

Local Government Study Commission  
January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Meeting called to order at 9:08 am.

Roll Call: Marilee Shockley, Alan Thompson, Sharon Schroeder, Scott Boulanger, George Corn

Minutes from January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting: Change the budget amount from \$36,000 to \$30,600. Marilee moved to approve minutes as amended. Sharon seconded. All approved. Marilee moved to approve the January 6<sup>th</sup> Granicus minutes. Sharon seconded. All approved.

Public Comment:

Suzanna Pyron – Happy to hear we are going to use some money to educate the public. Would appreciate getting the information out in more than just the press. She would like voting to be partisan.

Alan responded with citing the many meetings we've had and the ads that have been in the press. He also told of the mailing that will go out to each voter household.

Mr. Ciliberti – Reminded that we were going to put the draft date on the reports. Asked if his Oct 23B report is the most recent copy. Informed, yes, it is the most recent copy. Sharon informed that we are now working on the mailer to be sent out and we will also be getting the ballot to the clerk and recorder. He asked again that this be put on the general ballot instead of the primary ballot because of lower turnout at the primary. Alan explained that if we wait until the general ballot then changes would not happen until 2021 instead of 2019.

Report of committee member assignments:

Sharon met with Allegra. She has not received the bid yet on mailing prices.

Alan met with Professional Impressions. Regina gave the number of 17,000 voter households. Scott suggested cutting that number down by not sending to voters who have not voted in the primary for the past few years. All others of the board disagreed, and felt that we need to send the information to all households. We want to encourage them all to vote so we need to provide the information to all. Professional Impressions bid to print the mailer for \$1,640. He bid \$1,965 for 3 colors and tabs. The town mailer told Alan that we only need 2 tabs, not 3 tabs. It will cost 17 cents a piece for tabs. It will cost \$9,185 just to label and barcode. If we can utilize the county non-profit then it will be 10 cents per mailer for postage. If we can't use the non-profit then it will be 20 cents per mailer for postage. The mailing cost would be \$1,700 for the non-profit price. The folds have to be on the bottom and the right sides. He hasn't talked to Regina yet to see her thoughts on the costs he has gathered. Alan also talked to everyone about perhaps using envelopes or printing on 2 or 3 separate pages. They all said the 11x17 paper is the best cost. They also said we should use 24 pound paper; not 20 pound paper.

Regina, the Ravalli County Clerk and Recorder, came in and looked at the mailer. Alan asked her when we should mail it out to get it to the voters before the absentee ballots go out. She said to send out the mailers by the second week of May. The absentee ballots go out on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Alan said he wants to send out the mailer the first week of May. She said to have the ballot to her by March 24<sup>th</sup> or before. Scott asked if the Secretary of State needs to approve our ballot language. Regina said no, but the county attorney should look at it. She said she will be sending out 9,300 absentee ballots. Alan told her the costs we have received for sending out the mailer and the high price of the labeling and bar code. Alan suggested we get together and put on labels ourselves if it is going to be that expensive.

Sharon received the bid from Allegra on her phone during the meeting:

2 colors on both sides = \$2,850    Addressing, tabbing, and postage = \$3,845

That is a large difference in the labeling cost, so Sharon will double check to see why there is such a large difference.

Edited the mailer: Decided to send out the mailer on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

General Business:

Sharon is gone March 6-10<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 2nd, 2:00pm.

Jonell will swap the order of a couple of the questions on the ballot in the Oct 23B Preliminary Report and rename it with the Jan 14<sup>th</sup> date. Then send it to Regina and Klarryse.

We will meet on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 to adopt the final report. Alan will have the legal notices put in the newspapers on February 25<sup>th</sup> & March 3<sup>rd</sup> to announce that we will adopt the final report. Give the website in the newspaper ads.

Marilee moved to adjourn at 11:40 am. Sharon seconded. All approved.