(draft minutes) James City County Electoral Board

Meeting of Tuesday, October 11, 2016 Building E Conference Room Building E, 101 Mounts Bay Road

Tom Gee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Others attending were Kay Cheves, Vice Chairman; Jack Edwards, Secretary; and Dianna Moorman, General Registrar and Director of Elections.

- 1. <u>Minutes</u> The minutes of September 13, 2016, were approved.
- 2. <u>Election Preparation and Absentee Voting</u> Dianna Moorman reported that election preparations are proceeding satisfactorily, and that the staff is working well together. As we approach the election, several on-calls provide a valuable complement to the full-time staff. The number of net new voters has increased 2,887 in James City County during the past year. 2,823 absentee applications had been received by October 11. 1,743 ballots had been issued.
- 3. <u>VERIS problems</u> Many general registrars have been deeply concerned about problems with VERIS, the state-run registration system. Registrars report difficulties with slowness and downtime, with resulting inefficiencies. The running of long reports apparently contributes to this slowness. Ms. Moorman will be one of the registrars testifying before Jill Holtzman Vogel and Mark Cole, chairs of the Senate and House of Delegates committees concerned with election systems.
- 4. <u>Communication with the Public</u> Ms. Moorman indicated some of the ways her office is trying to communicate with the public. Particular efforts are urging voters to become familiar with the constitutional amendments on the ballot, and reminding voters about the special elections in many of the precincts. Our ability to keep the process moving, and prevent lines, will depend partly on how long individual voters take to cast a ballot. There was general agreement that we should urge voters to go to the polls in the afternoon rather than the morning.
- 5. <u>Palmer Lane move</u> Ms. Moorman briefed the Board on the move of the office to Palmer Lane, which will occur after the November election. She is satisfied with the arrangements.
- 6. The Board confirmed the dates and times for the election canvass: 10 a.m. Wednesday, November 9 to begin the canvass (with the ID hearing at 1:30 p.m), and the final meeting at 1 p.m. Monday, November 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Jack Edwards, Secretary