

BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 6, 2011

Members Present: Mr. Brady Mr. Krzyzanowski
 Mr. Kuhrt Mr. Lanouette
 Mrs. Pase Mr. Pasquale
 Mr. Sterling Mr. Thurrell
 Mrs. Whittington

Staff Present: Mr. Albence, Director
 Mr. Sholl, Deputy Director
 Mrs. Manlove, State Election Commissioner

1. Mr. Brady called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
2. Mrs. Pase moved and Mr. Pasquale seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2011, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Sholl provided reported that expenditures for the current fiscal year are on track. The Department is closely monitoring expenses (e.g., utility costs) for the new Warehouse, with special attention to energy consumption.
4. Mr. Sholl reviewed data on registered voters removed from the voter registration rolls due to a felony conviction. A total of 8,124 registered voters have been flagged as felons since the beginning of the State's Election Management System in 1991. In 2011, 328 registered voters have been flagged as felons.
5. Mr. Sholl reported that the Voter Registration Unit is current on all work at this time. He also informed the Board of recent updates on the number of registered voters in New Castle County by month, as detailed below:
 - Dec 1, 2011: 373,115
 - Nov 1, 2011: 372,483
 - Nov 1, 2010: 389,657
6. Mr. Albence informed the Board of the following 2012 elections:
 - Feb 7: Correctional Officers Assoc. of DE Officers Election
 - Feb 28: Red Clay School District – Bond referendum
 - Mar 28: Brandywine School District – Operating referendum
 - Apr 24: Presidential Primary
 - May 8: School Board
 - Sep 11: Primary
 - Nov 6: General Election

7. Mr. Sholl reported that activity on the Department's website remains at non-election year levels. The modest increase in activity in November may be attributed to inquiries from those who believed that elections were being held in Delaware in 2011.
8. Mr. Albence informed the board of upcoming professional development opportunities for department staff, including:
 - Training on absentee voting (process and procedures)
 - Training on the new absentee voting equipment [be held at the Dominion Voting training center in Dallas, TX] (January 2012)
9. Mr. Albence updated the board that he and Mr. Sholl plan to attend the annual JEOLC meeting in Washington, DC, in January 2012.
10. Mr. Sholl provided an update on the Department's work on redistricting following the 2010 Census. He also provided an update on work the Department has undertaken to assist the State Election Commissioner with the redistricting of northern New Castle County school districts.
11. Mr. Sholl reported that new high-speed absentee ballot scanners have been ordered, and that the Department will perform acceptance testing on December 20, 2011. He also updated the Board that the replacement ballot printer has been tested.
12. Mr. Albence provided an update on the Department's new warehouse. He reported that some final finish work must be completed, that the internet connection is now in place, and that the phone system installation is pending. In addition, he reported that plans for the training room are moving forward, and that HiFi House has been selected to provide/install audio-visual components for the room. He also reported that bidding on the project has been delayed within OMB and, as such, the Department will need to seek alternate space for Election Officer training for the Presidential Primary.
13. Mr. Sholl provided the following updates regarding proposed Federal legislation:
 - HR 3463: Bill eliminating the Election Assistance Commission
 - Bill passed House, but is expected to fail in Senate.
14. Mr. Sholl reported the legislation in the General Assembly regarding the following topics:
 - In January, the Senate will consider the a bill amending Title 15, which includes updates regarding list maintenance, a mandate for facilities receiving State funds to be available as polling places, and authorization to extend the option for electronic transmittal and return of absentee ballots to voters with disabilities.
 - A Title 15 "cleanup bill" will be introduced in January.

- A constitutional amendment bill will be introduced in January, addressing ongoing issues (e.g., outdated language, etc.).
15. Mr. Sholl reported that materials to be archived are being prepared for delivery to the State Archives. The new redistricting maps will be delivered to Archives in electronic format.
 16. Mr. Sholl reported that the in-house UOCAVA solution (*VoteDelaware*) will be unveiled on at 2 p.m. on December 7, 2011, at the State Election Commissioner's Office.
 17. Mr. Sholl updated the Board on the voting machine moving contract:
 - Public notice was posted on November 30, 2011.
 - The contract is scheduled to be awarded on January 13, 2012.
 18. Mr. Albence provided a recap of the Electronic Records Information Center (ERIC) program in which the State will participate. This is a multi-jurisdiction shared database designed to improve accuracy of voter registration records by identifying potentially eligible unregistered voters and to improve the address verification process. The program has been supported by the Pew Center on the States. The launch of ERIC has been delayed, but is expected to take place shortly. There are no significant updates from last month's discussion on this topic.
 19. State Election Commissioner (SEC) Manlove reported the following:
 - The SEC held a public hearing on Wednesday, 11/30, for public comment on the proposed school redistricting plan. Minor revisions suggested by attendees have been incorporated into the proposed plan.
 - The *VoteDelaware* UOCAVA solution will be unveiled on Wednesday, December 7th at the SEC offices.
 - A meeting to discuss pending legislation and redistricting "cleanup" legislation will be held at the SEC offices on Thursday, December 8th.
 - Training on absentee policies and procedures will take place in her office on Friday, December 9th.
 - SEC staff visited the Laurel State Service Center to see why the eSig system is working so well there. During the visit they discovered a problem with the process that can be corrected.
 - A total of 11 elections staff will be traveling to Dallas, TX, in January for training on the new absentee voting equipment at the Dominion Voting training facility.
 - A meeting/demonstration of the eSig system will be conducted at the Department of Labor next week.
 - Mr. Albence and Mr. Sholl will represent Ms. Manlove at the State Board of Education meeting on December 15th to answer any

questions regarding the redistricting of School District Nominating Districts.

20. Old Business: None

21. New Business:

- Mr. Sterling moved and Mr. Pasquale seconded a motion to approve the new maps of New Castle County House and Senate districts. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Thurrell moved and Mrs. Pase seconded a motion to approve the new maps of nominating districts for the Brandywine, Christina, Colonial, and Red Clay school districts. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Thurrell moved and Mr. Pasquale seconded a motion to approve two additional polling place changes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- Next regularly scheduled meeting: **Tuesday, January 10, 2012.**

22. Board Removals & Birth Date Corrections:

- Mr. Sterling moved and Mr. Pasquale seconded the motion to:
 - Remove 90 names from the voter registration rolls due to a move out of state.
 - Remove 36 names from the voter registration rolls through the address verification process.
- Mr. Thurrell moved and Mr. Brady seconded the motion to make 7 corrections to birth years noted in voter registration records. Motion passed unanimously.
- *NOTE: There were no personal requests for removals to be considered.*

23. Mr. Sterling moved and Mrs. Pase seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lanouette
Secretary