

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017, 10:00 A.M., IN CONFERENCE ROOM #1, FIRST FLOOR
COURTHOUSE, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219.

BOARD MEMBERS: HONORABLE RICH FITZGERALD, MEMBER-present
HONORABLE SAM DEMARCO, MEMBER-absent
HONORABLE JOHN P. DEFAZIO, CHAIR-present

IN ATTENDANCE: JERRY TYSKIEWICZ – DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES
MARK WOLOSIK – MANAGER, DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
ALLAN J. OPSITNICK - ASST. COUNTY SOLICITOR, LAW DEPT.

I. CALL TO ORDER - Called to order by Chairman DeFazio 10:00 AM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Ronald Bades, 1531 S. Negley Avenue, President of Vote Allegheny stated questions on behalf of Vote Allegheny:

1. A Judge of Elections asked how many voting machine stand latches are failing. Mr. Wolosik indicated that he did not have a number but when a latch fails it is replaced;

2. Bades' statement was that in Virginia a three member board voted to discertify touch screen voting machines. Mr. Opsitnick indicated that in Pennsylvania the State certifies equipment. Mr. Bades then asked if the Board of Elections had requested the Pennsylvania Department of State to conduct a review;

3. Requested the status of a request made a number of years ago to determine PEB vulnerability using a factory test PEB. Mr. Wolosik indicated that Allegheny County does not have a factory test PEB.

b. Kate Luxemburg, 432 Rebecca Avenue, Wilkinsburg who is a member of the Wilkinsburg Democratic committee. Ms. Luxemburg made the following comments:

1. An elected Judge of Elections fell ill and was replaced by an appointed person apparently without experience. As a result, the election results for Wilkinsburg Ward 3 District 3 were not delivered to the regional center but remained in the polling place. As a result, on election night the results from this polling place were all zeros. Ms. Luxemburg was disappointed that this was not updated and that the members of the Election Board from Wilkinsburg Ward 3 District 6, voting in the same location, did not assist. Ms. Luxemburg further indicated that there was a close local race. Mr. Wolosik and Mr. Tyskiewicz explained that the appointed Judge of Elections had no transportation and left the results in the polling location which was locked. Early the next morning, the day after the election, Allegheny County Elections Division personnel obtained the materials at which time those vote results were tabulated and were reflected in the preliminary vote certification.

- c. David Tessitor of Pittsburgh. Mr. Tessitor made the following statements:
 - 1. Certain people in Pine Township would not share rides;
 - 2. As to any potential equipment decertification issue, does the County have a Plan B? Mr. Tyskiewicz said that the County is considering all future possibilities.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-move that the Minutes of the October 24, 2017 meeting be approved. Moved by Mr. Fitzgerald. Seconded by Chairman DeFazio. Approved 2-0.

IV. CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 7 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Prior to the certification vote, Mr. Wolosik made the following comments:

- a. The election was problem-free;
- b. A write-in winner, Mr. Pantzoulas, was elected for the three-week short term for the County Council vacancy in County Council District 4. Mr. Pantzoulas received 42 votes and Mr. Catena received 39 votes. If Mr. Pantzoulas claims the office and no objections are made he will receive a Certificate of Election on December 6th and can be sworn at that time to serve for the remainder of December;
- c. Turnout was 23.63%. Mr. Wolosik estimated, at the October 24th meeting, turnout of 25%;
- d. There were 153 provisional ballots. 60 were not counted. 74 were partially counted. 19 were fully counted;
- e. Certification of Election results were approved. Moved by Mr. Fitzgerald. Seconded by Chairman DeFazio. Passed 2-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS-Mr. Wolosik discussed two upcoming special elections as follows: January 23, 2018 for the 35th State House District. Mr. Wolosik indicated that a Board of Elections meeting will be held on February 12th to certify those results. March 13th, 2018 election for the 18th Congressional District where a Board of Election meeting will be held on April 2nd to certify those results. The 35th House District contains 84 districts. The County is reimbursed from the State for those expenses. The 18th Congressional District, in Allegheny County, contains over 250 districts. The County is not reimbursed from the State for these expenses.

VI. ADJOURNMENT – The Board voted 2-0 to adjourn at 10:26 AM.