



Office of the Clerk & Recorder
Wellington E. Webb Municipal Building
201 West Colfax Ave., Dept. 101
Denver, CO 80202

Denver Clerk & Recorder's Office/Public Forum Meeting
Wellington E. Webb Building, 4th floor
201 West Colfax Avenue, Room 4G2
Tuesday, August 28, 2007
5:30 p.m.

Attendees: Stephanie O'Malley, Clerk & Recorder
Michael Scarpello, Director of Elections
Matt Crane, Operations Supervisor/Elections Division
Victoria Ortega, Assistant City Attorney
Carol Tone, League of Women Voters
David Larson, Citizen
Walt Beckert, Safe City
Jessie Danielson, America Votes
Dusti Gurule, Latina Initiative
Tina Romero, Elections Division Staff
Amber McReynolds, Elections Division Staff
Alton Dillard, Elections Division Staff

I. CALL TO ORDER – Clerk & Recorder Stephanie O'Malley calls the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and explains that this public forum is designed to continue communicative efforts relative to matters concerning the Clerk & Recorder, Public Trustee, and Elections.

- A. Approval of Minutes of July 24, 2007 - seeing no glaring omissions, deletions, or revisions, O'Malley requests approval, no objections given and minutes are approved. O'Malley submits that the Minutes of Tuesday, June 26, 2007 are to be archived due to daunting task posed to staff in obtaining signatures of the Commissioners under the previous Commission structure.
- B. Introduction of Director of Elections and Deputy Clerk & Recorder – Michael Scarpello is introduced as the newly appointed Director of Elections. O'Malley states that the search was nationwide and decision was made by committee. The process was well received by those who participated. Mr. Scarpello endured grueling interview questions, and, it was determined that he is the caliber of person needed to get the Elections Division through this transition while she is Clerk & Recorder. Mr. Scarpello thanks Ms. O'Malley for the opportunity and is confident that working together with staff, Ms. O'Malley and, citizens groups will assist in getting the Elections Division through the transition. Director Scarpello adds that he knows it is hard work to regain the confidence of voters in Denver.

- C. Elections Division Revenue Report –Director Scarpello reports revenue of \$143 for certificates and maps with breakdown as \$24 for certificates, \$1 for certified copies and \$118 for maps with \$160 for standard reports bringing the monthly revenue to \$303 with a year-to-date total of \$222,893.21.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Elections Division Reports – Matt Crane reports that he hopes to have the reprecincting plan more detailed by the next forum with Stapleton being the largest area to reprecinct. He explains that the person tasked was on vacation. He goes on to explain that reprecincting will be provided to the parties in time to prepare for party caucuses. O’Malley references communication from Dan Willis regarding signage for caucuses and states that commitment will be made but, that there may come a time where the Elections Division may not be able to commit to this type of support. O’Malley explains that having gone through the budget cycle, every dollar is tight and, Mike Scarpello having been here only one week can appreciate all the things that have to be sacrificed. Dan Willis, Secretary of the Democratic Party responds that he appreciates the support being provided by the Elections Division but reports that they may not need signs for all 45 locations as identified.
- B. Update on Potential Operational Audit – O’Malley states that since the last public forum meeting, 2 members of the committee selected Fujitsu and sat down candidly with them to discuss the appropriate scope of work. They also discussed the original report produced by the taskforce and the committee tried very hard to give consideration in taking a look at the Elections Division, in order to come up with scope of work that was palatable and deemed as priority. They also took a look at the Elections Division to determine funds to conduct the audit. The amount originally discussed was \$50,000 and after discussion with Fujitsu and identifying what we could put into different silos of work, O’Malley is not convinced that the amount of revenue is sufficient. She states that discussion will be continued with Fujitsu and the committee will engage in discussion to get hard and fast answers, and determine whether to go down the road of audit. She explains that perhaps there is some opportunity for Fujitsu to be helpful to determine the most appropriate elections model for 2008. Fujitsu has provided an alternate scope of work and she has not had time to review. She goes on to say that she will sit back with Mr. Scarpello and members of the committee to determine what can be provided.
- C. Clerk, Public Trustee, Recording Reports – O’Malley reports that personnel in the Recording Division lost one staff member at the end of July and she is trying to replace this person. The Recording Division is getting behind. In the interim, three on-call employees are needed to assist the Recording Division. The lead person is reviewing the list and, hopefully we will get them on as soon as possible. She is still waiting on a full time list for replacement. One full time staff member is lost to retirement at the end of the month and other staff are helping with recording functions. She goes on to say that it doesn’t serve the customer base well and that this is what hurts in terms of productivity. There may be a need to provide overtime opportunity to staff members. Although, she wants to stay

away from that because, the line item is diminished. O'Malley asks for questions and, seeing none, moves on.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. November 6, 2007 Coordinated Election Update-Crane reports that this will be an all mail ballot; all active registered voters should call our office at 720.913.VOTE (8683) if unsure of status. Issues and races include 3 school district races--1, 5, and at-large seat, 10 issues including, bond and 1 marijuana initiated question. The last day for school board candidate verification is Thursday, August 31, 2007. The date to certify the ballot is September 7. Tuesday, October 9 is the close of registration. October 12 is the first day to mail ballots. The first day for the logic and accuracy test with voted paper ballots and to make sure everything works, is set for October 17, 9:00 a.m. in the Main Office. The last day to mail the mail ballot packets is October 22. Drop off sites will be open October 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Election Day 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All ballots must be in the main office by 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 6, 2007. Postmarks do not count. O'Malley calls for questions.

IV. Announcements and Comments by Clerk & Recorder, Guests & Staff – O'Malley speaks to what the election will look like in August & November of 2008, formulating an advisory and has invited approximately 20 people to determine the mode of election for 2008. Labor, Special Interest Groups, League of Women Voters, and everyone has said "yes." This is demonstrating clear interest and energy around elections. Five meetings will be held around discussion of the model beginning Tuesday, September 11. The time is to be determined and the meetings will be 1.5 hrs. in length. O'Malley announces that Helen Gonzales will be brought in as Deputy Clerk & Recorder. She has formerly served as Deputy Director and Director with the Department of Excise and License and clearly possesses the leadership to serve in the Clerk's Office.. Michael Scarpello announces that he currently has a posting for Deputy Director. Three other positions will be posted for absentee coordinator, assistant logistics coordinator, and judge coordinator.

V. Motion for Adjournment and/or Executive Session – There being no added announcements or comments, Clerk & Recorder O'Malley adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Stephanie Y. O'Malley, Clerk & Recorder

Attest

Date