

**Minutes of the New York State Board of Elections  
September 4, 2014**

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 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room was called to order at 12:05 p.m. The meeting was chaired by Commissioner Douglas Kellner. Commissioners present were James Walsh, Andrew Spano and Gregory Peterson. Staff members present were: Robert Brehm, Todd Valentine, Kim Galvin, Kathleen O’Keefe, Anna Svizzero, Joe Burns, John Conklin, Tom Connolly, Elizabeth Mowrey and Risa Sugarman. The guest list is attached.

**Minutes of August 1, 2014 – Minutes were accepted (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**

**Unit Updates:**

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

- Working with OGS and the new Enforcement Counsel to get the new unit up and running.
- The procurement of the vendor under the NYSVoter Refresh Program has been completed.

**Legal** – Kathleen O’Keefe reported on activities related to the Counsel Unit including:

- Offering on-going support to the state comptroller candidate for the Public Financing Program.
- Attending meetings with IT to start the initial steps to redesign the Campaign Filing program
- Papers have been served challenging the proposed redistricting amendment.
- 12 new lawsuits have been filed in regard to the petition filings.

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

- Unit is helping to work on specs.
- ES&S’s Central Count System have submitted a de minimis change.
- Participating in meetings with IT to upgrade the Candidate Management System.
- Working on a draft report and hoping to get county board feedback on the use of lever machines by villages as required by recent legislation..

**PIO/NVRA** – John Conklin reported that the PIO/NVRA unit is working on several issues.

- 2013 Annual Report is complete and on the website.
- In the process of translating the ballot proposals for the November ballot.

**ITU** – Elizabeth Mowrey reported on projects IT is working on:

- NYSVoter Refresh Program can resume now that the contract was approved.
- The Candidate Management and Campaign Finance Redesign Project is moving forward.

**Enforcement** – Risa Sugarman reported on the Enforcement Unit:

- The new unit is now operational.
- The e-mail for the unit is [enforcement@elections.ny.gov](mailto:enforcement@elections.ny.gov)

## **New Business:**

- **VOTE** on petition rulings (see attached)
  - Prima Facie Review
  - Authorization/Acceptance/Declination Summary
  - Objections and Specifications that were late or faulty
  - Specifications: summary of staff findings
  - Hearings Conducted – summary of findings**The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No.)**
- Commissioner Kellner made a motion to hire Brian Quail as the new Deputy Counsel. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No.)**
- The next board meeting is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>

**The meeting was adjourned 1:15 p.m.**