

St. Mary's County Board of Elections

23250 Leonardtown Hollywood Road
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Special Board Meeting Minutes of 12 April 2024

Present:

Board Members:

Rebecca Wathen, Board President (D)
Mary Coombs, Board Secretary (R)
Jack Payne, Member (R)
Darlene Johnson, Member (D)
Ann Raley, Member (D)

Staff Members:

Wendy Adkins, Director
Susan Julian, Deputy Director

Cynthia Panos, Board Attorney

Absent: None

At 11:14 AM, Ms. Rebecca Wathen, Board President, determined that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order. President Wathen announced that the meeting would be closed.

Guests Present: No guests were present as this was a closed meeting.

Documents Distributed:

- None

Approval of Minutes: No minutes were presented for approval.

Meeting Agenda: No meeting agenda was prepared.

Counsel Report: Ms. Panos requested time to remind Board Members of the following:

- **Judicial Race:** Ms. Panos reminded Board members that registered Independents cannot vote in the Judicial Race because of Maryland Law. The prior Law Suit was to initiate the change to the law but it has not been done yet. In addition, the candidate must win both the Republican and the Democratic races in order to be elected in the Primary. If both sides are not won, then the race will appear on the November ballot. Any questions posed to Board Members should be referred to Ms. Adkins and Ms. Panos.
- **By-Laws:** Board members were reminded about the Political Rules and Activities section of the By-Laws. Board Members should use caution and not provide the appearance of favoring any individual candidates. Perception to the public is real and should be avoided. This includes Social Media posts. Board members can attend fundraisers and make donations, but should disclose to other Board members prior to taking action.

A motion was made by Ms. Mary Coombs to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Darlene Johnson. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Coombs
Board Secretary

