



## BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

Thursday, February 27, 2020, 10:00 A.M.

Willowbank Office Building  
420 Holmes Street, Room 146  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Centre County Board of Elections was convened at 10:06 AM by Chair of the Board Commissioner Steven Dershem.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Solicitor Betsy Dupuis, Director of Elections Joyce McKinley, Elections Coordinator Jodi Nedd, and Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Dershem turned the meeting over to Joyce McKinley to provide an update on the Campaign Finance Report Case for Pat Romano. Joyce said he did not file campaign finance reports for himself or his committee. After providing proper notifications, Solicitor Betsy Dupuis sent correspondence to Mr. Romano and turned the case over to the District Attorney.

Betsy provided an update that Mr. Romano has since submitted the reports and they were amended because they were incomplete. He has not yet paid any fines or penalties. The reports are not deemed filed until all fines and penalties are paid. Since Mr. Romano has submitted the reports, the District Attorney will not pursue criminal action. Mr. Romano has advised staff that he would submit payment by March 1. Betsy provided options for course of action if he does not pay and she asked for the Board to provide direction on how to proceed.

Commissioner Dershem suggested that since Mr. Romano is cooperating, a reasonable course of action would be for the Board to consider sending him a letter and establishing a date for payment to be received in full. The letter should state that the Board is prepared to take additional action if payment is not received. This is not the first letter sent to Mr. Romano, correspondence was sent by the Elections' Office and the previous Board of Elections. Betsy will prepare a letter, which will be sent on Friday March 3, stating that Mr. Romano must remit payment by March 18<sup>th</sup> or the Board may authorize further legal action. Joyce will notify Betsy if he does not submit the payment by March 1 and the amount to be included in the letter.

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IV. NEW BUSINESS

Joyce McKinley reported on a Referendum Petition received from Miles Township for granting of liquor licenses for sale of liquor. The petition question was prepared by Miles Township Solicitor John Miller and the petition was done by residents. It included the signatures of 70 people, as required however, did not include their printed name, address, date of signature, or an affidavit from the circulator. Joyce explained that these are requirements for verification and the petition is determined to be incomplete.

Commissioner Pipe suggested sending correspondence to Miles Township including a copy of a petition with the required information, so residents can see why their submission was not in accordance with regulations. Commissioner Dershem agreed that the Board should reject the petition and forward correspondence that communicates the correct procedure. This action was unanimously approved by the Board with a motion by Commissioner Pipe, seconded by Commissioner Higgins.

V. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Joyce announced that the high speed scanner from Election Systems and Software will be delivered tomorrow and the second one will arrive after the Primary.
- B. The Election's Office is ordering sanitizers and Clorox wipes to be distributed to polling places in response to COVID 19 (Coronavirus).

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions.

Monday, April 13, 2020

Last day to REGISTER before the primary.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot.

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

GENERAL PRIMARY

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots. Must be received by 8PM.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Pipe, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Natalie Smith  
Executive Office Supervisor