



# Governor's Commission on Disabilities Election Assistance Committee Minutes

Thursday, December 13th, 2012 @ 2pm

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**Attendees:** Rory Carmody (Chair.); Kate Bowden, Chris Butler, Grace Pires, Regina Connor, Miguel Nunez, Robert Rapoza, Lorna Ricci, Chris Butler, Rob Rock

**Staff:**

Bob Cooper, Christine Rancourt Bruzzi, Christopher DeGrave



Clock graphic

**2:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Rory Carmody, Chair**

- Chair calls the meeting to order at **2:06 pm.**
- Introductions of Committee Members and Guests
- Vice-Chairperson Nominations & Vote



voting check off graphic

**MOTION:** To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented

*Motion by: Lorna Ricci Seconded: Chris Butler Vote Unanimous.*

**\*\*\*Committee vice-chairperson nominations and approval will be held at the next meeting.**

## Action Items:



money graphic

**2:10 HAVA Grant: December Budget Update, Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary**

**Purpose/Goal:** To discuss expenditure of the remaining HAVA grant cycle funding for utilization throughout the next two years and prior to the next election.

**Discussion:**

- Committee updated on remaining HAVA funding for rest of 2012- next election cycle.
- No additional funds expected by federal government in future (beyond previously allocated funds)
- \$100,000 (per year) for the next four years: utilized for staff, election access, voter outreach, poll-worker training, polling-place modifications
- Budgetary next steps & future spending plan to focus on off-cycle polling place modifications (modification grants), regionalized poll-worker training and voter outreach.

### HAVA Activities

Items	July - September		October - Nov 7th		Post Election		Total
	Hours	Cost	Hours	Cost	Hours	Cost	
Staff Time	84 hours	\$4,107	119 hours	\$5,607	141 hours	\$4,472	\$14,187
Interpreters/CART				\$133		\$398	\$531
Media Campaign				\$3,000			\$3,000
CRM Software				\$400			\$400
Print Advertising		\$6,293		\$10,000			\$16,293
Voting Rights Flyers				\$12,598			\$12,598
Mileage/Tolls		\$233		\$467		\$233	\$933
Out of State – Training						\$1,235	\$1,235
Auditor General Fee						\$75	\$75
Fellowship Stipends		\$3,450		\$3,450			\$6,900

Voter Education & Registration mini-grants				\$20,000			\$10,000
Polling Place Access Renovations				\$6,680		\$13,320	\$20,000
Ride trips to polling places & distribution of Voting Rights Flyer				\$3,000			\$3,000
Election Day polling place surveyors		\$5,000		\$5,000			\$10,000
Voter Outreach Mailing DMV				\$50,000			\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	168 hours	\$19,083	238 hours	\$120,335	282 hours	\$19,734	\$159,152



**2:15 Election Day Accessibility Update, Christopher DeGrave, Asst. ADA Coordinator**

**Purpose/Goal:** To update committee on the Election Day survey results, data collected and action plan.

**Discussion & Updates:**

- Report drafted to highlight polling monitor findings:
  - # of Inspectors/ Surveyors in the field: **20**
  - Locations Surveyed: **257 of 413**
  - Locations w/ No Issues: **199**
  - Locations w/ @ least 1 Issue Identified: **58**
  - Total number of Issues Identified/ Reported: **128**
  
- Community letters will be sent once final report and spreadsheets are drafted
- Report to be sent to BOE/ Local Board's of Canvassers for review
- Increase outreach to local communities for HAVA fund grant utilization.
- **Thirty-three BOE Technicians reported 41 issues after surveying all 413 polling places**, approximately 10% of total..
- **75 calls** received to BOE concerning problems with the AutoMark use, operation and/or calibration.
- BOE to increase number of BOE technicians during future elections.
- Many of the poll monitor reported issues surrounding City Hall usage as they are not traditionally poll locations. (RIGCD to investigate)
- Jewish Community Center (JCC) Update: Technical assistance request made by the agency director. Assistance for future accessibility renovation project to be provided in early January. (No longer used as a polling place currently)
- Future plan to re-visit all 400+ polling places with BOE staff to ensure adequate parking, accessible routes, interior pathways and main entrance utilization (if plausible).
- Committee and BOE look to analyze absentee mail ballot use for all voters (as an option) to decrease lines and increase voting.



voting check off graphic

**MOTION:** *To recommend sending the official election day inspection results and report of findings to the BOE and Local Boards of Canvassers.*

**Motion by:** *Arthur Plitt Seconded: Grace Pires Vote Unanimous.*



poll worker graphic

**2:35 Poll-Worker Training, Christopher DeGrave, Asst. ADA Coordinator**

**Purpose/Goal:** To discuss updates to the EAC action plan concerning poll-worker training and review our actions prior to the election.

**Discussion:**

- RIGCD attended BOE technician training- seemed extremely useful for those in the field conducting the inspection. GCD staff to participate in future technician trainings at the request of BOE.

- C.DeGrave will continue to work with BOE to update/ increase clarity of polling place setup schematic *(Steve Taylor & C. DeGrave working to ensure better clarity for all on the polling place schematic/ map to include proper AutoMark positioning not just location)*



**2:45 Election Day Update/ Voting Equipment, Bob Rapoza, BOE**

**Purpose/Goal:** To review election day findings, procedures and answer question regarding the potential for new voting equipment.

**Discussion:**

- Discussion of questions raised by the committee regarding the ProJo article highlighting the need/ want of new voting equipment.
  - The AutoMark is not slated to be replaced at this time, only the ballot counting machines.
  - Improved ink and future ballot paper will be thinner (less issues with thinner paper in the AutoMark)
- Discussion about reported issues with straight party voting concern/ confusion utilizing the Automark. The way the straight party voting option is presented on-screen could lead to confusion and possible unfairness.
- With many long lines @ polling places will any movement occur that will once again lower total #'s allowable at polling locations? *Not at this time. The election drew large increase in general voting numbers. Large influx not a major concern in future elections.*
- With many complaints concerning people traffic and crowding at the polls, does the BOE have any plans to modify current standard operating procedures regarding senior citizens and those with disabilities? *Not at this time. (RIGCD & BOE to look into the issue)*



**2:55 Announcements, Agenda and Scheduling the Next Meeting, Rory Carmody, Chairperson**

Items to be placed on the next meeting's agenda:

None at this time

Next meeting will be on: *Thursday, January 31st, 2013 @ 2pm*



**3:00 Adjournment, Rory Carmody, Chairperson**



**MOTION:** *To adjourn at: 3:05pm*

**Motion by:** *K. Bowden Seconded: A. Plitt Vote unanimous to adjourn.*