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MINUTES: BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2020

The Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Morristown, notified and warned, met in the Conference Room at the Municipal Office Building, 43 Portland Street in said town on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

BCA Members present:

Justice of the Peace: Darcie Abbene, Donald Blake, Edward Wilson, Monte Mason, Peg Demars, Rhoda Bedell, Sam Guy, Siri Rooney & Urban Martin.

Clerk: Sara Haskins

- Edward Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
- Added to the agenda was a discussion about a new law regarding depositing ballots into the tabulator prior to Election Day.
- **Upon motion by Peg Demars and seconded by Darcie Abbene the minutes of both the August 22, 2019 and the continuation meeting of September 17, 2019 were approved. (10/0)**
- Clerk Haskins presented a list of changes to the voter checklist since the last time reviewed on February 20, 2019. There have been 317 new voter registrations, 157 voters challenged, 173 voters purged and 128 voters transferred to other towns in Vermont. The BCA reviewed the changes. **Urban Martin made a motion to accept the changes to the voter checklist as presented. Peg Demars seconded the motion. Motion passed. (10/0)**
- Clerk Haskins presented the Board a draft poll worker schedule. The BCA gave their blessing for the additional election workers needed due to the presidential primary. The Board reviewed election procedures and responsibilities for the three elections, sample ballots, the history of the presidential primary in Vermont and recent changes to Vermont election laws.
- Sam Guy, Ed Wilson and Peg Demars agreed to deliver ballots to the ill or disabled if requested.
- Clerk Haskins presented information about a new law going into effect in July regarding depositing ballots in the tabulator prior to Election Day. The BCA may vote to allow those who vote early in the Town Clerk's Office to deposit their ballots directly into the tabulator. Additionally there is currently a law that the BCA may vote to deposit all absentee ballots into the tabulator at the Town Clerk's Office the night before the election. Clerk Haskins will email both laws to the Board for their review and further discussion at a future meeting.

- Clerk Haskins trained the members present on how to use the accessibility ballot marking machine. It is only currently programmed for state and federal elections as it is very costly to program it for local elections. Anyone can use it to mark their ballot and many towns in Vermont are having their BCA use it in the presidential primary to get more familiar with it. There are three accessory ways to use it to select your choices. After you have completed your selections you place your ballot into the printer and print out your choices. The marked ballot can then be place into and read by the tabulator the same as ballots marked with ballot markers. It is not connected to the internet in anyway and simply used as a ballot marker device.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM upon motion by Peg Demars and seconded by Donnie Blake.

Respectfully submitted and filed this 21st day of February 2020
Sara Haskins, Clerk- Board of Civil Authority

Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next BCA meeting.