1 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Ten to 20
2 altogether?

3 MR. TATUM: Altogether.

4 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Citywide?

5 MR. TATUM: No. No. No, per
6 polling place.

7 MEMBER DANZANSKY: Per voting --

8 MR. TATUM: Per polling place.
9 Per polling place.

10 Some have more than others, but
11 you're right. It's a balancing act for us in
12 terms of personnel.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Yes.

14 MR. TATUM: One of the things that
15 we -- one of the new programs that we're going
16 to implement is to work with -- attempt to
17 recruit veterans --

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

19 MR. TATUM: -- to work at the
20 polling places --

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

22 MR. TATUM: -- as another source

1 of personnel who can work for us and we
2 haven't fully designed that as of yet, but in
3 working with UDC, part of that training
4 program was to incorporate a veterans' program
5 into that platform so that we have a
6 continuous flow of workers.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

8 MR. TATUM: People who are willing
9 to work --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

11 MR. TATUM: -- and able to work.

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

13 MR. TATUM: So.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: So, that is one of
15 the areas.

16 MR. TATUM: Yes.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, that I know
18 we've been struggling. Okay. Anything else?

19 MR. TATUM: Election night,
20 election night itself, we have the website.
21 As we display the election results in the
22 previous election, we have the -- Datanet is

1 setting up the website to display. The
2 website is there, but we'll test the file to
3 insure that it displays those accurately on
4 election night.

5 We'll have the same set-up with
6 the media observation room here in the Board
7 hearing room. We'll have the conference room
8 set up for the Board Members to review the
9 results as they come in.

10 We have election night support
11 from our ES&S vendor. There will be four
12 individuals who will be here to assist on
13 election night and that includes with
14 tabulation and shutting down of the early vote
15 machines during the election day.

16 The early vote results will be the
17 first results that'll be posted on election
18 night and we have -- with the increase of the
19 area reps and technical rovers, we anticipate
20 each rover is assigned to a smaller number of
21 precincts so that they -- on paper, they
22 should be able to get the results back down to

1 us faster. Caveat to that, each precinct now
2 will be closing two iVotes instead of one.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

4 MR. TATUM: So, there will be a
5 little bit of -- I anticipate that they'll be
6 a little bit of delay in getting those results
7 down to us because now they're closing more --

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

9 MR. TATUM: -- machines than they
10 have in the past.

11 The tech rovers will be assisting
12 the captains. We identify the captains who we
13 anticipate -- which precincts will need some
14 support in closing those machines and we
15 measure that throughout the day with how
16 effective the captain is performing with
17 changing the roll on the iVotronics.

18 The M100s is the turning of a key.
19 So, that's not a big deal for us there.

20 As always has happened in the
21 past, somehow there's a captain who does close
22 a machine down properly. Which means we don't

1 get those iVote results back to us election
2 night and we arrange with PSD to or Public
3 Works to try to get into some of those public
4 facilities to get the results that night, but
5 if we don't, we'll get the results. We'll
6 print. We'll run the paper results that night
7 and if we have to go back, we'll run the
8 iVotronic results the next morning.

9 It seems to always happen. That's
10 one of the performance measures that we've put
11 into place for our captains, but with their
12 being two iVotes this time, I'm being
13 cautiously optimistic.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

15 MR. TATUM: So, that's election
16 night. If all goes as expected, we should be
17 out of here by 11:15/11:30.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

19 MR. TATUM: Eight mayoral
20 candidates on the ballot. As well as the
21 State Committee -- Democratic State Committee
22 folks, there'll be a large number of folks in

1 the viewing room to see the process. Some of
2 the candidates may want to come back and watch
3 the tabulation of the votes as they have in
4 the past. So, we'll have that set up as well
5 so that they can look through the glass.
6 We'll raise the windows and clean the glass to
7 insure that -- the shades and clean the glass
8 so that they can see in. We still don't have
9 the space back there to allow --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right. Yes.

11 MR. TATUM: -- folks into the
12 room.

13 So, we've had the 650s tested to
14 run the absentee ballots and the special
15 ballots.

16 Absentees, they have until April
17 the 11th to come into the voting -- into our
18 -- back to our office. They have to be
19 postmarked by election day, April 1.

20 Special ballots, we start
21 processing immediately after the election to
22 be completed by the following Tuesday and we

1 post those -- any special ballots that have
2 been rejected onto the website so those folks
3 can appeal the rejection of their special
4 ballot.

5 And we anticipate counting
6 specials and absentees on April the 9th and
7 10th so that on the 11th there are just
8 straggler absentees coming in.

9 All the specials should be
10 completed, but the absentees that come in
11 through the mail on that April 11th will be
12 processed.

