

## **Delaware County Board of Elections – Minutes – Meeting of April 11, 2025**

Board and staff in attendance

Ashley Lunkenheimer, Chair

Scott Alberts, Member

John C. McMeekin II, Member

Jim Allen, Election Director

J. Manly Parks, Solicitor

Jackie Dunn, Voting Machine Warehouse Chief Custodian

Crystal Winterbottom, Voter Registration Chief Clerk

Olan Yancy, Voting Machine Warehouse Technician

Lisa Jackson, Campaign Finance Supervisor

Meeting called to order

Pledge of allegiance

Review of agenda

### **Public Comment**

Scott Thomas, Steve Skinner, Joy Schwartz and Jason Daschal commented on increasing access during logic-and-accuracy testing. Anne Mosakowski of the League of Women voters commented on the organization's opposition to the federal proposed Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act. David Cleary proposed that the PA Department of State offer an online portal for military/overseas voters, instead of (or in addition to) the federal pdf form. Erik Kocher asked that chain-of-custody forms and data from envelope sorters to be posted to the web. Laura Lewis discussed her estimates of envelopes and trays from November. Carris Kocher asked that the Return Board review mail/absentee ballots. Kathy Buckley suggested earlier state deadlines for voter registration and assigning polling places. John Child suggested delaying the printing of ballots. Joe Finnio spoke in opposition to drop boxes and opposition to the League of Women Voters' representative's remarks. Christine Reuther commented in favor of precinct consolidations and suggested the change that Mr. Cleary proposed could gain support from other counties. Nick Manganaro asked if redistricting was different from consolidation.

### **Polling Place changes**

#### **Parkside**

In response to a petition, staff reviewed the Fire Company and the Elementary School. Public comment was received from people in favor of the current location and in favor of moving the polling place. The Chair and Member Alberts cited reports they had received as reasons to favor moving the polling place. Member McMeekin said it did not seem like there was adequate reason to change the location of the polling place. The Chair moved and Member Alberts seconded a motion to move the precinct from the firehouse to another location when circumstances permit, perhaps in the summer. The motion was approved 2-1, with Member McMeekin voting against. The precinct will remain at the Fire Company for May 20.

### **Darby Borough 2-1 and 2-2**

In response to a petition last fall, staff reviewed keeping these precincts at the Middle School versus moving the precincts to the Darby Borough Recreation Center. Staff noted that there was reluctance to make the move at the Presidential Election. Public comments were heard in favor of both locations. Staff recommended moving to the Recreation Center. Mr. Allen noted at the fall election, it was necessary to hire extra staff outside the middle school to direct all voter, as well as assist voters with

disabilities. Member Alberts made a motion and the Chair seconded the motion to relocate the polling place to the Recreation Center. The motion was approved 2-1, with Member McMeekin voting against.

### **Additional Polling Place changes**

On recommendations of staff, there were needs to move the following polling places:

- Chester City 1-2 and 1-8 to Hunt's Haven;
- Marcus Hook 1 back to the Weldon Community Center, at the request of the Borough;
- Aston 1, at the request of Neumann University, to the Bruder Gymnasium on campus; and,
- Radnor Township 5-2 to JCHAI.

Member McMeekin asked if the Radnor move was temporary, and Mr. Allen said it was not clear, but the indication from St. Aloysius was that the school simply could not host the Primary. The Chair made a motion and Member McMeekin seconded the motion to approve the changes. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Transfer of camera to East Lansdowne**

On recommendation of staff, the Chair moved and Member McMeekin seconded the motion to authorize the transfer of ownership of security equipment to the East Lansdowne Borough for use by its Police Department. (The security equipment was for a drop box that recently was removed.) The motion to authorize transfer of the property was approved.

### **Legal Report**

- Solicitor Parks discussed a US District Court ruling that mail/absentee envelopes without dates or incorrect dates must be opened and the ballots are to be processed. The ruling stated that failure to count such ballots would violate the US Constitution. The case has been appealed to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. There has not yet been an order or stay issued by the Third Circuit to halt the counting ordered by the US District Court.
- Solicitor Parks referenced how the SAVE Act, approved by the US House but not yet by the US Senate, would require persons to prove citizenship in order to register to vote in federal elections. Mr. Parks noted that driver's licenses and state IDs in most cases would not be sufficient, requiring an estimated 9% of all citizens to access their birth certificates, passports or naturalization papers in order to register or update a registration. Mr. Allen discussed administrative issues that would include determining the validity of birth certificates from thousands of jurisdictions across the United States – as well as the lack of any system to verify a person's last name now versus their last name at birth in the event it had changed for marriage or other reason.

### **Campaign Finance Waiver**

Campaign Finance Supervisor Lisa Jackson recommended approval of a request for a campaign-finance waiver from the Upper Chichester Democratic Committee. The Chair moved and Member McMeekin seconded the motion to approve the waiver. Motion was approved.

### **Adjournment**

The Chair moved and Member McMeekin seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion was approved.