

Approved

**Minutes of The New York State Board of Elections
Monday, June 5, 2006**

The regular meeting of the State Board of Elections was called to order at 12:15 p.m. at the New York State Board of Elections, 40 Steuben Street, Albany, New York. The meeting was chaired by Commissioner Kellner. Commissioners present were Neil Kelleher, Evelyn Aquila and Helena Donohue. Staff present were: Peter Kosinski, Todd Valentine, Michael Johnson, Lee Daghlian, Anna Svizzero, George Stanton, William McCann, Allison Carr, Greg Fiozzo and Deirdre Hammer. Guest list is attached.

Minutes of May 22, 2006 - approved

Unit Updates:

- **Legal Unit:** - Todd Valentine updated everyone on the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) federal case. An order was signed by the judge adopting all the elements of the agreement between the Department of Justice (DOJ) and this Board. We need to provide additional information to the Court regarding the location and total number of sites per county for Plan B. We have to schedule the implementation of Plan A by mid-August, along with dates for NYS Voter I and II database.
Secondly, oral arguments will be heard on June 7, 2006 on the *Torrez* case, re: the nomination of the state supreme court judges.
Also, motions will be filed on July 9, 2006 on the Albany County court case pertaining to the police spending on primaries.
- **Election Operations:** Anna Svizzero reported that nominating papers are now being filed from the state conventions for the statewide offices. Anna also reported that all counties have put in their orders for their Plan B voting systems; to include **111** Auto-Mark systems, **14** Populex and **19** Avante machines. We are working on coordinating regionalized acceptance testing. Drafts of the purchasing contracts for these machines are almost ready and will be sent to all the county commissioners when completed. There was a bidders conference and 600 attended for Plan A. Plan B contracts were approved by the comptrollers office as well as OGS. We are asking vendors to submit their machines early for usability testing, prior to certification testing.
There was continued discussion about the number of voters to use each machine; how we arrive at that number and does the three minute rule hold any more. Commissioner Aquila feels that when a machine receives certification, it should be released to the counties right away to expedite the purchasing process. She had changed her mind since the last discussion, which was to send a cumulative list to the counties of all machines that have received certification from the Board. Commissioner Kellner feels that they are coming in late because they now have to meet the 2005 federal standards.
- **NVRA/PIO:** Lee Daghlian reported that he has started planning for the state fair. He will require an additional display piece and will be meeting with the internal planning committee shortly. Lee reported very positive feedback from participants regarding the Train the Trainer program and shared a few of the comments with the Board.

- **Campaign Finance:** Michael Johnson reported the seminars are going well. He's getting several questions about county filings. He reported that Phase II for county financing is going well. That phase pertains to the counties that should have filed so they can check on who didn't file and follow up. Michael also stated that all the remodeling work to the cubicles on the 3rd floor is now finished.
- **ITU:** George Stanton reports that he received a few written comments from vendors concerning the Plan B for NYS Voter I. He also reported that duplicate processing is in progress and that the counties are working on that now. He also reported that vendors for NYS Voter I said that the cost estimates will be ready soon. He stated that the networking solutions that they are working on for county connectivity will be ready soon. Work on social security verification for NYS Voter continues and vendors hope to be able to test by July 1, 2006. Commissioner Kellner asked that we have a report on the budget for the county connectivity issue by the next board meeting.
- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:** Lee Daghlian reported that the plan for the accessibility funds for the counties, both state and federal, was presented. The Board approved the plan put together by the committee by a vote of 4-0.
Also, Bruce Darling was appointed as a new member of the advisory committee. There was discussion on what voters can use the Plan B machines and how that will be implemented at the polling sites. Commissioner Kellner feels that we should allow anyone who wants to vote on the Plan B machines to vote without prior notice. We should also know the exact location of these machines, and advertise their location. We also should have the voter fill out an envelope, place their ballot in the envelope and the poll workers would handle it like a special ballot would be handled. It was a consensus that outreach for the disabled voters is important and everyone agreed with that.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 2:00pm on Wednesday, June 28, 2006 in Albany, N.Y.

The Board adjourned at 1:25pm.