

LUZERNE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
AND REGISTRATIONS MEETING  
MINUTES AUGUST 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vito DeLuca announced that an executive session was held on August 11, 2021 from 1:30-2:20 PM to discuss litigation of the DA race; no deliberations inconsistent with the Sunshine Act took place

PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE

ROLL CALL

Kathy Roth yes (virtual), Audrey Serniak yes, Missy Thomas yes, Richard Nardone yes, Denise Williams yes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to accept Kathy Roth 2<sup>nd</sup> Rick Nardone unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS (4 minutes)

Walter Griffith-objects to a two year term for DA; says the charter stipulates a four year term; poll worker training should be mandated as best we can; when does the ballot need to be finalized; thanked the Bureau and Board for getting the financial reports online

MINUTES

Motion to approve July 14, 2021 minutes Rick Nardone 2<sup>nd</sup> Audrey Serniak unanimous

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mike Butera reported that one complaint has been closed; it resulted from a clerical error on the state level with no criminal intent or crime committed; the remaining complaints are ongoing; there will be a final report

Regarding the November ballot, a lawsuit has been filed regarding the DA race and is under review

## BUREAU OF ELECTIONS REPORT

Eryn Harvey gave the report. Several machines will be sent for repair; they were not used in the November 2020 or May 2021 elections and will be used as backup

Five bids for the contract for printing and mailing mail in ballots were received; they were sent to purchasing and will be placed on the website for public review

The poll worker feedback sessions were informative; there have been problems with the type of stylus used for signing the electronic poll books and constables are often shared between polling places; Mike Butera advised that the constable position is hard to fill people are not running and in addition to residing in the district there are other requirements; the courts are aware of the need to fill the vacancies

There will be a report on drop boxes ready for the next meeting

The Bureau is caught up with the directives; Eryn Harvey attended a conference; she is looking at a text communication system for election day; she advised that updating the website will be difficult; Rick Nardone believes a lot of the work is already done, all that is needed are links to voting equipment and voting sites

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS REPORT

Motion to ratify votes taken at the June 116 and July 14, 2021 meetings Audrey Serniak 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Missy Thomas unanimous

The Face Book page has been completely removed

Rick Nardone strongly suggests training be required for all volunteer poll workers; Eryn Harvey advised we may not be able to require this of elected poll officials; most poll workers attend training; Eryn believes a requirement will prevent people from volunteering and we need poll workers; Rick says this is a recruitment problem not a training problem; maybe the Board can help motivate people; require it once a year; perhaps train county workers to be back ups for no shows

The August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held because of the press of business-drop boxes, DA race, election complaint investigation

Vito DeLuca advised that as long as there is a physical location for the public to come to participate, members of the Board can appear virtually

Drop boxes will be discussed at the next meeting

## PUBLIC COMMENTS (4 minutes)

Walter Griffith-questioned Bob Morgan's absence; thought there should be an instructional video on completing mail in ballots; IQ contract was through 12/3/2020; wants a ballot marking machine review where the public can 'kick the tires'; thinks Judge of Election training can be mandated; should capitalize on virtual training with an evaluation

Leonard Piazza-Advised the Board that county employees cannot serve as poll workers (Mike Butera will look into this but thinks Mr. Piazza is right). In the chat, he stated that the Bureau was a wreck and that it should not be headed by a political operative; Denise Williams said Bob Morgan has never acted as a political operative, she has never experienced that with Bob Morgan; Mr. Piazza said it was his opinion that Mr. Morgan was not qualified and that this was other people's opinion as well

#### NEXT MEETING

August 25, 2021 at 5 PM; hybrid in county council room in the courthouse

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion Missy Thomas 2ns Kathy Roth unanimous

ADJOURNED 6:16 PM