13 At the end of the day, we should
14 have all the preliminary -- preliminary
15 results will go out April 1 and all of the
16 preliminary results including absentees should
17 be completed by April the 11th.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: And the machine,
19 the 16 --

20 MR. TATUM: Six fifties.

21 CHAIR NICHOLS: They all work?

22 MR. TATUM: They all work.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. All right.

2 MR. TATUM: We've had ES&S on site
3 to provide technical support and they'll be
4 here on that tabulation day as well to assist
5 with reading the absentees in case we have any
6 problem.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. All right.

8 MR. TATUM: The post-election
9 audit is scheduled for the -- the 11th, 12,
10 13, 14 -- for the 15th, 16th, 17th. Which
11 then would place us on having the
12 certification of the election on I believe --
13 I'm sorry. I have it on my calendar here.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: The 24th I think.
15 The 24th.

16 MR. TATUM: The 24th.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes.

18 MR. TATUM: Yes, so, the --
19 there's a tentative Board meeting scheduled
20 for the 14th to certify the election.

21 And looking at this calendar
22 brings me back to the certification of the

1 special ballot, the special Ward 8 contest.
2 The challenge period actually falls -- Easter
3 Sunday falls within that challenge period. We
4 initially thought it was going to catch Palm
5 Sunday, too, but it did not. If the contest
6 is not removed to the November ballot, I would
7 like to talk to the Board about us being
8 closed on that Easter Sunday. Which means we
9 would then extend the challenge period for one
10 more day which would not impact the election
11 or the schedule of the election. For
12 consideration I would just say.

13 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. All right.

14 MR. TATUM: It crossed my mind as
15 I saw that. I know that a number of staff
16 have indicated their concerns about that and
17 I'm sensitive to that. So.

18 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes. Okay.

19 MR. TATUM: And if all goes
20 according to plan, we will certify the
21 election on April the 24th and then, I'm
22 sorry, I can go on vacation on April the 25th.

1 CHAIR NICHOLS: I know. Yes, well
2 deserved.

3 MR. TATUM: I might add -- I
4 should add that in both the Republican -- in
5 not both, but in the Republican, Statehood,
6 Green and Libertarian primaries, there are a
7 number of contests with no candidate. Which
8 means we anticipate a large number of write-
9 ins.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

11 MR. TATUM: Write-ins cause us --

12 CHAIR NICHOLS: A lot of grief.

13 MR. TATUM: -- a lot of grief and
14 delay in how we process those write-ins and
15 typically, I have to say this very gingerly
16 and if you can, please backstop me here. In
17 a contested election, write-ins are not
18 counted if there aren't enough write-ins to
19 defeat the candidate on the ballot.

20 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see, but you
21 have to count them.

22 MR. TATUM: Well, the machine

1 tells us. So, it'll tell us that there's 100
2 write-ins.

3 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

4 MR. TATUM: It doesn't tell us who
5 they're for.

6 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. Okay.

7 MR. TATUM: On the inward --

8 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

9 MR. TATUM: It just tells us that
10 there's 100.

11 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

12 MR. TATUM: So, we know that 100
13 won't beat 1,000.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: Right.

15 MR. TATUM: So, we don't process
16 those.

17 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

18 MR. TATUM: But, as it relates to
19 the down ballot contest and where there aren't
20 any contested contests, we're going to have a
21 go with write-ins.

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

1 MR. TATUM: And there will be
2 write-ins for every -- almost every contest on
3 the Republican, Statehood, Green and
4 Libertarians. So, I just wanted to make the
5 Board aware of that.

6 We have an electronic -- that
7 should say electronic, but a laptop kind of
8 system that we've used and we generated
9 separation -- paper separation, but it's --

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. By the
11 party?

12 MR. TATUM: By party and by write-
13 in.

14 CHAIR NICHOLS: I see.

15 MR. TATUM: By contest.

16 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. So.

17 MR. TATUM: We -- it's an Excel
18 sheet and a drop number. It's an Excel sheet.

19 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay.

20 MR. TATUM: And in fact, that --
21 so, it's a pass -- it's a tedious process.

22 CHAIR NICHOLS: Yes, I can

1 imagine.

2 MR. TATUM: And then as we get
3 into the post-selection audit, it'll be just
4 that more tedious to have to deal with the
5 write-ins and the rolls that have the write-in
6 vote. So, it could take us some time.

7 CHAIR NICHOLS: Okay. We'll be
8 sensitive to that. I hope for the best.

9 MR. TATUM: Hope for the best.

10 CHAIR NICHOLS: Any questions, Mr.
11 Danzansky?

12 MEMBER DANZANSKY: No, that was a
13 very complete report. Thank you, Mr. Tatum,
14 very much.

15 CHAIR NICHOLS: All right. There
16 being no further business before us, this
17 meeting is adjourned. The time is 11:41 a.m.,
18 Tuesday, March 18th, 2014.

19 (Whereupon, at 11:41 a.m., the
20 meeting was adjourned.)

21

22

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Special Board Meeting

Before: Board of Elections

Date: 03-18-2014

Place: Washington, D.C.

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