Minutes of the New York State Board of Elections September 12, 2012

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers of the New York State Board of Elections was convened at the offices of the New York State Board of Elections, 40 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York in the 5th Floor Conference Room and 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.

The Board of Canvassers considered a motion to approve the amended 2010 General Election Certification to include previous UOCAVA ballots that should otherwise have been canvassed. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).

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 5th Floor Conference Room was called to order at 12:15 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, Liz Hogan, William McCann, Joe Burns, John Conklin, Dave Loomis and Tom Connolly. The guest list is attached.

Minutes of August 7, 2012 – Minutes were accepted (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).

Unit Updates:

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

- Preparing for the Primary which is tomorrow
- Moving out of the rental space at the warehouse at the end of the month
- The Civil Rights Bureau of the AG's office has contacted 10 counties in regard to providing election materials in different languages.
- In order to comply with Department of Justice deadline for Military voters, a federal ballot will be sent no later than September 22nd and a second ballot for the state and local seats by October 5th

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

- Continued and constant conversation with the Department of Justice with regard to finalizing the 2010 ballots and the monitoring of compliance of reports for all of elections.
- There was a discussion on a meeting with Judge Prudenti in regards to a statewide directive on impoundment orders

Election Operations – Joe Burns reported that the Election Operations unit is working on several ongoing issues including:

- The final executive scores for the Asset Management Project were sent to OGS.
- Joe Burns and Phil Jorczak are working on the ballot usability project.
- Bob Warren gave an update on the Clear Ballot project

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

- The Nassau County Board of Elections has finished updating their voter registration files with regard to the redistricting.
- Working with Executive and Legal with regard to the military voters receiving their ballots by September 22nd.
- Hosted a group of women from the country of Bahrain.

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

- There are four more filings coming up for the election.
- Staff is busy updating the database with the new candidate information.
- Working with IT to see if there is a way to send out certified mail in a more effective way.

ITU – Dave Loomis reported on projects in the Information Technology Unit

- Changes have been made to NYSVoter to support the MOVE Act.
- IT staff member Dennis Gerard was awarded the Best of New York IT Award by the Government Technology Conference.

Old Business:

- VOTE on the amendment to the Independent Expenditure Regulation. The motion failed. (Commissioners Kellner and Aquila voted yes, Commissioners Walsh and Peterson voted no; 2 Yes and 2 No).
- VOTE to ADOPT the Independent Expenditure Regulation. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).
- The discussion of Election Night Poll Site Procedures and Ballot Redesign is carried over til next board meeting.

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

- VOTE on determinations regarding independent nominations/objections to federal, state and local petitions and certificates. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).
- VOTE on Resolution to Adopt Commissioner Kellner's Amendment to 9NYCRR part 6204 and 6209. (Commissioners Kellner and Aquila voted to for, Commissioners Walsh and Peterson voted against).
- VOTE on Resolution to Adopt Amendments to 9NYCRR part 6204 and 6209 The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).
- VOTE on Resolution to Certify Upgrades to ES&S, DS200 Voting Systems and Automark and Dominion Image Cast Voting Systems and Ballot Marking Devices will be held over another month so the reports can go on our website for public review.
- VOTE to accept the determinations from the campaign finance unit. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).
- VOTE to approve two Equipment Change Order Proposals. The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Walsh, Aquila and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).
- The next board meetings are scheduled for October 16th and December 10th, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned 1:15 p.m.