

**Minutes of The New York State Board of Elections
Wednesday, May 30, 2007**

The meeting of the New York State Board of Canvassers was called to order at 12:20 p.m. at the New York State Board of Elections, 40 Steuben Street, Albany, New York. Canvassers present were Co-Chairmen Neil Kelleher and Douglas Kellner and Commissioners Evelyn Aquila and Helena Donohue. The meeting was chaired by Commissioner Kellner. Staff present were: Peter Kosinski, Stanley Zalen Todd Valentine, Lee Daghlian, Bob Brehm, Anna Svizzero Allison Carr, Deirdre Hammer, Liz Hogan and William McCann. Guest list is attached.

The Board of Canvassers met to certify the special election held on May 1, 2007 in the 94th Assembly District. The Commissioners signed the certification and adjourned at 12:25 P.M. The regular meeting of the Commissioners convened at 12:35 P.M.

Minutes of May 2, 2007 - agreed unanimously to table

Unit Updates:

- **Legal Unit:** - Todd Valentine reported on two issues:
 - The primary election date for 2007 was changed to September 18th, 2007 and the revised political calendar was forwarded to all county boards of election and has also been posted on our web site.
 - Todd Valentine reported on the HAVA updates with the Department of Justice (DOJ).
 - Legislative changes for Chapter 181 of 2005 laws - for lever machines. Will be discussed during Old Business.
 - Bob Brehm and Deirdre Hammer are working with the Office of Regulatory Reform on the regulations for 6210.19. Will be discussed in Old Business.
- **Election Operations:** Anna Svizzero reported on several issues:
 - Had contract advisory committee meeting - next meeting this week.
 - Two new staff members, Robert Warren and Sean Nealon who will begin work on May 31, 2007 .
 - Completed the new political calendar.
 - Vendor conference call was held and another is scheduled for mid-June 2007
 - They continue to work on the new RFP for the ITA.
 - Work continues with NYSTEC to review procedures.
 - Discussion about the Microsoft escrow issue.
 - There was discussion about the under vote issue. It was decided that there are two issues at hand; one legal and one policy. Todd Valentine has been looking into this issue and will continue to do so.
 - There was a request to clarify the situation on application status for all the vendors. Allison Carr reported that she is currently working on that and a final report will be ready soon.
- **NVRA/PIO:** Lee Daghlian reported on several issues:
 - Preparations are under way for the state fair in Syracuse, NY.
 - County funds program continues and seems to be going well.
 - Report to EAC from NVRA and OPS is being prepared.
 - Regular business continues with many requests for the revised political calendar.
- **Campaign Finance:** Liz Hogan reported on several issues:
 - Seminars are continuing.

- Update on the status on compliance for filers - non compliance down by 19%.
 - Reviewing the methodology for the process used for over contribution limits.
 - ITU is working on the Vista compatibility issue and seems to have solved the problem.
 - Work continues with the legislature regarding the web based filing proposal.
 - A request to fill six new positions: 2 associate attorneys, 2 auditors and 2 technology specialists.
- **ITU:** George Stanton reports:
 - Work continues on the testing of the primary system as well as the back up site for the state wide data base. All pilot county data migration has been completed and working properly.
 - Training begins for all NTS counties next week.. Continue to review staffing and security issues and negotiations with ES&S have been completed. **The Board voted 4-0 to approve the following requests from George Stanton:**
 - Suffolk County has successfully completed compliance tests. Board approved of system per regulations.
 - Reimbursement to Essex and Schoharie County for personnel expenses for interface work.
 - Reimbursement to the following county board's of elections: Clinton, Delaware, Putnam, St. Lawrence and New York City for interface costs
 - Statement of Work by ES&S for interface development. Discussion to continue to negotiate a contract for \$700,000 for 4 counties.
 - George suggested that perhaps Gartner might be able to assist us with our FIDAS System to make it more compatible with the Campaign Finance Unit's system and issues with local filings. George will research the issue.
- **Old Business :** Amendment to the state HAVA law proposing to move the deadline for the use of lever voting machines to 2008. After long discussion, no action was taken. **Todd Valentine requested changes in the language for regulation 6210.19. So moved with a vote of 4-0 to accept.**
- **New Business :** Approval of the choice of the SOE to develop the poll worker training program. Unanimous vote of 4-0 to accept.
 Proposal to abridge the NYSBOE board meeting minutes now that a live web cast and a copy of the closed captioning transcript of the meeting are now posted on our web site. **So moved with a 4-0 vote to accept.**
 There was discussion regarding the issue of excessive corporate contributions as well as over contributions from non-corporate entities and how to better regulate them. The Commissioners asked that Liz Hogan and Bill McCann do some research and report back to the Board with their recommendations.
 A request for Plan B funding for the counties to assist them in programming the machines for this year's election cycle. A list was provided to the Board with the amount to be dispersed to each county and the use of the funds.
 Extensive discussion ensued regarding the use of HAVA funds to cover such costs. The counties would be reimbursed per the schedule provided by counsel. **The Board moved to accept this list with a 4-0 vote.**
 Lastly, there was discussion about Campaign Finance and Enforcement personnel and the availability of space. No decisions were made or votes taken.

There was no date scheduled for the next board meeting.

Commissioner Kellner adjourned the meeting without Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.