

**Minutes of the New York State Board of Elections  
October 21, 2010**

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 September 16<sup>th</sup> , 2010 – Minutes were accepted (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:

- Work has been continuing on implementing the MOVE Act. The time to return a ballot has been changed to 22 days after the election instead of 13. The ballots are all uploaded and available.
- There was a decision concerning all the lawsuits and how we had to go to outside counsel in a couple of cases.

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

- Reporting to Department of Justice re: MOVE Act
- Working on a few outstanding lawsuits
- There was a discussion on the case in Nassau and also Suffolk Counties.

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

- Working with the counties to get the test deck of all the machines done before Election Day.
- There was a lengthy discussion concerning the work the counties are doing to get ready for this election and the rollout of the new machines.
- The reports from the 3% audit from the Primary Election are still be processed and a report will be compiled when completed.

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

- A few press releases were sent out in reference to the upcoming election. Also a couple of PSA's have been written and distributed.

- Research on a hotel selection for our annual conference has been completed and will be held April 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> at the Desmond hotel in Albany.
- There has been a significant increase in voter registration applications leading up to the October 8<sup>th</sup> deadline.

**Campaign Finance** – Cheryl Couser reported on the projects in Campaign Finance and Enforcement, including:

- Remind everyone that the 11 day pre-general report is due.
- Liz Hogan is in court in Buffalo re: National Organization of Marriage lawsuit.

**ITU** – George Stanton reported in the Unit Update

- Unit is busy concentrating on the election cycle.

**Old Business:** The Commissioners discussed a few issues including:

- Follow-up on the Dominion and ES&S Claims for Exemption from Public Disclosure. Commissioner Kellner requested that a draft report be circulated by the next board meeting on the confidentiality issues.
- There was a lengthy discussion of ballot usability. Issues were the “over-vote” and also ballot usability and design.

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

- **VOTE on Resolution to Approve HAVA Grant Administration by NYS OGS. 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 December 13<sup>th</sup> at noon.
- There was a motion to go into Executive Session. **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.**