



**BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES
RETURN BOARD
PROVISIONAL BALLOT BOARD**

Friday, May 21, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

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

Virtual – [Zoom](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Voter Registration Coordinator Latisha Stefanko, Election Coordinator Jodi Nedd, and Staff Assistant Jillian Savage.

County Personnel present included Jason Moser, Samantha Reese, District Attorney Bernie Cantorna, Solicitor Elizabeth Dupuis, Travis Walker, Lora Day, and Cris Norris.

Guests present included Lisa Bier, Jeremie Thompson, Carols Ipad, Jennifer Dellantonio, Cathy Zarillo, Margaret Wolfe, Cheri Banks, and Christine Hopkins.

Media present included Gary Sinderson.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jennifer Dellantonio of Rush Township offered public comment regarding algorithm used to order mail-in ballots and the Sure System.
- Public comment was given regarding a full forensic audit of both elections.
- Public comment was given regarding if the Municipal Primary Election was valid.
- Public comment was given regarding involving the Republican chair as an advisor.
- Public comment was given regarding processing of mail-in/civilian absentee ballots.

Commissioner Pipe responded to questions and comments.

III. NEW BUSINESS

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

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

PAGE 2

Seal number 3038 was removed from the ballot receptacle containing the ballots that would not scan through DS450 and DS200, these ballots were recreated or timing marks fixed and scanned through the DS200. Ballots that were successfully scanned through the DS200 were sealed in a ballot receptacle – seal number 0603182. Removed seal 0603182 to add scanned issue ballots – new seal number 0603001.

Commissioner Higgins explained recreating the ballot is done when the ballot won't scan, torn or damaged, or military/civilian overseas ballots are printed on regular paper to return the ballot.

Seal number 5841 was removed from the ballot receptacle containing ten issue ballots and were scanned through the DS200. Ballots that were successfully scanned through the DS200 were added to the ballot receptacle with other scanned vote-by-mail ballots seal number 0603001.

B. Adjudication, Tabulate, and Canvass Provisional ballots

The Board reviewed the Provisional Voting Return Envelope and provisional ballots for each precinct. 55 total provisional ballots were cast, 43 full count, three partial, and nine were rejected.

Ballots that were successfully scanned through the DS200, were sealed in a ballot receptacle seal number 0603273. Removed seal 0603273 to add provisional ballots that were recreated – new seal number 0445558.

Latisha explained that the provisional ballot return envelopes that are showing empty have been confirmed that there are indeed zero provisional ballots for those precincts. The provisional ballot bags are sent out with the supplies and they are sealed with a red seal, if that red seal comes back intact we know for certain that zero ballots were issued.

Solicitor Elizabeth Dupuis determined that issue provisional ballots with only one signature cannot be counted. It must have both signatures.

C. Canvass and Tabulate Military/Civilian Overseas ballots

The Board opened and reviewed three military/civilian overseas ballots. Ballots were scanned through the DS200 and counted.

Commissioner Pipe stated that two military/civilian overseas ballots are still outstanding. The deadline is on Tuesday, May 25, by 5:00 PM.

D. 2% Count of In-Person Election Day ballots

The Board performed a count in excess of 10% by selecting seven precincts from each school district. The results from the DS450 were compared to the Election Night Reports. All precinct reports matched. Precincts:

1. #47 Ferguson North 1- seal removed 276653 – resealed seal number 0603032
2. #53 Gregg Township – seal removed 374853 – resealed seal number 0603025
3. #42 College South – seal removed 276654 – resealed seal number 0603024

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

PAGE 3

4. #32 State College West 2 – seal removed 276652 – resealed seal number 0603023
5. #75 Rush East – seal removed 276659 – resealed seal number 0603031
6. #05 Bellefonte West – seal removed 0603294 – resealed seal number 0603022
7. #81 Taylor Township – seal removed 276655 – resealed seal number 0603033

Commissioner Dershem stated that all ballots, with the exception of military/civilian overseas ballots received by Tuesday, May 25, by 5:00 PM have been counted.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 PM on May 17)

Monday, August 2, 2021

Last day to circulate and file nomination papers

Monday, August 9, 2021

Last day to file objections to nomination papers

Monday, August 9, 2021

Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated by nomination papers

Monday, August 9, 2021

Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated at the primary

Monday, October 18, 2021

Last day to REGISTER before the November election

Tuesday, Oct 26, 2021

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

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 PM.)

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

VII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

A. Gary Sinderson – WJAC - TV

1. Where are we now in counting?
2. Is there any other review planned after this?
3. You are an elected official, what are your thoughts when you hear people say they have no faith in the election process?
4. Is there an estimate of how many people went to the polls and there were no ballots?

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

PAGE 4

5. When you are up for re-election you use a different Board of Elections, would you give any thought of having a different Board of Elections on a more frequent basis?

6. Do you have any plans to resign?

Commissioner Pipe responded to questions from the press.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Pipe, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Lora Day
Elections Office
Department 3 Clerk