

ELECTION BOARD
February 12, 2024

Present at the meeting were: Brenda Watson
William Lyons
R. Franklin Campbell
Bill Bunt
Sarah Geesaman
Shannon Hines

Present from the Public via WebEx/Phone: Dave Pundock and Faith Pundock

The Election Board met on Monday, February 12, 2024 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

Meeting Business: Commissioner Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sarah Geesaman, Election Director, stated that the cast machines do not have internet capability. Commissioner Watson recommended that this information be placed on the Election website page.

Ms. Geesaman provided an updated template of instructions that would be included in outgoing mail-in/absentee ballot envelopes. The Board discussed revisions to the instructions and Ms. Geesaman asked that the Board provide her with their revisions once they review the document.

Ms. Geesaman commented that polling location leases are being returned. She said she will provide the leases to the Chief Clerk for approval at a future Commissioners' meeting.

Ms. Geesaman said that Wendy Alleman has been helping in her office and she appreciates the assistance.

Sarah Geesaman stated that the Clear Ballot maintenance agreement for the large scanner was being drafted.

Ms. Geesaman commented that the Sheriff is ok with having a ballot drop box in the entry way at the Courthouse. She said she will be speaking to Sheriff Hammar again regarding the exact placement of the drop box.

Sarah Geesaman said new ballot envelopes have been ordered and will be coming from the printer at a future date.

The Board discussed power outages at polling location and how this situation would be handled. Ms. Geesaman stated that this would be part of poll worker training.

Sarah Geesaman stated that the Pennsylvania State Police had reached out regarding the Sam Lowe situation in Carroll Township and she had provided information.

Sarah Geesaman thanked Deb Shrawder for her work getting the signature books completed. She further stated that a checklist will be provided in the poll kits to ensure all information is being returned to the election office on election night.

Ms. Geesaman stated that she had attended a training on Swatting and noted that Department of State has been offering some very helpful and informative trainings. She further said that poll training for Judges, Majority Inspectors, and Minority Inspectors have been scheduled for April 2, 3, and 4. She stated that multiple sessions would be offered each day during the following times:

- 9 AM – 11 AM
- 2 PM – 4 PM
- 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Sarah Geesaman stated that classes would be limited to 20 participants per time slot and noted that it was first come first serve. She commented that training for the poll clerks will happen in the fall.

Ms. Geesaman commented that she and Commissioner Lyons went out to Madison Township's polling location and came up with a different way to set up the location on election day to help with the flow of voters.

Sarah Geesaman said there is a lawsuit regarding where ballots are physically counted.

Solicitor Bunt stated that the Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts will be scheduling a meeting with the Sheriff, Sarah Geesaman, the President Judge, and himself regarding how it will be handled if a hearing is needed on election night.

The Board discussed help for the upcoming election.

Ms. Geesaman said that tomorrow by 4 PM was the last day to hand in petitions.

Public Comments: Faith Pundock asked where the ballot drop box would be in the Courthouse. She further questioned if there would be staffing at the box and how often the ballots will be collected. Ms. Pundock asked how long the security camera feed of the ballot drop box would last and where would ballots be stored once collected from the box.

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.