

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1991 MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Wilson said most of the suggestions will take extensive study and some will require new legislation. She said we should also be working to develop new proposals for the legislature regarding funding sources for counties.

Wilson is willing to take an active role as a county representative and advocate in Oklahoma City and Dick will actively pursue the subject at ACCO meetings.

Scott Orbison and Shelley Boggs were present to update the Board on new legislation and how it will affect the Tulsa County Election Board.

Orbison said the City and County redistricting has been worked out, however he has not received the official House and Senate District Management Conference redistricting plans which are the basic formats from which the Election Board establishes voter precincts. He noted that every voter in Tulsa County has to have new precincts assigned and voter cards mailed by December 31, 1991.

Orbison also advised the Board of new voting regulations. He stated that anyone can now vote an absentee ballot without an excuse. Additionally, any registered voter may go to the Election Board, on Thursday, Friday, or Monday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., preceding an election and cast their vote.

Orbison commented on Tulsa County's loss of revenue beginning March 10, 1992. The loss can be attributed to our disallowed collection of \$78.00 per machine previously charged to other entities who used our machines to conduct elections.

Orbison further stated that one problem he is particularly concerned with is bookkeeping. We previously paid precinct officials and registrars by sending the information from the Election Board's computer to the computer in the County Clerk's payroll department and the County issued the checks. The State has now ordered the checks be issued through their system and this is going to present problems within our system. Orbison remarked he is hoping this matter can be resolved. Joan Hastings and Leroy Jones are trying to gain approval from the State that would allow Tulsa County to continue its method.

Orbison noted another potential problem is the F.I.C.A ruling that will go into effect January 1, 1992, which states we must withhold F.I.C.A. on any employee who makes \$100.00. This not only means we have to withhold it, we have to match it. Hastings said she is aware of this ruling and she will bring it to the attention of the National Association of Counties and their lobbying efforts. Hastings will also be speaking with Lance Ward, Secretary of the State Election Board, about some of these problems.

Orbison said we are the only county in the state that prints its own ballots. The state has indicated we might be able to continue to print our ballots and they might possibly contract with us to print ballots for surrounding counties. However, Chad Higgins informed the Board that his division does not have the capability to print the ballots in their present design format, therefore his division would have to purchase new equipment.

The Board asked Orbison to keep them informed as new developments occur.