



## BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING

February 24, 2020

Courthouse  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Commissioners Hearing Room  
Carlisle, PA

### Minutes

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**Present:** Commissioner Eichelberger, Commissioner Foschi, Commissioner DiFilippo; Sandy Moyle, Chief Clerk; Stacy M. Snyder, Deputy Chief Clerk; Jennifer Crum, Administrative Specialist; Bethany Salzarulo, Bureau of Elections; Mark Adams, IMTO; Jennifer Hipp, Assistant Solicitor.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Eichelberger called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call:** Commissioner Eichelberger, Foschi, and DiFilippo were present.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner DiFilippo made a motion to approve the Minutes from November 19, 2019 and January 27, 2020. Commissioner Foschi seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#### Upper Allen 10 polling place change

- Former location: Temple Beth Shalom, 913 Allendale Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Temple Beth Shalom is no longer willing to be a polling place.

- New Location: Geneva Green Apts, 500 Geneva Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

This apartment complex has a community room that would work well for the new polling place location.

There is a notice for residents that notify them of their polling place location change.

Commissioner DiFilippo asked that the notice be added to a municipal letter. Bethany stated that they also advertise in the local papers.

Commissioner Foschi made a motion to approve the new location of the Upper Allen 10 Polling place, to Geneva Green Apts, 500 Geneva Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 contingent upon the Department of Justice approval. Commissioner DiFilippo seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## **Act 77 updates**

- **Absentee and Mail in ballot process/counting**

The new deadline for voters turning in their absentee ballot is now 8:00 pm on election night, so staff cannot begin canvassing the absentees or mail-ins until at least 8:00 p.m. on election night. They have up to three days to begin that canvass, which is the Friday after the election and up to eight days after the election to complete it.

### Three options

1. Start at 8:00 pm. on election night and begin canvassing the ballots, which is not just counting them and running through scanner, it is staff opening them, reading names, checking against the list, prepping and then scanning them. Then continue until the process is finished.
2. Start at 8:00 p.m. on election night, stop sometime in the process, and then continue the next day beginning at 9:00 am.
3. Only handle Election Day totals on election night (election machines) and start the canvassing of the mail-in and absentee ballots on Wednesday at 9:00 am.

Bethany contacted other local counties to confirm what they plan to do and they are starting on the following day, Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

Bethany suggested that option #3 would be best for everyone. Due to the potential higher volume of mail-in ballots, Bethany mentioned that there will be additional help from other departments for this process.

Commissioner DiFilippo made a motion for primary election 2020 will start counting mail-in and absentee ballots Wednesday morning April 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Foschi seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Bethany updated the Board regarding Act 77 has a section of satellite services and ballot drop-boxes. There are a lot of details to having additional services and Bethany sees many challenges with starting this process.

Solicitor Jen Hipp suggested that the Commissioners move to not pursue satellite locations or drop boxes at this time.

Commissioner Foschi made a motion to not have satellite offices for ballots and drop boxes for ballots. Commissioner DiFilippo seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A week after Election Day, the Tuesday following, there is a meeting to put books on display then a meeting to certify the official election results. Solicitor Hipp checked to see how it affects our first Board of Election meeting after Election Day and all that needs reviewed within the five day time frame. Solicitor Jen Hipp explained they are required to submit the unofficial results to the Department of State and the county does the extra which includes absentees, military overseas,

the Provisionals, and the write-ins. Seven days after the primary, the State only wants the machine votes. There are concerns of staffing and time for canvassing all the absentee and mail-in ballots by this date as well. Act 77 allows for eight days, which goes beyond the seven days for the unofficial results to be provided to the department of state, meaning the law does not require the County Board of Elections to have all of the results that have been traditionally provided plus the mail-in ballot responses. In order to make sure there is sufficient time it is suggested to have a three Board of Election meetings process instead of just two meeting process. It will still be compliant with the Election Code revised with Act 77 which will allow for additional time necessary for final results.

Bethany suggests

1. The first Tuesday meeting would be to approve the military and oversee ballots, to approve the disposition of the provisional ballots, and to submit the unofficial results to the Department of State.
2. The following Tuesday would be to put books on display and accumulations of write-ins.
3. Third Tuesday would be to certify the official results.

Currently meeting dates are set for May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>. Then staff can schedule/advertise a third meeting for May 19<sup>th</sup> and a third meeting the third Tuesday after election day in November.

- **Staffing, mail room and space**

The State is suggesting that the county will have approximately 35,000 mail-in ballots for the primary. There are concerns of staffing which Bethany has started to address. It is estimated that there will be many ballots and delivering them to the mailroom, space for all the ballots and space to house them for two years is a concern. Chief Clerk Sandy Moyle explained that they have been in discussion with the Election office is to have their own mail machine and a folding machine. The USPS is aware of all the additional ballots from communications by the State. Staff will work on capital request for the purchase of the equipment. The Facility office has been helping with storage concerns. An ideal area would be a mailroom for Elections, the equipment and also storage for filing of the ballots that need to be stored in a secured area for two years. Commissioner Eichelberger questioned how much space in the Election office is secure. Bethany stated that their offices are locked and that is secure.

**Other Business:**

Samantha Krepps mentioned that there will be a press conference Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. There will also be machine demos.

Voter demos will be provided in the evenings from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the following dates and locations:

Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> @ Elections Bureau, Carlisle; Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at Bosler Library, Carlisle; Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at Bethany Village, Mechanicsburg; Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at Good Hope Fire Station, Mechanicsburg; and Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at Vigilant Hose Company, Shippensburg.

**Request for Executive Session – Litigation** - Executive Session began at 3:52

**Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Crum - Administrative Specialist