

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015, 10:00 A.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM #1 FIRST FLOOR
COURTHOUSE, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219

BOARD MEMBERS: HONORABLE MICHAEL J. FINNERTY, CHAIR
HONORABLE PAUL E. COZZA MEMBER
HONORABLE HEATHER S. HEIDELBAUGH, ABSENT

IN ATTENDANCE: JERRY TYSKIEWICZ, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
MARK WOLOSIK, MANAGER, DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
ALLAN OPSITNICK, ASST. COUNTY SOLICITOR, LAW
DEPARTMENT

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Finnerty at 10:01 a.m. Ms. Heidelbaugh was not present.
- II. **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2015 MEETING MINUTES:** Mr. Finnerty, Yes, Judge Cozza, Yes, Ms. Heidelbaugh, Not present.
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Audrey Glickman, VoteAllegheny: Stated concerns regarding length of time batteries provide a charge, and the use of emergency paper ballots on election day, requested that this Division oppose Senate Bill 1052 providing for internet voting by military and overseas citizens and submitted attached statement.

Ron Bandes, VoteAllegheny: Related experience with a voting machine that did not issue warning beep for a fleeing voter and noted problems with Pa. Department of State website concerning the inability to access by ipads and the use of street directionals. Mr. Wolosik advised him send him an email and he will forward same to the Department of State.

Annette Shimer, League of Women Voters: Related concerns from voters who were notified that their voting machine ballot was not complete. Mr. Wolosik will investigate issue. Related concerns from a voter who was unable to locate her polling place using the County polling place locator and a voter who did not feel she was given the correct answer relating to undervoting. Discussion concerning her request that candidates provide an email address on their nominating petition. Mr. Wolosik responded

- IV. **CERTIFICATION OF NOVEMBER 3, 2015 MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS.** Mr. Finnerty, Yes, Judge Cozza, Yes, Ms. Heidelbaugh, not present.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by Mr. Finnerty, meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

Thank you for opening the Parallel Testing to watchers. It was most informative.

And thank you of course for all the unimaginable things that the Elections Division accomplishes.

Example: A judge of elections doesn't show up (15-1), suddenly someone from a Wilkinsburg polling place gets transferred to that position. The equipment is magically deposited.

Please tell Judges to issue paper right away when no machines are working. We ask, please, that judges of elections be informed that when machines don't work, just issue paper right away. In district 14-36, in the Shaare Torah, at least nine voters were being asked to wait for at least 45 minutes (there are at least three different versions of the timing), and ultimately left. Of the nine, maybe only four or five returned later to vote.

Batteries are not lasting for three hours. Meanwhile, across the social hall in 14-37, that judge knew to issue paper; she had done it in a past election. But for this election, there only seemed to be enough power for one machine at the beginning of the day – there was not enough battery power on the other two to keep them running until the technician arrived. This may be a power issue in the Shaare Torah ballroom, but the batteries in the machines are supposed to be able to last for three hours.

More than three poll workers for next year? Precinct 14-20 in the Maxon Towers once again only had three poll workers. They had hoped to be able to break someone in before next year's elections. They really, really will need a fourth person for next year. The room may be small, but the work is just as big.

We also note that there was some controversy about what the machines showed in the case of an intentional undervote. Where voters did not cast a vote in some races, the machine did not offer the option to press the screen down below to complete the ballot, it only offered the "vote" button for both times. It was confusing, as it was not clear what the voters should do. I saw this myself on the "last" machine in 15-2, serial number V5170658.

Very important for the security of our elections. We want to ask, please, that Mark follow the lead of the elections officials in Kentucky, who banded together and lobbied strongly against their state's legislature trying to adopt internet voting for overseas and military personnel. The Kentucky directors know that it cannot be accomplished securely, nor even well. SB 1052 will be up for a vote any day now, and it would charge elections divisions with somehow making internet voting happen for those personnel. VotePA compares that with telling the directors to make pink unicorns fly over the state capital – if it is impossible, it is impossible, no matter what law gets passed.