

LUZERNE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AND REGISTRATIONS MEETING
MINUTES MARCH 31, 2021 (DRAFT)

Call to order 4:33 PM byr Audrey Serniak

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call-Kathy Roth present, Richard Nardone present, Missy Thomas absent, Audrey Serniak present

Approval of Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Motion to approve: Kathy Roth 2nd : Ricard Nardone

Approved unanimously

Report on Executive Session

Romilda Crocamo reported the Board went into executive session on 3/24/2021 from 5:50 PM to 6:20 PM and again on 3/26/2021 from 1:30 PM to 2PM. Personnel matters were discussed on both occasions.

Missy Thomas joined the meeting at 4:37PM and took over as Chair.

Minutes

No corrections

Motion to accept: Richard Nardone 2nd Kathy Roth

Approved unanimously.

Public Comment (4 minutes)

Mark Rabo, Hazleton City: Mr. Rabo welcomed the new Board members and Bob Morgan, the new Director of the Bureau. He has received questions about the finance reporting schedule which is not posted on the website. He asked that information be posted. He requested updates on primary locations and any changes for the primaries. He asked that primary information regarding polling places and drop boxes be posted on the website. Requested an update on the election inquiry committee work.

Walter Griffith, Trucksville: Mr. Griffith requested that the links to the virtual meeting be correctly identified on the website. He was concerned about the perception of cronyism and nepotism on county boards and that people would think that Bob Morgan and Eryn Harvey were picked for their political affiliations and not for their experience. He asked about Missy Thomas's employment with Commonwealth Health and that company's possible contracts with Luzerne County. Romilda Crocamo thanked him for bringing the matter up and out in the open and assured everyone that there were no conflicts.

Solicitor's Report

Mike Butera reported that he, Paula Radick, and Romilda Crocamo were going over the election inquiry report and making sure the Bureau was implementing the items.

Motion to accept: Kathy Roth 2nd Richard Nardone

Roll call vote: Audrey Serniak yes, Kathy Roth yes, Richard Nardone yes, Missy Thomas yes

Bureau of Elections Report

Eryn Harvey advised that polling places are being finalized. She asked that the Board members come in to provide their signatures for the ballots. Dave Parsnik asked Board members come in for their credentials. He also advised that the campaign finance dates were in the candidate packets.

Motion to accept: Richard Nardone 2nd : Kathy Roth

Roll call vote: Audrey Serniak yes, Kathy Roth yes, Richard Nardone yes, Missy Thomas yes

Board of Elections Report

Audrey Serniak advised Richard Nardone and Audrey Serniak attended poll book training.

Kathy Roth asked if more sessions would be available and was advised there would be.

Motion to accept Kathy Roth 2nd Richard Nardone

Approved unanimously

Business

Date for Chair Selection

We have 3 applications for Chair. Applications are can be considered if postmarked 03/31/2021. The questions used during the interview process for the last Chair and the procedure used will be emailed to the Board. The applications will also be emailed.

Although an in person meeting is preferred by the Board, because of Covid restrictions that will not be possible. IT is still working on the logistics for a hybrid meeting.

Motion to have a special, virtual meeting to select the Chair on April 7, 2021 Kathy Roth 2nd Richard Nardone Approved unanimously.

In Person Meetings

Motion to have virtual meetings until further notice Richard Nardone 2nd Kathy Roth Approved unanimously. All agreed that meetings will begin at 5PM.

Richard Nardone asked if we needed to vote on the Chair next week. Advised no. Audrey Serniak advised that after the interviews for the last Chair, the Board did go apart to consider the candidates before nominating and voting in public. If none chosen the Board can repost. The Board was advised that they must choose a Chair within 60 days of the vacancy being declared or any citizen of the county can petition the court to have the Chair filled. Council declared the vacancy 02/23/2021. The members also need to provide financial statements by 05/01/2021

Next Regular Meeting-April 14, 2021 5 PM Special Meeting April 7, 2021 5 PM

Motion to Adjourn Richard Nardone 2nd Kathy Roth Adjourned 5:15PM