



ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS NEWSLETTER

WILLIAM M. MCGUFFAGE, CHAIRMAN
JESSE R. SMART, VICE CHAIRMAN
RUPERT BORGS MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUNE 2013
REVISED

FROM THE DESK OF RUPERT BORGS MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The summer is upon us and the General Assembly has left town. The SBE has started the review of all election legislation that was passed by the General Assembly as we prepare to assist the Election Authorities in implementing the changes. It appears that 17 year olds will be allowed to vote in the General Primary Election if they have registered and turn 18 by the General Election in November. Also, the SBE will need to have an On-line Voter Registration Application system on line by July 1, 2014. This will be a challenging project especially since the SBE did not receive any additional funds to complete this project. Finally, it is with great sadness that we bid a fond adieu to Dianne Felts as she conducts her final test of an election system and rides off into the sunset on June 30th. I wish Dianne nothing but the best in her retirement. Hope you have a wonderful summer as we all prepare for the onslaught of petition filing in November as a prelude to the of 2014 General Primary Election.

RETIREMENT

Dianne Felts, Director of the Voting Systems and Standards Division, announced her retirement on June 30, 2013. Dianne started with the State Board of Elections in May of 1975 as an Election Coordinator Trainee, working her way up to Director of Voting Systems and Standards in May of 1989.



Dianne is an expert in the field of elections but more specifically testing voting systems. Anyone can tell you, and particularly the election vendors, that Dianne ran one of the most comprehensive testing programs in all of the States.

Being an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan, she will now have plenty of time to enjoy baseball, traveling and her family.



We, the employees and Board members, wish her the best in retirement! We will miss you Dianne!

NEW BOARD DIVISION

With the retirement of Dianne Felts, the Board made the decision to consolidate the Division of Voting Systems and Standards (VOSS) and the Division of Illinois Voter Registration Services (IVRS) into one Division named Voting and Registration Systems (VRS). Kyle Thomas has been appointed as Director of the new division. Mr. Thomas was appointed as the Statewide Voter Registration Coordinator in December of 2005 and was appointed as the Director of the Division of Illinois Voter Registration Services when it was created in February 2008 .

BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION

The State Board of Elections consists of eight Board members who serve four year terms. Four of those members terms expire June 30, 2013. At the July 1, 2013 Board meeting, three reappointed members and one newly appointed member will be sworn in for a four year term which will expire June 30, 2017. The new member, Casandra Watson, replaces Judy Rice who resigned from the Board to pursue other opportunities. A new Chairman and Vice Chairman will be elected at the July 1 Board meeting.

ELECTION JUDGES SCHOOLS

The Division of Election Training and Resource Development conducted 38 schools for the 2013 Consolidated elections. Staff conducted 254 schools for the 2010 primary and general elections — a gubernatorial election year. We encourage election jurisdictions to contact us to conduct election judge training. The Division will be taking requests to conduct election judges schools for the 2014 elections. Contact Eric Donnewald at edonnewald@elections.il.gov for further information.

Jeff Berry, employee in the Division of Election Training and Resource Development retired December 31, 2012. Amy Kelly, formerly with our Voting Systems and Standards Division, took his place and is now conducting election judges schools.

SBE ZONE REPRESENTATIVES

The State Board of Elections appoints a staff member to represent our Agency at the zone meetings. Our current Zone representatives are:

Zone 1 - Jayme Sims (jsims@elections.il.gov)
Zone 2 - Amy Kelly (akelly@elections.il.gov)
Zone 3 - Brian Zilm (bzilm@elections.il.gov)
Zone 4 - Brent Davis (bdavis@elections.il.gov)

If you have anything you wish to be discussed by the SBE representatives do not hesitate to contact them prior to a zone meeting.

BOARD MEETING DATES

2013

- **Tuesday, June 18** - Board meeting 10:00 a.m. Chicago
- **Monday, July 1** - Board meeting - Statutory meeting for election of Chairman and Vice Chairman 10:30 a.m. Springfield
- **Tuesday, August 20** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago
- **Monday, September 16** - Advisory Committee meeting 9:00 a.m. - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Springfield
- **Tuesday, October 22** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago
- **Monday, November 18** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Springfield
- **Tuesday, December 17** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago

2014

- **Thursday, January 9** - Board meeting 10:30 a.m. Chicago - Statutory meeting to certify the ballot for the March primary election

Board meetings between the Springfield and Chicago offices will be connected via video conference if the necessary equipment is available. Dates, times and locations of Board meeting dates are subject to change.

COUNTDOWN TO PETITION FILING

Only 173 days to the start of filing of nomination papers for U.S. Senator, Governor/Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Representatives in Congress and 19 Senate seats.

New to the 2014 elections, Public Act 96-1018 places the nomination of Governor and Lt. Governor on a joint petition page.

