Minutes Election Advisory Panel October 17, 2012

Members present: Ed Gaston, Scott Wiley, Debbie Gonzalez, Kim Glasgal, Natalie Alden, Dan O'Connor, Leslie Goller, Joanie Prater

Members absent: None

Visitor: Jerry Holland, Supervisor of Elections

The meeting was called to order @ 3:10 p.m.

Minutes: Minutes were approved for the last two meetings; August and September.

Old business:

Leslie Goller spoke to panel about the importance of having a quorum so that we can conduct our meeting as planned. She asked the members of the panel to inform the secretary by way of email if they are unable to attend the meeting.

Website Recommendations-

There were no website recommendations.

Litigation-

Final ruling on Corrine Brown's early voting case. The State ruled that there would be 8 days and 96 hours of Early Voting.

Voter List Maintenance Status-

Non-U.S. citizens were not included in the list maintenance and we did not remove anyone but notified voters.

Voter Registrations-

Jerry Holland stated that we currently have 552,000 voters in Duval County. As of this date we are right at 552,000 registered voters and have another 6,000 applications to process here, the State could also have applications. From that standpoint, we could very well be close to 560,000 registered voters. We had 538,000 voters in 2008 and are close to 20,000 more voters than we had in 2008. That is a net number; 138,000 have left the rolls since 2008, so you have an additional 158,000 that have entered the rolls. Independents are up about 14,000. Republicans are up about 9,000, Democrats are down about 8,000 voters since 2008.

Voter I.D. cards, with all precinct changes, have been sent out. Voters that have not been entered into the system yet, will be mailed their card before early voting starts.

Actions taken by EAP members-

Leslie Goller handed out copies to all EAP members of a letter she authored to the Editorial Board at the Florida Times Union regarding the upcoming election and early voting information.

Warehouse & Gateway Property-

Jerry Holland stated that the City of Jacksonville would have a report by mid-November. They have done appraisals on this building. There has been some talk about moving us into the Tax Collector's building; that proposal sounds good but the reality is that the elevators are not big enough, there is loading dock inefficiency and there is not enough parking. Early voting would be upstairs, which does not work for disabled people. Logistically, it is only good because it is downtown but it is the wrong fit.

New Business:

2012 General Election-

Logic and Accuracy testing will begin tomorrow at 9:00 a.m.

SOE Candidate Forum is this Thursday from 6-8 p.m., St. Paul AME Church.

Canvassing Board will start the 22nd; we will start opening absentee ballots. It is open to the public at our elections center. The volume is always different so the days vary and suspends canvassing. There have been 78,000 absentee ballots requested and 11,000 returned. There are fewer military absentee ballot requests compared to 2008 as there are fewer military personnel deployed.

There will be a two-sheet four-page 17" ballot, the candidates will be on the first page and the other amendments will be on the following three pages. The DS machine will only count the first sheet and that is the protected count. The public count records all ballots put through the machine like an odometer.

Sample ballots will go out week of October 20th and will have current precinct printed on it. We will have staffing at old precincts with special assignment personnel to direct voters to the proper precinct in case they show up at the old precinct.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 29th at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 4:05 p.m.