



ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 2015
Newington Town Hall

Members Attending: Melissa Russell, Pete Gostin, Sue Larsen, Suzanne Woodward, Darlene Burrell, Fred DeCaro, Karen Cheyney, Anne Marie Mastroianni, Lou DeCilio, Mike Wyman, Chris Prue, Kevin McCauley

Non-Members Attending: Linda Cultrera

Meeting was called to order by President Melissa Russell at 10:02 am

I. **Minutes from last meeting:** (September 9, 2015)
Sue Larson moved to accept. Minutes approved.

II. **Treasurer's Report:**
Pete Gostin reported that checkbook had a starting balance of \$69,629.62 and with income of \$2,690 and expenses of \$199.75, left us a current balance of \$72,119.87.
Judi Beaudreau Fund (Savings) balance: \$845.41
Expenses breakdown discussed and clarified.
Delinquent dues discussed and an update on status will be given at next board meeting.
Note: See attached PDF of Financial Report

III. **County Reports:**

- **Fairfield:** Fred DeCaro reported next County meeting will be Dec. 4th
- **Hartford:** No Report
- **Litchfield:** No Report
- **Middlesex:** Karen Cheyney reported meeting on November 10th. Also meeting in October. Positive discussions on Election & anxiety on EDR for Presidential Preference in April. Also discussed budget tactics and preparations based on new legislation.

- **New Haven:** No Report
- **New London:** No Report
- **Tolland:** No Report
- **Windham:** Suzanne Woodward reported that there was nothing major to report from County meeting in September.

IV. Committee Reports:

- **Conference:** Chris Prue reported on ROVAC Tax-Exempt card at Staples will be helpful for future use. The Spring Conference has been secured at the Cromwell Crowne Plaza, now renamed Radisson Inn, for April 13-15, 2016; just 11 days prior to Presidential Preference. \$10,000 deposit is in place to reserve and committee will meet in January to formulate agenda. Reservations will commence in Mid-February. Southbury Crowne Plaza presents more pros than cons to re-consider for the Fall Conference site.
A request to purchase a 2nd projector that will be for conference use was presented. Lou DeCilio motioned to approve and Anne Marie Mastroianni seconded. Purchase was approved.
- **Education :** No Report
- **Technology:** No Report
- **Handbook:** No Report
- **Legislative:** Sue Larson reported that a meeting is scheduled for next week in Cromwell and the surveys that were handed out at Fall Conference and returned will be discussed. Committee will address clarification issues regarding EDR deadline of registering/qualifying electors.
- **Ways & Means:** Lou DeCilio reported no meeting since Fall Conference, but presented a financial worksheet on raffle baskets and 50/50. Total net profits were \$784.50, which surpassed budget goal of \$750. Commended Sue Burnham for phenomenal job putting baskets together.
Note: See attached PDF of Financial Report

V. Election Post Mortem:

Melissa initiated discussion about statewide Election Day news. Clinton had a tie for First Selectman and recount resulted in incumbent losing by one vote. Very positive write-up in New Haven newspaper on how professional recount was handled. Some issues statewide with Frontier and the IVS systems. Mandated to maintain list of unofficial checkers and runners.

New Britain – A minor mishap with paperclip getting caught in tabulator. Low turnout for EDR, down in the 40's. Will plan on hiring (2) police officers for Presidential Preference. Selected for test site for prototype of new digital IVS system. Discussed Spanish translation issue on ballot that apparently is not written correctly. Law suit pending from New Britain primary where a Spanish candidate is challenging wording that effected election result.

Bristol – Went smooth. Power outage at one polling location for 15 minutes, but battery backups allowed seamless casting of ballots. EDR count was 98, AB was 472 and 37% turnout.

South Windsor – Overall Okay. Some major issues with aggressive candidate/campaign poll standers. Discussion of State statute restricting poll standers using rest rooms during Election Day hours.

Vernon – Overall Okay. Some issues with PTO vs. Girl Scout cookies and bake sales. Parking issue with teacher's professional development day attendees at high school this year, limiting elector parking. Attempting to resolve for Presidential Preference, when school is in session.

Tolland – Disappointing 26% turnout with EDR at 60 and AB were 40. Changed Ballot Log to work more efficiently and was more user friendly. Will send copy to board members. Large number of electors requesting blank ballot voting.

Woodstock – Very calm situation. No IVS. EDR count was 9. Also had requests for blank ballot voting.

Suffield – Interesting election year. Endorsed First Selectman position challenged by DTC Chair, resulting in a primary (where the endorsed candidate won). Soon followed by a referendum, an election and then a recount (for 2 positions) all in a two month time frame. 17 EDR ballots processed through the tabulator and experienced high number of issues from folded ballots not being accepted easily when cast into tabulator. This election ballot had 36 columns and 14 questions, which contributed to problem in casting EDR ballots. Plus one candidate had died prior to election, so decision made to blacken out name by hand on each ballot. With re-canvass, once 875 ballots of 4000 were processed, the LED readout malfunctioned. Was able to complete re-canvass successfully. Trying to resolve LED issue with LHS.

Greenwich – Clarified that there is no longer an IVS System Fax Blast by State. Experimented with new WiFi Fax/Copier/Printer system to compliment Election Day processes and it worked very well. AB module tried in CVRS for first time. Utilizing poll worker surveys for feedback. Ballots are 19” long and double sided. EDR fold down in first to avoid rejection of tabulator. Utilized Fire/Police Patrol emergency lighting for parking lot illumination. Will be holding “Poll worker Appreciation Day” on December 10th to give thanks for their services, including all winning and losing candidates.

Durham – Unusual year. Had Rotary Club presentation and 3 civics classes educating on municipal ballots and elections. Neighbor Middletown EDR down from 400 to 90. Durham had 1 EDR and high write-in count because of Facebook post. 32% turnout.

Stratford – EDR count was 37. Also had parking concerns. Re-canvass for a one vote difference. Extended hours of registration drive entire month of October, including Saturdays, which generated 14 registered voters. 34-35% turnout, as compared to 41% last local election.

Melissa wrapped up by discussing Presidential EDR phone calls and scheduling joint meetings with SOTS to remove from statutory requirement. EDR voters vs. Poll voters if combined at polls; difficult to tell EDR voters to go home at 8pm when Poll voters are still in line to vote. Most Town/City Clerks are now utilizing CVRS AB system.

VI. **Any other business to come before the board:** None

VII. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Pete Gostin at 12:15 pm.

Approved Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin McCauley
Secretary