INGHAM COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

The regular meeting of the Ingham County Election Commission was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Judge Garcia. The meeting was held in Board of Commissioners Room at the Grady Porter Building in Lansing, MI.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
                  Richard Garcia, Chief Probate Judge
                  Eric Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Robin Stites, Election/Clerk Coordinator

Approval of Minutes:
Moved by Treasurer Schertzing, supported by Clerk Byrum, to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2016 Election Commission Meeting.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Invoices:
Moved by Treasurer Schertzing, supported by Clerk Byrum, to approve payment of the remaining invoices for the August 2016 State Primary Election.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Ballots:
Moved by Judge Garcia, supported by Treasurer Schertzing to approve the ballots, with any future corrections deemed necessary by the County Clerk’s Office, for the November 2016 State General Election.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Comment:
Clerk Byrum announced that Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, and Livingston Counties, and the various jurisdictions contained within these counties, would be attending a vendor demonstration of the new election equipment on Tuesday, September 13th at the City of Lansing Auxiliary Building located at 2500 S. Washington.

Judge Garcia stated his concern over the fact that Meridian Township has repeatedly been the last jurisdiction to bring in election results on election nights. He indicated that the election workers in Meridian may need further training.

Clerk Byrum stated that, at the urging of her office and the Board of Canvassers, Meridian Township would have three Absent Voter Counting Boards established for the upcoming November General Election. She further stated that the establishment of these boards should help process results quicker. Clerk Byrum indicated that Meridian Township had a sufficient population, under the law, to train their own election inspectors, as opposed to sending their workers to the County for training.
Judge Garcia stated that he believed further training, include possibly training the trainers, may be necessary.

Clerk Byrum indicated that jurisdictions with any issues were all asked to appear before the Board of Canvassers, including Meridian Township.

Judge Garcia indicated the next step to rectify the lateness of Meridian Township’s results may be to approach the media. He further indicated that they needed to clean up their process.

Treasurer Schertzing stated that the minutes of this Election Commission meeting should be supplied to the Meridian Township Board for review.

Judge Garcia stated that the Meridian Township Board should be made aware that the Election Commission had a discussion about Meridian Township’s chronic tardiness when reporting and delivering results on election nights. He further stated that the Township Board should also note that the Election Commission is ready to assist in any way necessary, including additional training.

Clerk Byrum stated that communication between her office and the Township Clerk, as well as, the communication between the Township Clerk and the polling locations was an ongoing problem.

Treasurer Schertzing indicated some of the issues pre-dated the current Meridian Township Clerk.

Clerk Byrum stated that all local clerks had been informed not to re-tabulate ballots on election night, which should also speed up the arrival of results.

Judge Garcia stated that he hoped Meridian Township would utilize any additional training opportunities offered by Clerk Byrum and that they are not last to report on election night again.

**Adjournment:**
The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

-Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk