

GENERAL ELECTION REPORT
NORMAN ELECTION COMMISSION
APRIL 15, 2013

The Norman Election Commission (NEC) met January 7, 2013, to prepare for the 2013 Norman Municipal Election. During this meeting, Ty Hardiman was elected Chair, and Dr. Richard Hilbert was elected Vice-Chair. Plans were made for a public information meeting, to be conducted by the NEC, which would present election information to council candidates and any other interested parties.

On January 30, 2013, the public information meeting was held at City Hall. Several candidates and campaign representatives attended the presentation conducted by Chairman Hardiman, City Clerk Hall, and Code Compliance Officer Winter.

The NEC met March 25, 2013, to review reports submitted for the March 22nd filing deadline. All candidates filed on time with the exception of Benjamin Carter, who had dropped out of the race. Candidate Carter was contacted by City staff and his required report was filed on March 26. During the meeting, minor errors and corrections were noted, and staff was asked to contact the candidates and have corrections submitted on subsequent reports. Additional questions which were raised during the meeting were referred to the City Attorney for review and response (Attachment No. 1).

The NEC met April 1, 2013, to review reports from the March 29th filing deadline. All candidates filed on time and only minor items were identified for correction. During Agenda Item No. 4, Miscellaneous Discussion, Mary Francis addressed the NEC with several issues regarding the campaign. These issues were itemized and submitted to the City Attorney for response (Attachment No. 1). A special meeting of the NEC was declared for April 8, 2013, to review the response from the City Attorney.

The NEC held a special meeting on April 8, 2013 with Jeff Bryant and Kristina Bell of the City Attorney's Office. The meeting was for informational purposes and the agenda contained no items for action. Questions from the previous two NEC meetings were submitted by City Clerk Hall to the City Attorney's Office on April 1, 2013 (Attachment No. 2). The City Attorney responded to the NEC's questions in a four page memo (Attachment No. 1). Several members of the public addressed the commission as well.

Also on April 8, 2013, Mary Francis submitted a formal complaint (Attachment No. 3) asking the NEC to review election issues relating to Better Norman Advocates, Inc., a committee which advocated for or against certain candidates prior to the election. The complaint was signed by Mary Francis and 62 additional persons. The complaint was forwarded to the City Attorney's office for review.

Since no runoff election was required this year, final reports will be filed on May 13th and the next scheduled meeting of the NEC will be May 20, 2013. It is expected further updates will be provided by legal staff during this meeting.

Ty Hardiman, Chairman

Robin Allen, Nina Flannery, Richard Hilbert, and Elizabeth Windes, NEC Members