

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

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2013

Members Present: Mr. Brady Mr. Krzyzanowski
 Mr. Kuhrt Mr. Lanouette
 Mrs. Pase Mr. Sterling
 Mr. Thurrell Mrs. Whittington
 Mrs. Williams-Mayo

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

1. Mr. Brady called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
2. Mr. Sterling moved and Mr. Kuhrt seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2013, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Sholl provided a recap of the Appoquinimink and Colonial School District referenda elections, held on February 28th. Issues encountered on Election Day were minor in nature. Department recommends that Board certify the results of both referenda.
4. Mr. Sholl updated the Board on the Department's financial situation. There is a \$3,500 shortfall in the Energy line due to Primary and General election. The Department will discuss transferring funds to cover the shortfall with OMB.
5. Mr. Sholl reported that the Voter Registration Unit is current on all work and informed the Board on the number of registered voters in New Castle County.
 - Mar 1, 2013: 384,145
 - Nov 1, 2012: 388,862
6. Mr. Sholl reported that activity on the Department's website is at the expected level for a non-election season. Site traffic has returned to normal after an increase in activity around the Appoquinimink and Colonial School District Referenda.
7. Mr. Albence reported on the following upcoming elections:
 - March 18 Wilmington Job Corps
 - March 25 Youth in City Government
 - April 2: Delaware City (tentative)
 - April 9: Newark
 - April 13: New Castle

- April 27: Elsmere
 - May 2: St. Ann School Student Council
 - May 4: Townsend (tentative)
 - May 14: School Board Elections
 - Jun 4: Bellefonte (tentative)
8. Mr. Sholl stated that several bills have been introduced in Congress to “fix” Election Day problems. He reported that these bills have not been well received by the elections community nationally and are not expected to be enacted.
9. Mr. Sholl reported on the following legislation introduced or possible in the General Assembly:
- HB 20: Constitutional amendment to remove stated reasons for absentee voting.
 - A bill to permit Election Day registration is being drafted at the request of a State Representative.
10. Mr. Sholl reported that door lamp wires on all voting machines are being replaced. He also reported that planning continues to expand the area dedicated to voter services in the warehouse. A preliminary architectural drawing is being reviewed.
11. Mr. Sholl reported on the development of a statewide voter portal that would permit true online registration and automation of many absentee voting functions. A prototype of the system was displayed for the board members.
12. Mr. Albence reported that additional data regarding the ERIC voter registration improvement system is pending. This is a follow-up on the initial mailing to potentially eligible, unregistered residents based on the initial set of data made available by ERIC.
13. Commissioner Manlove reported as follows:
- Legislation is being drafted in the General Assembly to address the following issues:
 - candidate withdrawal deadlines and requirements
 - modifying the voting rights regarding felons (regarding removal of the requirement to pay fines and penalties, and the five year waiting period following the payment of fines and penalties—two distinct bills)
 - requiring schools to be closed on all election days
 - eliminating reasons specified for absentee voting (not initiated by Elections); requires a constitutional change, meaning passage by two successive sessions of the General Assembly)
 - mandating the transmittal of all address information from DMV transactions to Elections

- permitting acceptance of signatures already collected in State databases for voter registration applications (which would permit “true” online registration)
 - An effort is underway to ensure that Elections procedures statewide are standardized and recorded for posterity. Following meetings with the county Department Directors and Deputy Directors, meetings of “affinity groups” (staff from the counties that work in same subject areas) will be held.
14. Old Business: None
15. New Business:
- Next meeting: **Tuesday, April 2, 2013** at the Department’s offices.
 - Mr. Thurrell moved and Mrs. Williams-Mayo seconded a motion to certify the results of the Appoquinimink and Colonial School District referenda held on February 28, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.
16. Board Removals & Birth Date Corrections:
- Mr. Kuhrt moved and Mrs. Pase seconded the motion to:
 - Remove 79 names from the voter registration rolls due to a move out of state.
 - Remove 212 names from the voter registration rolls as a result of the address verification process.
 - Remove 1 name from the voter registration rolls based on a personal request.
 - Make 19 voter birth year corrections.
 - Motion passed unanimously.
17. Mrs. Pase moved and Mr. Sterling seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Lanouette
Secretary

