



BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

Thursday, August 6, 2020, 9:00 A.M.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Centre County Board of Elections was convened at 9:03 AM by Chair of the Board of Elections, Commissioner Steven Dershem.

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. NEW BUSINESS

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Election – November 3, 2020

i. Mail House Recommendations

On Tuesday, the Board asked Director Joyce McKinley to recommend a mail house for the General Election. She said that several counties have used this service in the past and will be doing so in the fall. Montgomery said that they would not recommend Election IQ. Joyce recommended Midwest, who is a COSTARS vendor. They were used by Allegheny County who was very satisfied with their performance.

Commissioner Pipe asked that if the county enters into a contract that the contract have a verification or pledge guaranteeing their turnaround time. In accordance with the Election Code this is 48 hours and Joyce said that the vendor would be able to meet that. Before guaranteeing their commitment, the Board would like to review the final contract. At this time Joyce only has a quote and she will request a copy of the contract to distribute to the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to consider Midwest pending review of the contract and further discussion next week.

ii. Ballot Processing Location

As the Board awaits further guidance from the Department of State, Commissioner Dershem asked if the Board would like to put a request in to Lambert hall for use of their facility. Commissioner Pipe is still awaiting a

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response from the Department of State as there are other counties faced with a similar situation. He agreed that Election staff should inquire about the use of Lambert Hall in case it is needed.

iii. Technical Support

Latisha spoke with Pitney Bowes about technical support and their recommendation was to transport necessary equipment in advance for setup and testing. Without the location specifics or a start date, they are unsure if they can be available all day or as an on-call service. The technician is used by other counties, so if he is on-call his availability would be first come first serve. The count will take place off site no matter what, so Commissioner Dershem would like to have the technician available within a reasonable amount of time if needed. It is not necessary that he be physically present and he can be shared with other counties.

V. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. The Board met in executive session on Tuesday, August 4 from 12:09 PM to 12:28 PM to discuss a personnel matter.
- B. Administrator Margaret Gray reported that Solicitor Betsy Dupuis that Commissioner Candidate Pat Romano has not yet paid his fine and he stated that it will not be paid. He has asked where the County is at with filing of their suit with the MDJ.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

VII. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, August 10, 2020

Last day to withdrawal by candidates nominated by nomination papers.

Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated at the primary.

Monday, October 19, 2020

Last day to REGISTER before the November election.

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

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

IV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Pipe, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to move into executive session at 9:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Natalie Smith
Executive Office Supervisor