

**LUZERNE COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD APRIL 2, 2012**

The Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration met on April 2, 2012 at 5:00 PM at the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) for the purpose of conducting regular business. Present were:

H. Jeremy Packard, Chairman
Thomas J. Baldino, PhD, First Vice Chair
John C. Ruckno, Second Vice Chair
John F. Newman, Secretary
Barbara J. Williams, Alternate Secretary
Michael I. Butera, Esq., Solicitor
Leonard C. Piazza III, Director of Elections

Chairman Packard called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no Public Comment. Mr. Newman stated that there were several corrections that needed to be made to the minutes of the March 19, 2012 meeting. Chairman Packard also recommended two (2) additions. These additions and corrections will be made and issued for acceptance at the April 16 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Piazza reviewed the Official Ballots for the April 24, 2012 Primary Election, and he updated the Board on the voter registration and absentee ballot activity in advance of the Primary Election. He distributed copies of the sample ballots and the absentee ballot, which have the return receipt date of 5:00 PM on April 20, 2012. There was some discussion on these matters.

Mr. Piazza advised the Board that there will be a polling place change for Dallas Township. Precinct 03 will be moved from the Dallas Municipal Building at 601 Tunkhannock Highway to Fellowship Church, 45 Hildebrandt Road, beginning with the April 24 Primary Election. The situation was discussed at length with Mr. Newman expressing concern about advance notice to the electorate about this change, because the change affects over 2,000 voters. Mr. Piazza assured the Board that there will be sufficient publicity and notification to the voters. Each voter will be furnished a new voters registration card indicating the change in polling places. A motion to approve the change in this polling place was made by Mr. Newman, seconded by Mr. Ruckno, and it was approved unanimously.

A discussion was held on the announcement of Summer and Fall Internship Opportunities. Dr. Baldino agreed to coordinate the program with Mr. Piazza, and he will advise other institutions of higher learning in Luzerne County of the program. Mr. Piazza also advised that he will coordinate a date and time for the Board to tour the Election Operations, and that they would be properly credentialed for Election Day.

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OLD BUSINESS: Solicitor Butera indicated that he had sent an Email to Judge of Election Charles Lake of Fairview Township with a decision on his query into the matter raised by voter Mr. Fred Heller. After discussion the Board considered this matter closed.

At this point the Board recessed to Executive Session.

Having recessed from Executive Session, Chairman Packard declared the Board in recess at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Newman
Secretary for the Board.