Advisory Opinion Section Section 102.012(1), Florida Statutes (1979), <u>As Amended by</u> Chapter 80-20, Laws of Florida

To: Mrs. Gladys A. Chapman, Supervisor of Elections, Bay County, Panama City, Florida 32401

Prepared by: Division of Elections

This is in response to your letter of September 12, 1980 wherein you asked whether a supervisor of elections can delegate to a county financial officer the responsibility to pay poll workers

As of October 1, 1980, Section 102.021(1), Florida Statutes (1979), is amended to read:

(1) Each inspector and each clerk of any election and each deputy sheriff serving at a precinct shall be paid for his services by the supervisor of elections, and each inspector who delivers the returns to the county seat shall receive such sums as the supervisor of elections shall determine.

Clearly, the ultimate responsibility for payment of poll workers is on the supervisor of elections. I believe that the provision means that the supervisor of elections must take responsibility for hiring poll workers, determine the rate of pay and pay them out of the supervisor's budget. The amendment makes the supervisor fiscally accountable for the poll workers. But, I do not believe the provision precludes the supervisor of elections from delegating the check writing responsibility to a financial officer of the county so long as the supervisor maintains the ultimate fiscal control and responsibility.

Accordingly, Section 102.021(1), Florida Statutes (1979), <u>as amended by</u> Chapter 80-20, Laws of Florida, does not preclude a supervisor of elections from obtaining the assistance of a county financial officer to prepare checks for payment of poll workers so long as the supervisor of elections maintains financial control intended by the statute.