



CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER
CLERK and RECORDER
ELECTIONS DIVISION

Stephanie Y. O'Malley
CLERK and RECORDER
PUBLIC TRUSTEE

303 W. Colfax Ave, Dept 101
Denver, Co. 80204

TELEPHONE: 720-913-8683
FAX: 720-913-8600
TTY: 720.913.8657

Denver Clerk and Recorder's Office
Public Forum
Law Library City & County Building
1437 Bannock Street, Room 389
Wednesday, January 23, 2008
5:30 P.M.

ATTENDEES: Stephanie Y. O'Malley, Clerk & Recorder
Michael Scarpello, Director of Elections
Helen Gonzales, Deputy Clerk & Recorder
Sunni Rodgers, Council District 4
Barbara Blum Barnett, Citizen
Ed Robran, Golden Triangle Museum District
Marcia Verba, League of Women Voters
Shaun Boyd, CBS4
Rosemary Rodriguez, citizen & Elections Assistance Commission
Stacie Fabre, Elections Assistance Commission

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Hogensen, Deputy Director of Elections
Nancy Reubert, Communications Director
Amber McReynolds, Director of Operations
Alton Dillard, Communications
Tina Romero, Communications
Lisa Stubbs, Executive Assistant

I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Clerk & Recorder Stephanie O'Malley
Called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and thanked each and everyone one for their attendance, stating that there are a few items on the agenda for the viewing public and those in attendance.

A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Meeting of November 27, 2007
Clerk & Recorder O'Malley saw no need for modification or revision of the minutes and will affix her signature to the minutes. She states that anyone who would like to review the minutes is able to do so on the Elections Division webpage of the Clerk & Recorder's website.

B. ELECTIONS DIVISION REVENUE REPORT – Director of Elections, Michael Scarpello, reports Election Division revenues of \$15 for certificates, \$20 for precinct locators, and \$50 for maps, \$15 for confidentiality notices and \$120 for standard reports. \$4.86 was for miscellaneous reimbursements for a grand total of \$224.86 in the month of December, 2007 and a year to date total of \$412, 951.37.

C. CLERK, PUBLIC TRUSTEE, RECORDING REPORTS – Clerk & Recorder O’Malley provides an update regarding the Clerk’s Office, Public Trustee, and Recording Reports stating that she is proudly continuing to report that she believes the department has found a method for tracking daily progress. She goes on to say that 3 full-time members currently staff this function and, they have had one resignation. But, notwithstanding the absence, the department continues to process the recordings coming into the office on a daily basis because of the manner in which we are tracking with date received, how many received and how many are processed as well as, how many remain and duly wants to congratulate staff on all the reports that are being recorded in an efficient and effective manner.

Clerk & Recorder O’Malley goes on to report that the Public Trustee’s Office is required to implement the new law pursuant to Title 38 regarding how foreclosure actions are processed and, in preparation for implementing the new statute, staff was diligent in participating in training with the law firms that are dealt with as well as, other trustees across the state. Thus far, the Public Trustee’s Office has not met with any procedural problems related to statutory provisions. Three weeks into the provisions, O’Malley reports that they continue to not have met with any procedural problems in the implementation and continue to monitor the progress relative to the statutory provisions. Ninety percent of time spent in the last 30-45 days has been spent on elections related to the certification process, meeting with county clerks and the state legislature and, will just cover highlights.

II. OLD BUSINESS –

A. UPDATE ON ACTION TO BE TAKINE ON 2008 ELECTIONS MODEL - Clerk & Recorder O’Malley reports that today was an important day with regard to Mr. Scarpello along with 2007 Model Elections Advisory and, we made definitive decision with appropriate elections model which we strongly believe in and that Denver should engage in a paper-based election with combined precincts, in order to be in compliance with HAVA with one electronic piece of voting equipment in the community. Ironically, with no planning in our office and the Governor’s Office, the State Majority and Minority Leadership came out with an announcement that is consistent with Denver’s plan. O’Malley was elated to hear that proposal because we came up with our decision after 6 very intense sessions with our advisory and we believe our model would bode best for the voters of Denver. There is no legislation drafted as of today, but Michael and I will continue to monitor what is going on from a legislative standpoint.

