

Delaware County Board of Elections – Minutes – Meeting of June 4, 2025, including certification of Primary Results

Board and staff in attendance

Ashley Lunkenheimer, Chair

Scott Alberts, Member

John C. McMeekin II, Member

Jim Allen, Election Director

J. Manly Parks, Solicitor

Crystal Winterbottom, Chief Clerk, Voter Registration

Jackie Dunn, Chief Custodian, Warehouse

Pamela Lairdieson, Poll Worker Coordinator

Rob Wright, Business Analyst/IT

Meeting called to order

Pledge of allegiance

Review of agenda

Public Comment

Carris Kocher spoke on legal notices and operations of the Return Board and whether a report was needed and whether more observation areas could be provided.

Return Board

Members of the bipartisan Return Board reported on their activities. James Ziegelhoffer and Regina Scheerer had both served on the Return Board for multiple years. Mr. Ziegelhoffer reported that the district boards' precinct paperwork has improved each election since 2021, and this Primary's documents were the easiest to review to date. He reported that disparities were rare and minute. He credited the steady updating of training materials ahead of each election, the in-person training, and the introduction of the Poll Pads. Ms. Scheerer also had served as a Return Board member and Judge of Election for years, and reported that the documentation and review process has improved with each election, and that there did not appear to be issues with the voting equipment. Both representatives confirmed the activities of the Return Board and the review of the ballots supplied, ballots used, and the unused ballots, and no findings of fraud or errors. They confirmed performance of the 2% random audit of precincts and that the hand-count of those randomly selected precincts had confirmed the original reported results. They recommended certification of the election. The Return Board representatives also reported they had the opportunity again with this election to make suggestions on refining poll worker paperwork for future elections.

Election Director's report

Mr. Allen reflected on improvements and quoted various election workers who commented on improvements in paperwork, processes and the closing paperwork and streamlined return of materials. Mr. Allen also thanked the Board members who visited and checked on polling places on Election Day, and the various Delaware County Departments, including the Park Police, the Sheriff's Department, Emergency Services, the Solicitor's Office the Controller's Office, and other departments who contributed to the project.

Certification

Mr. Allen suggested a motion, including the petitioners who asked to cumulate their write-in votes. Member Alberts moved and Member McMeekin seconded a motion to certify the election results and write-in cumulation petitions from the May 20, 2025 Primary. Motion was approved unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Parks reported that there was a relatively quiet day, and attributed that, in part, to the training of the poll workers. There was a significant decrease in calls that needed to be re-routed, which reflected training. Mr. Parks also credited the poll workers.

Preparations for Nov. 4 Municipal Election

Mr. Allen reported there would need to be communications with write-in candidates to accept (or decline) their nominations to prepare the fall candidate lists for the ballots. Mr. Allen noted that work would begin on precinct consolidations, including court hearings, over the summer months. Mr. Allen reported on a successful experiment in Chester City with the method for returning the Poll Pads. This method will be expanded to all precincts in the fall and will allow for gathering the Poll Pads and then recording voter history (which voters cast ballots in the precincts) as early as the Wednesday after Election Day.

Minutes of Meetings

Board Member Alberts moved and Chair Lunkenheimer seconded a motion to approve the minutes of Oct. 22 and Nov. 25, 2024. Motion passed 2-0. (Board member McMeekin joined the Board in 2025 and was not part of this vote.)

Next meeting

Mr. Allen said a meeting would not be needed in June and the next meeting would be at the call of the chair.

Adjournment

On motion of Member McMeekin and second by Member Alberts, the Board voted to adjourn.