

Scott County Board of Supervisors  
November 14, 2018 8:00 a.m.

The Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with Kinzer, Holst, Earnhardt, Knobbe and Beck present.

This special meeting was called for the purpose of canvassing the votes cast at the November 6, 2018 Scott County General Election.

Roxanna Moritz, County Auditor, said there was a higher than normal voter turnout. She said satellite voting locations were at the Scott County Library, Bettendorf Library, Davenport Fairmount Library, and Davenport Eastern Library for three weeks, and the St Ambrose University Rogalski Center for two weeks. She said the reason for two weeks at the Rogalski Center is avoid confusion between the pre-registration period, which ends ten days before the election, and the election day registration period. She added that, unbeknownst to her, individuals petitioned for satellite voting at Scott Community College. She said a satellite was set up for one day at this location. She said people are very comfortable with the libraries having easy access and always having parking. She said voters feel safer at a location where no politics goes on.

She said this year about 31,500 people cast early votes. She said this occurred in a shorter period of time than past elections due to changes included in the new voter ID law.

Supervisor Earnhardt said the first list was 371 people who did not sign their affidavit. She said Moritz did a good job notifying the candidates and asked what happen with that list.

Moritz said the list continually goes out to all of the people that are running for office and that it shows ballots which are defective or deficient. She said there are two schools of thought: how much time do we put in to informing voters that they did not sign their affidavits, versus, as a responsible voter shouldn't you know to sign the affidavit. She said warnings to sign the affidavit were in bold, red type face. She said several people came to sign their affidavits. She said others went to their polling place on election day, poll workers call the office to have the first ballot voided and the voter votes at their polling place.

Earnhardt asked if this was the first time the list was sent out to the candidates.

Moritz said no, and that the list always has shown the status of all the ballots out, but that it was a separate list this time.

Supervisor Knobbe asked what the most common reason for disqualification of absentees is.

Moritz said by not signing their affidavits.

Knobbe asked about issues at the sites.

Moritz said she had four poll worker errors that she asked the provisional board to consider. She said two were over the counter voters who did not sign their affidavits. She said another was at a satellite location where the poll worker selected the wrong voter instead of his brother, and showing in the election day voter register the wrong person voting. She said this was corrected with a provisional ballot that the board counted.

Moritz said her staff did an exceptional job with the lessened amount of time and the workload they had. She said the office did not get one complaint the day after the election.

Earnhardt said the poll workers were very well trained, pleasant and were very business-like.

Supervisor Holst said she volunteered as a poll watcher and saw people who would come in with an ID and had a change of address. She asked what database was searched that it says you're okay so that they did not have to produce something else.

Moritz said they should have had to show an unexpired driver's license and if it had the current address that is all that they would have needed. She said if their driver's license did not show the current residence they would have had to show it and proof of residency.

Knobbe asked what can constitute proof of residency.

Moritz said a bank statement, phone bill, a lease and now a statement can be on your phone.

Earnhardt asked how much was spent on election advertising and promotion and where were the digital ads placed, and how many signed up and the cost per person for the smartphone app.

Moritz said she would get the Board that information. She said all of the digital ads were placed on a website with a Facebook ad from Scott County Commissioner of Elections. She said that is the only way ads can be done now and because it has to be disclosed where ads come from. She said previously announcements were always in the newspaper and on radio. She said they can't tell how much goes where and don't know who is listening or who is reading. She said in the Primary, at her own cost and on her Facebook page, she bumped up to see how many people she could get to early vote by saying she wanted to broaden this to five thousand more people for fifty bucks to see if she can track how much is coming in. She said the whole point of doing it was that we were losing so many people on our phone calls on election day and could we drive them to our Where You Vote App which cost a flat \$1,400 and so on election our phones would say you could go here or go to the website. Moritz also said if there was ever any cyber

technology issues that took our website down, it would never take down the Where You Vote App.

Earnhardt asked if it was a bipartisan reach to let the other party know about the Where You Vote App.

Moritz said absolutely and that everyone was pushing the information and she was also doing her Auditor on the Road Show at several churches and other facilities. The local and state Republican Party knew about the app and she said she told them it is great for canvassing.

Supervisor Kinzer said that he sat in on one of the Auditor on the Road shows and that Moritz did say here is my cell number, call me.

Moritz said she does have her cell number is on the website during the elections for people to call.

Knobbe asked, Scott County wide, what surprised her most in this election.

Moritz answered voter turnout that day. She said because of the change in the law and that she did not see big absentee numbers early on.

Beck asked what the cost of early voting each day was and did she have to send someone out every day.

Moritz said it is important for the Board and the public to know the security process. She said uses the Sheriff's Posse at the end of the night on Election Day and throughout the satellite voting process. She said that every day in the morning the members come to the office, get their ballots and take them to their satellite site. They are picking up voted ballots every night, and when the poll books are returned to the Auditor's office every night staff loads them into the system. She said by the next day the poll books are refreshed, so people could not go vote again.

Beck asked about the pay for the Sheriff's Posse.

Richard Bauer, Elections Supervisor, said they are paid \$20 per hour plus mileage.

Moritz said that there is a cost to early voting but that she cannot imagine if all of those people were at the polls on Election Day. She said poll workers could not sustain it and that they can barely sustain what they have now. She said she can barely get poll workers to work a sixteen hour day and to find locations due to the scrutiny of safety with schools and churches.

Earnhardt said she noticed, at her polling place there was a retractable poster to take a selfie and asked if the Auditor had one at every location.

Moritz said they were at all of the locations except rural ones.

Earnhardt asked what the cost of those were.

Bauer said they were purchased out of a previous budget, three years ago.

Moritz said the reason they set up selfie posters was that people were taking pictures of their ballots in the polls.

Beck said he saw a lot of first time voters taking pictures with the poster.

Holst asked about the second number on the tabulator machine at the poll sites.

Roland Caldwell, Operations Manager, said it is like an odometer for ballots, and that it counts every ballot that has ever been put through the machine, including all of the test ballots, and every ballot cast until the machine is taken out of service.

A drawing for the Buffalo Township Clerk position due to a tie in the write-in votes was made and the winner drawn was Tyler Ramker.

A drawing for the Winfield Township Clerk position due to a tie in the write-in votes was made and the winner drawn was Cherrie Goetsch.

Moved by Beck, seconded by Earnhardt a motion to certify the results of said election. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Moved by Beck, seconded by Earnhardt at 8:39 a.m. a motion to adjourn the special meeting. All Ayes.

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Tony Knobbe, Chair of the Board  
Scott County Board of Supervisors

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ATTEST: Roxanna Moritz  
Scott County Auditor