Rosemary Rodriguez, citizen of 500 King Street and member of the United States Elections Assistance Commission, asks if new equipment will be purchased. Clerk & Recorder O’Malley responds that this will be done if required in order to implement the plan and, if the legislature requires it. We had 240 pieces of equipment decertified and, 944 pieces of equipment were not subjected to the certification process. The 240 pieces were purchased at 1.3 million dollars and we don’t owe any residual on that equipment. Whether we have to purchase to replace we don’t

believe we're going to have to because, we have appealed and the basis is that we have strong arguments and that the decertification will be overturned. Clerk & Recorder O'Malley believes that we may use that equipment as ballot marking instead of tabulation. She goes on to explain, that if the machines continue to be decertified, we would be forced to purchase new equipment. Scarpello states that because we are moving from electronic-based to paper-based we currently have 2 high speed scanners and we will need an additional 6 scanners. O'Malley interjects that in the planning of 2008 budget we considered 2 additional pieces of that equipment with consideration of returning to City Council so that the fleet is up to 8 machines. O'Malley calls for questions. Seeing none, she moves on.

B. OPEN ELECTIONS DIVISION POSITIONS – Director of Elections

Scarpello provides an update related to the open positions. He states that when Clerk & Recorder O'Malley was sworn into office, the office had 10 positions open and to date we have filled 6 of those. Recently, in the last few weeks, we have filled Lisa Stubbs as the new executive assistant and, she will be coordinating records and the emergency management system. A new communications director, Nancy Reubert, has been selected for the whole of the Clerk & Recorder Office. Alton Dillard and Tina Romero will work with the community in education and voter outreach. Also, there is a new personnel coordinator, Jacque Parkison, who will lead efforts in recruiting 1600 pollworkers and roughly 200 judges that have to work in the office to count ballots. Also hired is Mike Blanchard as logistics coordinator and he, along with logistics manager Paul Casper, is searching for polling places. Thusfar, 202 locations have been surveyed and they have found 150 that are looking pretty good in terms of HAVA compliance and logistics around space planning and supplies. The new associate IT administrator, David Griggs, will be working with all of the Clerk & Recorder Office in desktop support, Microsoft Outlook administration, network administration, security systems, website, and telephones. We are still looking for a senior IT person who will work with the machine vendor and we are also looking for a ballot coordinator. Scarpello goes on to say that the last position they are hiring is an administration manager and this person will be in charge of personnel, customer service, and voter registration. Clerk & Recorder O'Malley mentions that when we began to have discussions about making significant operation changes, Mike sat down and very methodically began to identify where we had challenges. Mike continues with comment that there were previously many workers but that much work that was being performed couldn't be done efficiently and, he is trying to make clear lines of authority on what and when and why we had a major reorganization of our departments. We are in the process of putting tasks in line with the new elections model with exactly what we need to do to pull this off and make good progress.

C. UPDATE ON ELECTIONS DIVISION FACILITIES MOVE –

Clerk & Recorder O'Malley reports that we've been working for awhile on this, even prior to the 2007 election. One of the first things Mike Scarpello did was to review a potential site and, since then we have all been working diligently with space planning to identify space that will allow us to carry off this election in the appropriate manner. We've been disappointed that we haven't come to a decision. The discussion has circled around whether we should be based downtown or somewhere else that is city-owned or not. All of this has come into play and I can report that we have narrowed opportunities to 2 locations and, it is our hope that we come to a definitive conclusion. O'Malley states that hopefully we will hear by Friday of this week or early next week so that the team can

configure space and support operations through the 2008 elections cycle. There have been some obstacles along the way but wanted to make this audience aware of this facilities update.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. REPORT ON CLERK & RECORDER'S WINTER CONFERENCE –

Clerk & Recorder O'Malley attended the conference for 3 days followed by 2 days of training. She reports that for 3 days of the conference all the clerks were very busy engaged in discussion related to voting models for the coming year; there were other administrative matters, but the crux of the debate was around what this election should look like. There was a vote taken related to mandatory mail balloting. The majority of the counties supported mandatory mail balloting and, the vote was taken by the Clerk's Association. She goes on to state that her position, which she stands by and, the basis for her decision is based on what she continues to hear from the voting public. Her position is, that faced with mail balloting or going to a polling place, as supported by 73% of the voters going to the polling place in the last presidential election; she continues to support choice for the voter versus having to vote by mail. Clerk & Recorder O'Malley explains that the option still exists to vote by mail. She goes on to state that the current status, as it relates to activating inactive voters, affects approximately 155,000 voters who would not receive a ballot under current Colorado Law and, this wouldn't bode well in terms of the voter. O'Malley concludes that she will continue to advocate for Denver's model and will continue to support legislation that supports our decision.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENTS – Clerk & Recorder O'Malley opens the discussion for questions and seeing none adjourns the meeting.

V MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT – Clerk & Recorder O'Malley adjourns the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Stephanie Y. O'Malley, Clerk & Recorder

Attest _____ Date _____