

**POST-ELECTION MEETING OF THE
DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD
JULY 7, 2022**

PRESENT: Ashley Lunkenheimer
John P. McBlain
Scott Alberts
Manly Parks, Solicitor
Jim Allen, Director of Elections
Laureen Hagan, Bureau of Elections
Lisa Jackson, Campaign Finance
Crystal Winterbottom, Voter Registration
Public Comment:
County Councilwoman Christine Reuther
Jean Montgomery, Chester Heights
Catherine Marie Celley, Darby Twp. 4
Cynthia Long, Upper Darby 4-10
Carris Kocher, Concord Twp. 7
Joy Schwartz, Upper Darby 3-3
Laura Lewis, Radnor Twp. 1-2
Kathryn Buckley, Edgmont Twp. 2
Richard Brown, Haverford Twp. 1-3
Betty Bannon, Radnor Twp.
Drew Melbourne, Springfield Twp. 1-1
Lewis Trauffer, Haverford Twp. 8-1
Karen Fritz, Haverford Twp. 8-1
Ken Rose, Nether Providence 4-1

Ms. Lunkenheimer called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consideration of Agenda. Mr. Allen asked for consideration to approve the June meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. McBlain to approve the June 6, 2022 meeting minutes and seconded by Ms. Lunkenheimer. Motion carried 2-0.

Acceptance of Resignation Mr. Allen inform the board that Mr. Lawrence a board member for 18 years had tendered his resignation. Mr. Allen also informed the board that County Council acted to appoint Mr. Scott Alberts to the Election Board.

The Chair administered the oath of office to Mr. Alberts and congratulated him on joining the Board.

Re-Organization Vote. A motion was made by Mr. McBlain to appoint Ms. Lunkenheimer to Chair of the Board of Elections and Voter Registration Commission and seconded by Mr. Alberts. Motion carried 2-0.

Ms. Lunkenheimer commented on Mr. Lawrence and her experiences and of working with Mr. Lawrence. Mr. McBlain then spoke about working with Mr. Lawrence and his appreciation towards him as well as emulate him as when he was the minority member.

County Councilwoman Reuther spoke on behalf of County Council to state their appreciation for Mr. Lawrence's service and resource of knowledge. Ms. Reuther went on to state that Mr. Lawrence served in the minority for most of his years, yet was a staunch defender of the staff. Ms. Reuther now shares an appreciation for the staff, and credited Mr. Lawrence with having an institutional knowledge and memory that was needed for the new administration.

Director of Elections Report. Mr. Allen asked Ms. Hagan to speak to the preparation going on for the November election. Ms. Hagan thanked Mr. Lawrence for all he had done for elections and his service. Ms. Hagan then informed the board that the permanent application from the primary were being brought forward along with new applications being entered as well as supplies being ordered and put together among various other things. Mr. Allen then asked Ms. Winterbottom to give an update on voter registration. Ms. Winterbottom informed the board of the progress her office was progressing with the ERIC files and accompanied letters going out. Mr. Allen further explained the ERIC program and answered the questions the board had regarding the subject.

Mr. Allen then informed the board of the \$50,000.00 election security grant that we received and the ideas of where and how it would be used. Mr. Allen then discussed other possible funding that was discussed at a conference he had attended. Mr. Allen then answered questions regarding both topics.

Solicitor Report. Mr. Parks discussed the status of the Return Board how it is formed and what their duties are, the status of their report. There was further discussion by Mr. Parks, Mr. Allen and the Election Board regarding the Return Board as well as possible changes that could be made.

Campaign Finance Waiver Requests. Ms. Jackson presented the board with one waiver request. The request was from Marple Newtown Democratic Committee who had a new treasurer in May and had no prior requests and was brought current in filing. A motion was made by Mr. McBlain to waive the fine for the Marple Newtown Democratic Committee and seconded by Mr. Alberts. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment. Ms. Lunkenheimer reminded everyone of the 3-minute rule and that it is public comment not a forum and not a place to spread false statements.

Ms. Montgomery stated that she served as a poll worker in May and was pleased with the training program and the staff. Mr. Allen recognized the trainer and training staff and thanked Ms. Montgomery.

Ms. Celley stated that she was a poll worker and discussed the email she had sent to the office inquiring if there was a way to have 2 paid staff at the doors of the polling location as greeters with candidate biographies. Mr. Allen explained that the Board could not employ partisans to serve as greeters, but that Ms. Celley certainly could approach the political parties about whether they could or would have greeters outside the polling places beyond the campaign-free zone.

Ms. Long requested information to address and respond to changes in the law as well as discussing the issue Prime Pay had issuing some of the paychecks this for the primary. Mr. Allen explained the

replacement checks and that the vendor agreed not to charge the taxpayers for the original checks or the replacement checks.

Carris Kocher questioned why the oath used the word affirm instead of swear and discussed the Return Board, the home rule charter and changes needed.

Ms. Schwartz thanked Mr. Lawrence, welcomed Mr. Alberts and congratulated Ms. Lunkenheimer. Ms. Schwartz then commented on the Return Board and how ballots are fed into the scanners. Mr. Parks and Mr. Allen responded to her questions and explained the events with a printing vendor in another county, which did not impact Delaware County.

Ms. Lewis commented that the county should get rid of the machines and use paper ballots. Mr. Allen noted that Delaware County uses only paper ballots. Ms. Lewis mentioned a report by CISA about a system in use in Colorado. Mr. Allen asked that she forward the report.

Ms. Buckley stated that she was an observer at the Wharf facility and questioned a delivery she saw the morning after Election Day. Ms. Buckley confirmed that she followed the Board's advice to contact the District Attorney. Chair Lunkenheimer stated that the Board would not comment on the referral or any possible open investigation.

Mr. Brown stated that he is a newer poll worker and was pleased with the election and that the processes are safe and secure. Mr. Brown then offered suggestions: 1) Provide a small white board and marker for poll workers to communicate with deaf voters. 2) Present in-person training in the same order as the materials in the handbook. 3) Avoid placing more than one precinct in a polling place.

Ms. Bannon requested and received clarification on the letter that she received from voter registration.

Mr. Melbourne asked that a Board meeting be conducted outside of regular business hours. Ms. Lunkenheimer stated that the Board may consider different times.

Mr. Trauffer asked about the Return Board issues and if the Return Board report could be made public. Mr. Trauffer also requested that the drop box and mail in videos be retained. Mr. Allen addressed the Return Board issues and stated once finished, the Return Board report can be made public as well as stating that the IT team was reviewing possibility to retain the videos with no resolution at that time.

Ms. Fritz asked about the Return Board issues and the possibility of a hybrid model. Ms. Fritz also voiced concerns about certifying the election results without a Return Board report. Ms. Fritz was informed that the Return Board report is not required and is not necessary to certify the election results.

Mr. Rose stated that as a machine inspector and poll worker he has had a positive experience. Mr. Rose continued that he felt properly trained and tested prior to the election and was supplied with the procedures as well as being supported by county staff, legal and constable if needed. Mr. Rose continued that the Bureau of Election and county staff managed the elections very well and even in the pandemic while scared he felt well protected. He was thanked for his service.

Ms. Bannon asked a question regarding if a ballot is undeliverable should it be forwarded? Mr. Allen that ballots are not forwardable mail and are marked "Return Service."

Next meeting date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned.