

**Minutes of the New York State Board of Elections
January 19, 2011**

The meeting of the Commissioners of the New York State Board of Elections held at the offices of the New York State Board of Elections, 40 Steuben Street, Albany, New York in the 4th Floor Conference Room was called to order at 12:05 p.m. The meeting was chaired by Commissioner James Walsh. Commissioners present were Douglas Kellner, Evelyn Aquila and Gregory Peterson. Staff members present were: Robert Brehm, Todd Valentine, Kim Galvin, Paul Collins, Elizabeth Hogan, William McCann, Anna Svizzero, Joe Burns, John Conklin, George Stanton and Patrick Campion. The guest list is attached.

Minutes of December 13th, 2010 – Minutes were accepted as amended. (**Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson all voted to accept; 4 Yes and 0 no**).

Unit Updates:

Executive – Robert Brehm and Todd Valentine reported on several issues including:

- Working on completing all projects that were put on hold due to the election.
- Staff will be attending and presenting at the Election Commissioners Association conference January 25th – 28th in Rockland County.
- Bob Brehm and Todd Valentine will be attending the National Association of State Election Directors in Washington DC in mid February. Bob Brehm as a member of the Election Assistance Commission Standards Board will attend a meeting of that board in Oklahoma City the end of February.
- The monthly conference calls with the Executive and Legislative Committee members of the Election Commissioner's Association have begun.
- Working with our IT Department to integrate the MOVE Act process into what the counties are doing to automate it as much as possible.

Legal – Kim Galvin and Paul Collins reported on activities related to the Legal Unit including:

- Working with the Election Operations Unit to do follow-up with the Department of Justice regarding the military ballot consent decree. Phil Jorczak from that unit is compiling a report of all military ballots that were received after November 24th. There was a lengthy discussion concerning the military ballots that are undeliverable.
- The 100th Assembly District race is still in court.

Election Operations – Anna Svizzero reported that the Election Operations Unit is working on several ongoing issues including:

- Preparing to apply for an Election Assistance Commission grant that will address procedures and policies relating to pre-election testing and post-election audits.
- Bob Warren gave an update on the Voting System Certification findings.
- Joe Burns gave an update on the Ballot Redesign and Usability Project. There was a lengthy discussion on how to move forward with this.

PIO/NVRA – John Conklin reported on several ongoing projects in the PIO/NVRA unit.

- Date changed for the Annual conference to accommodate Passover. The new dates are April 27 – 29th.

Campaign Finance – Elizabeth Hogan reported on the projects in Campaign Finance and Enforcement, including:

- Staff is continuing working with the IT Department developing new campaign finance software.
- Liz Hogan reported on the status of VOTE-COPE litigation as well as the National Organization for Marriage (NOM) litigation.

ITU – George Stanton reported in the Unit Update

- Staff was busy uploading the January periodics.
- Due to the MOVE Act, changes will need to be done to the NYSVoter database.
- The operating system-neutral software (campaign finance) is functionally done. Next step is to do in-house stress testing before rolling it out. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning budget restraints.

New Business: The Commissioners took action on several issues including:

- VOTE on Resolution authorizing the expenditure of HAVA funding for maintenance and support for NYSVoter by Hewlett Packard (formerly Saber). **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**
- VOTE to approve revised Voter Registration Application and NVRA Agency Voter Registration Application. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**
- VOTE to approve all enforcement cases as proposed by the Campaign Finance Enforcement Unit. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**
- The next board meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2011.
- VOTE on motion to go into Executive Session to discuss federal litigation, potential Green Party litigation and also NAACP versus the State Board of Elections. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**

The meeting was adjourned 2:15 p.m.