

General Registrar's & Electoral Board Workgroup

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2 Minutes

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4 The meeting was called to order on July 27, 2015, at 2:00PM by Co-Chair Jean Jensen
5 and Co-Chair John Hager. Attending were electoral board (EBs) members William
6 Bell, Bill Thomas, Renee Andrews, and Robin Lind; general registrar's (GRs) Tracy
7 Howard, Larry Haake, and Barbara Gunter. Representing SBE was Vice Chair Clara
8 Belle Wheeler. Charles E. Judd, Ex-Officio was present and the Department of
9 Elections (ELECT) was represented by Rose Mansfield, ELECT Board Liaison and
10 Martha Brissette, ELECT Policy Analyst; and members of the public.

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12 Co-Chair Jensen submitted the GREB Workgroup Minutes for approval from the June
13 30, 2015 meeting to the members. Mr. Judd *moved that the Minutes be approved as*
14 *submitted.* Mr. Haake seconded the motion and the GREB Workgroup Members
15 unanimously approved the Minutes.

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17 The first order of old business was the "Interim Report to SBE" presented by Tracy
18 Howard and Barbara Gunter. Ms. Gunter acknowledged the efforts of Mr. Haake in
19 assisting in the final preparation of the interim report. Mr. Howard presented the
20 report to the members with added emphasis on the highlights to be presented at the
21 SBE Board Meeting on July 28, 2015. Discussion ensued among members about the
22 particulars of the report. Mr. Judd recommended taking the percentages and dollar
23 figures associated to the rising demands and costs of conducting elections and
24 equate them to the number of man-hours required to conduct the current functions
25 of the general registrar's office.

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27 Co-Chair Hager asked the workgroup if there were desired actions expected from
28 SBE as a result of the presentation to be conducted during their meeting on July 28,
29 2015. Ms. Gunter stated that the requirement of the workgroup was to present the
30 interim report at the meeting. Ms. Gunter remarked that the focus after the SBE
31 meeting would be to prepare for the next assembly of legislative members in
32 Richmond. Mr. Judd confirmed that the ELECT Commissioner would take the
33 recommendations of the workgroup to the budget committee for consideration. Co-
34 Chair Jensen stated that an underlying issue, that will stall the workgroup
35 recommendations, is the monetary issues and the reductions that the localities and
36 ELECT have experienced over the last couple of years. Mr. Lind moved that SBE
37 direct ELECT to send the GREB interim report to the Secretary of Administration,
38 the House Appropriations Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee to begin
39 immediate discussions on the critical budget shortfalls in election administration
40 that have been identified by the workgroup at this time. Ms. Andrews seconded the
41 motion and the workgroup unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Thomas
42 recommended that courtesy copies be sent to the Senate and the Speaker of the
43 House.

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45 Co-Chair Hager asked if there were any items for discussion under Other Business.
46 Ms. Brissette stated that at the workgroup meeting on June 30, 2015 two issues

47 were presented for further research: (i) what role SBE has in directing financial
48 reimbursements and (ii) does an action taken by a previous board carry to the next
49 sitting board or will there be a need to take an official action. Ms. Brissette stated
50 that the research and opinions of the Attorney General's office indicated that the
51 actions taken by a previous board would not be carried and that a separate
52 resolution for the workgroup would be required by the current SBE Board. Ms.
53 Brissette stated that on the topic of the budget; a handout reviewing the percentages
54 of local reimbursement was provided to workgroup members. Ms. Brissette asked if
55 there were questions and there were none.

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57 Co-Chair Hager asked if there was additional business to come before the
58 workgroup. Mr. Haake reminded workgroup members that the proposed changes to
59 the *Code* (to reflect the efforts of GREB Workgroup) will be an agenda item at the
60 next workgroup meeting. Co-Chair Hager asked if there was additional business and
61 there was none. Co-Chair Hager open the floor to public comment. General public
62 comments and questions were received by workgroup members.

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64 Co-Chair Hager asked if there were any further comments and there were none. Mr.
65 Lind moved *that the workgroup adjourn*. Mr. Bell seconded the motion and the
66 workgroup unanimously approved the motion.

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68 The next meeting of the GREB Workgroup is set for September 1, 2015 at 10:00 AM
69 in the General Assembly Building, Richmond, Room C, Virginia 23219.

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71 There being no further business, the GREB Workgroup adjourned at 3:40PM.

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75 Co-Chair Jean Jensen

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80 Co-Chair John Hager