



BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

Friday, May 19, 2023 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 10:01 AM by Chair of the Board Vicki Fong.

In attendance were Board Members Chris Exarchos, Vicki Fong, and Chris Fowler, Administrator John Franek Jr., Director of Elections Beth Lechman, Solicitor Betsy Dupuis, and Executive Officer Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel included Jodi Nedd and Latisha Stefanko.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. OLD BUSINESS

Chris Exarchos stated he noticed a few of the mail in ballots from the meeting held on May 18th were reproduced ballots and questioned what was the reason for this. Beth stated they were the email ballots from military/civilian overseas. They go out of the office on standard paper and only military/civilian overseas must upload a voter's specific ballot. Since it is printed on normal copy paper, the Elections staff must recreate it and print it off on the specific ballot paper in order for the machine to be able to read the ballot.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

V. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

VI. MINUTES

VII. MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION

A. Canvass and tabulate mail-in Election Day ballots

B. Adjudication of Civilian Absentee ballots and Mail-In ballots

Beth opened bins with seals 23738 and 23749 which contain the ballots with various issues from the vote by mail center.

1. The Board reviewed four ballots that the outer envelope does not contain an inner envelope and does not contain a ballot.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to reject all 4 ballots.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES
FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023
PAGE 2

2. The Board reviewed 47 ballots that the outer envelope contains a ballot not contained in an inner (a.k.a. “naked” ballot).

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to reject 46 ballots and accept 1 ballot.

3. The Board reviewed 9 ballots that the outer envelope was flagged for a signature issue.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to accept all 9 ballots.

4. The Board reviewed 37 ballots that the outer envelope has no voter provided date.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to accept 3 ballots where the date was located not in the required spot but was on the envelope.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Vicki Fong, The Board voted 2:1 with Chris Exarchos opposed to reject 34 ballots where the voter did not date the envelope at all.

5. The Board reviewed 2 ballots that the inner envelope has text, mark, or symbol which reveals the identity of the voter, the voter’s political affiliation (party), or the voter’s candidate preference.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Vicki Fong, The Board voted 2:1 with Chris Exarchos opposed to reject all 2 ballots.

6. The Board reviewed 42 ballots that had incomplete dates.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to accept all 42 ballots.

7. The Board reviewed 1 ballot that the voter included two ballots.

Action: On a motion by Chris Fowler, seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to accept the 1 ballot.

8. The Board reviewed 2 ballots that the voter did not provide proper ID.

Beth stated the voters have until May 22, 2023 by 5 PM to provide the proper ID for the ballots to be accepted, so a motion cannot be taken at this time. If both voters do not provide proper ID by the deadline, they will be rejected but if proper ID is shown by the deadline, they will be accepted.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES
 FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023
 PAGE 3

C. Adjudicate, tabulate, and canvass provisional ballots

Provisional Ballots – 2023 Municipal Primary Election by Precinct:
 (All precincts not listed were verified to have zero provisional ballots.)

Precinct	Full Count	Partial Count	Rejected
6	1	0	0
17	1	0	0
20	1	0	0
21	1	0	0
31	1	0	0
37-1	2	0	0
41	1	0	0
48	1	0	0
49	2	0	1-incorrect political party
50	1	0	0
51	0	0	1-voter signed poll book
53	0	0	1-rejected registered in another County
55	1	0	1-incomplete voter affidavit
56	1	0	0
57	1	0	0
65	1	0	0
67	1	0	0
68	1	0	0
69	1	0	0
72	1	0	0
78	1	0	0
88	2	0	0

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES
 FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023
 PAGE 4

89	1	0	1-incorrect political party
90	1	0	0
91	2 1-pending if full count or rejected, did not show ID and has until 5/22 to supply ID	0	0

There was a total of 27 ballots of full count, 0 partial count, 5 rejected and 1 pending until May 22, 2023 which is the deadline the voter has to show proper ID. If they do not provide ID by the deadline, it will be rejected.

D. 2% Statistical Audit of In-Person Election Day ballots

Precincts 12, 56 and 69 were picked to perform the 2% audit by the Board.

Jodi Nedd ran the ballots from the three Precincts that were picked to perform the 2% audit through the DS450 machine.

The results from the DS450 were compared to the in-person election day totals. All precinct totals matched.

E. Canvass and tabulate Military/Civilian Overseas ballots

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Election Board/Official Count Board/Provisional Ballot Board Meeting Schedule (This schedule is tentative, and adjustments may need to be made):

May 23, 2023 - 3:00 PM

- Certify Unofficial Results

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 – 3:00 PM

- Certify Official Results

IX. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next scheduled Board of Elections meeting is Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 3:00 P.M. at the Willowbank Building Room 146.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

XI. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES
FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023
PAGE 5

XII. ADJOURN

On a motion by Chris Fowler seconded by Chris Exarchos, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Good
Executive Office Supervisor