



BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 4:00 P.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 4:10 PM by Chair of the Board Commissioner Steven Dershem.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator John Franek Jr., Director of Elections Beth Lechman, Elections Coordinator Jodi Nedd, and County Solicitor Elizabeth Dupuis.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

IV. MINUTES

V. PRIMARY ELECTION

A. Canvass and tabulate military/civilian overseas ballots.

Seal numbers 22004 and 22090 were removed from the ballot receptacle containing date issue and military ballots.

The Board reviewed six military/civilian overseas/federal ballots. The ballots were recreated using the ExpressVote and were scanned through the DS200. Six ballots were counted.

B. Adjudicate, canvass and tabulate civilian absentee ballots and mail-in ballots.

Commissioner Dershem stated due to the Third-Circuit Court decision to count ballots with no voter provided date in Lehigh County, the Board must decide on whether to count these ballots in Centre County.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Pipe seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to rescind the action taken on Thursday, May 19, to reject ballots without a voter provided date and incorrect date issue ballots and move to count ballots and keep segregated until further notice from County Solicitor and the courts.

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The Board reviewed fifty-seven ballots without a voter provided date and four ballots with incorrect date issues. Fifty-Four ballots without a voter provided date were counted and three ballots were “naked ballots” and rejected. Four ballots with incorrect date issues were counted.

Director Beth Lechman stated fifty-four ballots without a voter provided date will be scanned and tabulated through the DS200 on a separate USB stick and the four incorrect date issue ballots will be scanned and tabulated through the DS200 on a separate USB stick. Ballot counts will be kept segregated.

C. Pre-certify General Primary May 17, 2022 Election results

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Dershem seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to Pre-certify the General Primary May 17, 2022 Election results.

Undated and Incorrectly Dated Absentee/Mail-In Ballots Unofficial Return Reporting Results General Primary, May 17, 2022 Part Two	
UNITED STATES SENATOR – DEMOCRAT ALEX KHALIL - 1 CONOR LAMB - 11 MALCOLM KENYATTA - 0 JOHN FETTERMAN - 29	UNITED STATES SENATOR – REPUBLICAN KATHY BARNETTE - 4 MEHMET OZ - 4 GEORGE BOCHETTO - 1 JEFF BARTOS - 3 DAVE MCCORMICK - 0 SEAN GALE - 1 CARLA SANDS - 4
GOVERNOR – DEMOCRAT JOSH SHAPIRO - 41	GOVERNOR – REPUBLICAN LOU BARLETTA - 3 DOUGLAS MASTRIANO - 1 NCHE ZAMA - 0 DAVE WHITE - 0 MELISSA HART - 0 BILL MCSWAIN - 1 CHARLIE GEROW - 1 JOE GALE - 0 JAKE CORMAN - 11
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR – DEMOCRAT AUSTIN DAVIS - 21 RAY SOSA - 6 BRIAN SIMS - 12	LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR – REPUBLICAN CLARICE SCHILLINGER - 2 JAMES EARL JONES - 3 RICK SACCONI - 2 JOHN BROWN - 0

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	CHRIS FRYE - 0 JEFF COLEMAN - 3 RUSS DIAMOND - 1 CARRIE LEWIS DELROSSO - 3 TEDDY DANIELS - 2
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Action: On a motion by Commissioner Pipe seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to certify the Undated and Incorrectly Dated Absentee/Mail-In Ballots Unofficial Return Results Reporting Form General Primary May 17, 2022 Part Two.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss plans for possible recount

Director Beth Lechman stated we will wait for the decision from the Department of State for the recount. In preparation, Beth has reserved a room in Emergency Operations Center for June 1 and 2. Preliminary on the schedule with ES&S to rent a DS850 and have two site support technicians. The recount in November 2021 cost \$42,000.00. The Department of State only covered \$10,000.00 of the cost of the recount.

Beth stated that she is using guidance from Purdon's Pennsylvania Statutes and Consolidated Statutes and only allowing two watchers per candidate to attend the recount.

Commissioner Pipe inquired about challenges during the recount. Beth stated watchers are not allowed to challenge during the recount.

The Board decided that any unscannable or damaged ballots during the recount will be recreated with an ExpressVote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

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 16)

IX. MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

2:30 PM Certify Official Results Willowbank 146

Thursday, June 2, 2022

1 PM Certify Recount Results Willowbank 146

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

The Board met in Executive Session between 11:30 AM to 11:45 AM to discuss a legal matter.

XI. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

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XII. ADJOURN

On a motion by Commissioner Pipe seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lora Day
Dept 3 Clerk
Elections