

**ELECTION BOARD**  
**September 11, 2023**

**Present at the meeting were:** Larry Reisinger  
Shannon Hines  
David Lanza  
Bill Bunt  
Sarah Geesaman

**Present from the Public via Phone/In Person:** Dave Pundock and Faith Pundock

The Election Board met on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was conducted virtually via WebEx video/telephone conference and in person in the Commissioners' Conference Room. The meeting was recorded by the County.

**Public Comments:** None

**Approval of the Minutes:** Shannon Hines made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2023 meeting. David Lanza seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Reisinger said an email had been received regarding poll training held by the Election Department staff. He said the individual complimented the staff and said the training was very helpful.

Sarah Geesaman, Voter Registration/Election Director, stated that the closeout for the Election Integrity grant for the past year was completed successfully. She said the renewal for the grant program was completed and the grant funding was increased by approximately \$4,900.

Ms. Geesaman further said the statewide candidates for the Supreme Court, Superior Court, and Commonwealth Court and the two retention questions for the Judge of Superior Court had been approved by the Commonwealth.

Ms. Geesaman said poll training dates are set for October 16 – 19 and she is offering multiple time frames each day. She further stated that L&A testing with ClearBallot will be occurring on September 26 and 27.

Ms. Geesaman said ClearBallot is working on the sample ballot for the County. She commented that the State provided a ballot checklist which was extremely helpful when compiling information for the ballot. David Lanza asked if the Election Board would be reviewing the sample ballot. Ms. Geesaman stated that normally County staff proof the ballot but said that when the sample ballot is available for viewing, she would alert the Election Board.

Ms. Geesaman alerted the Board that she had received a nomination for the Susquenita School Board vacancy and another for Marysville Borough Council but the paperwork was not completed.

Ms. Geesaman stated that she would like to get the student poll worker program going again in Perry County. She said this was discussed during the recent Election Conference she attended.

She commented that she would like to use eligible students from the County's school districts to fill clerk vacancies at the precincts. Solicitor Bunt stated that the County had run this program in the past and used students as unpaid volunteers at the polling locations. Ms. Geesaman stated that she wanted to use the students as clerks and they would be paid the clerk rate. The Board discussed the student program and the logistics of how it would work.

Ms. Geesaman alerted the Election Board that she would be using an existing part time County employee in her office during the upcoming election. She said the person would help with filing, phone calls, and other administrative duties. She further said she would be setting a schedule for the employee.

Ms. Geesaman commented that there had been a few issues at Spring Township during a previous election. She said not all precincts have constables. Ms. Geesaman said she spoke to another county and they get a court order during each election that allows constables to roam between precincts. Solicitor Bunt said the current safety procedure for poll workers without constables was to call 911 should an incident occur at their polling location. Ms. Geesaman said, if approved, the current constables would be asked to roam among the precincts and would need to be paid mileage.

Ms. Geesaman said Secretary of the Commonwealth, Al Schmidt and Deputy Secretary of Elections, Jonathan Marks, visited her office last week and toured the office. She said the visit went well and they solicited feedback on the election process from she and her staff.

The Board revisited the student poll worker program request. Commissioner Reisinger said he felt the program was a good idea and Shannon Hines said the program will help educate youth and fill vacancies at the polling locations. Shannon Hines made a motion to authorize the use of students and volunteers or paid clerks at the polling locations. David Lanza seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

The Board revisited the constable issue. Sarah Geesaman said roaming constables will help make poll workers feel safe and may help with proper decorum at the polling locations.

Dave Pundock asked if the constables are supposed to be in their own precinct on election day.

Faith Pundock asked if there was a way to directly contact a constable should an issue occur at the polling location.

Solicitor Bunt requested an executive session.

The Board went into Executive Session at 11:34 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:42 a.m.

The Board further discussed the request for roaming constables and security at the polling locations. David Lanza made a motion to start the process of roaming constables for the upcoming fall election 2023. Shannon Hines seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines stated that the Board needs to schedule their upcoming meetings. Solicitor Bunt requested that a meeting be scheduled after election day as well. Shannon Hines made a motion that the Election Board meet on the following:

September 25, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.  
October 9, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.  
October 23, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.  
October 30, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.  
November 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.  
November 7, 2023 continuous session beginning at 7:00 a.m.  
November 10, 2023 9:00 a.m. until the completion of ballot tabulation  
November 20, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

David Lanza seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None

David Lanza made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Shannon Hines seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.