It will also be the start of filing of nomination papers for countywide offices, sanitary district commissioners/trustees, Members of Board of Review, Regional Superintendent of Schools, County Commissioners, County Board members and judges. Petitions will also be filed for State Central Committeeman/Committeewoman, Precinct Committeemen and Township Committeemen who will be elected at the primary election.

First day to file is Monday, November 25, 2013 ----- Last day to file is Monday, December 2, 2013



The first Illinois Constitution, ratified in 1818, provided that a governor be elected every four years for a term starting on the first Monday in the December following an election. The constitution of 1848 moved the start of the term to the second Monday in January. Governors were not allowed to succeed themselves until the 1870 constitution, which removed this limit. The first Governor of Illinois, Shadrach Bond, took office October 6, 1818. (Wikipedia)

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Visit the Election Assistance Commission's website to find useful election related publications.

The EAC Website features a variety of information for voters, including registration deadlines for each state, how to register using the National Mail Voter Registration Form, and how to become a poll worker. New on the website is a Voting Tips card that can be downloaded and used by citizens as a checklist to become familiar with the voting process.

The EAC's Glossaries of Election Terminology (PDFs and an online tool), Voters Guides to Federal Elections, and National Mail Voter Registration Form are available in numerous languages and free of charge at www.eac.gov.

Sign up for weekly newsletters from the EAC. These provide news and updates on many different topics involving elections.



HAVA FUNDING UPDATE

Current grants available to all jurisdictions

Phase III -- extended to **November 2014**. Paperwork and guidelines have been distributed via e-mail to all election jurisdictions.

VAID V -- will be made available late summer 2013. This grant will be available until **November 2014** - all paperwork must be submitted by December 1, 2014 - Can be used for polling place accessibility only, including accessible voting equipment

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Inventory -- Reminder.....inventory sheets will be due every August 1. Please update them as you dispose of equipment or purchase new equipment with HAVA funding.

Site Visits -- Staff will continue to conduct site visits each month (not including the month prior to an election or the month of an election). Voting equipment and other equipment purchased with HAVA funding will be located and serial numbers will be compared with the county's inventory listing.

SBE PUBLICATIONS

The 2014 Election and Campaign Finance Calendar and the 2014 Candidates Guide will be available on our website toward the end of July 2013. Current publications available on our website are the Military and Overseas Voters Guidelines; five Directory of Officials: County Officers, State and Federal Officers; Judicial Officers; and Democratic Precinct Committeemen, Green Party Precinct Committeemen and Republican Precinct Committeemen. The Interactive GIS map is available at <http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx>. This District Locator is now available in the desktop version as well as a mobile version.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The spring 2013 legislative session adjourned on Friday, May 31. In total, 160 election bills were introduced. Some of the highlights of the Session include:

House Bill 206 The FY13 Supplemental Budget bill: This included additional monies for the county clerk's stipends for FY13

House Bill 226 Sente/Link: Provides that a person who is 17 years old on the date of a general primary may vote at that primary if that person is otherwise qualified and will be 18 years old on the date of the following general election.

House Bill 2418 Currie/Harmon: The omnibus elections bill. Among the many provisions in the bill:

- Requires each election authority to conduct early voting at a high traffic location on the campus of a public university (now, this is required only for the 2012 general election).
- Provides that certain registration materials must contain the applicant's e-mail address.
- Provides for the establishment of a county board of election commissioners in certain counties.
- Contains provisions concerning existing municipal boards of election commissioners in those counties.
- Provides for on-line voter registration
- Provides that 2 or more nomination petitions filed within the last hour of the filing deadline shall be deemed to have been filed simultaneously.
- Makes changes to the contribution requirements for an organization to be considered a candidate political committee, a political action committee, or a ballot initiative committee

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LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY (CONT'D)

- Makes changes concerning self-funding contribution limits.
- Amends the Counties Code. Amends the Illinois Municipal Code, the Revised Cities and Villages Act of 1941 and the Fox Waterway Agency Act. Amends the School Code.

Senate Bill 1210 Silverstein/Welch: The New Homeless Bill of Rights. Creates the new Bill of Rights for the Homeless Act. Sets forth certain rights of homeless persons including the right to register and vote. (*This is already outlined in the Election Code. Please refer to Section 5/3-2.*)

Senate Bill 1329 Kotowski/Madigan: FY2014 Budget Implementation Act. This places all future county clerk stipends and election judge monies under the Personal Property Replacement Tax Fund.

Senate Bill 1693 Munoz/Acevedo: Peace Officers ID cards. Amends the Illinois Identification Card Act. Allows peace officers to provide their work address in lieu of their home address when applying for an Illinois Identification Card. Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Allows peace officers to provide their work address in lieu of their home address when applying for a driver's license.

MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTERS

As always, if you have any UOCAVA questions, please don't hesitate to contact Cris Cray at 217.782.1577.

