

**PRE-ELECTION MEETING OF THE
DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
February 27, 2024**

Present:

Ashley Lunkenheimer, Chair, Delaware County Board of Elections
John P. McBlain, Member, Delaware County Board of Elections
Scott Alberts, Member, Delaware County Board of Elections
Jim Allen, Director of Elections
J. Manly Parks, Solicitor
Jackie Dunn, Voting Machine Warehouse
Crystal Winterbottom, Voter Registration
Karen Duffy , Notary, administered the oaths
Public Comment: Joy Schwatz, Upper Darby (KNOWiNK and comments made by the board in January, and Radnor re-districting)
Caris Coker – Glen Mills (Oaths and comments from solicitor Lichtenstein at recent County Council meeting)

Ms. Lunkenheimer called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consideration of Agenda. Mr. Allen spoke on the agenda.

Public Comment. Ms. Schwartz commented on KNOWiNK Poll Pads and about Radnor re-districting. Ms. Coker commented on remarks the County Solicitor made at a recent County Council meeting about when oaths needed to be filed. Mr. Allen responded to Ms. Schwartz and noted that the Department of State supports the use of the KNOWiNK Poll Pads, and that the technology works exceptionally well with both the current state SURE system and with more advanced systems elsewhere. On re-districting, Mr. Allen noted that Radnor Township initiated the re-districting in 2022-2023, not the County, and that the potential for college/university students to register to vote was established 52 years ago in a US Supreme Court case decided soon after ratification of the 26th Amendment.

Special Recognitions. Mr. Allen spoke highly of the staff members for working on and launching the online campaign-finance portal, especially Campaign Finance supervisor Lisa Jackson and IT Liaison Rob Wright. Delaware County is now able to receive online campaign-finance reports and build toward making all current filings, and eventually, all filings from the last 5 years, available online. Ms. Jackson spoke on the process. The board commented. Mr. Allen recognized all of the staff members, led by Mr. Hagan, Mr. Warner and Ms. Brooks, and various team members who had worked extra hours to effectively handle processing of more than 30,000 mail/absentee applications in little more than a month.

Approval of Minutes from January 23, 2024. Mr. McBlain moved to approve the minutes as presented from the January 23, 2024 meeting and Mr. Alberts seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Director of Elections Report. Mr. Allen spoke on the preparations for the 2024 primary as well as changes needed to be made. Mr. Allen stated the management team is monitoring objections and court cases to be able to move forward with other processes. Mr. Allen referenced recent appearance before the League of Women Voters as well as other meeting attended for various reasons. Mr. Allen forwarded concerns raised by Radnor Township officials on whether to delay implementation of the Township's re-districting until after the November election. Mr. Allen spoke of the pros and cons. Mr. McBlain voiced support for implementing the Radnor re-districting immediately after the April Primary. The rest of the board spoke.

Ms. Dunn introduced the following polling place changes: Bi-Partisan agreement for Brookhaven Borough 2 and Tinicum Township 5; Borough leadership support for changing Trainer Lennox Park, Lower and Upper precincts; bipartisan support for a new location for Nether Providence 4-1 & 4-2; and the need to change Haverford Twp. 5-3. (Darby Twp. will be tabled for inspection and Radnor Township withdrew its request for a precinct change there.) Mr. McBlain moved to approve the polling place changes as presented for Brookhaven, Haverford, Nether Providence, Tinicum and Trainer. Mr. Alberts seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

There were no requests for campaign-finance waivers.

Tentative next meeting: March 26, 2024.

Mr. Parks commented on the section of the election code that was mentioned during public comment. Mr. Parks noted that counties may conduct referenda on whether to use voting machines, but such referenda are not mandatory. Mr. Allen added that the current system of paper ballots and scanners are not, by definition, the mechanical "voting machines" that were referenced in the election code and that since have been determined to be inaccessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Meeting Adjourned.