

ELECTION BOARD

April 22, 2024

Present at the meeting were:

Brenda Watson
William Lyons
R. Franklin Campbell
Bill Bunt
Sarah Geesaman
Shannon Hines

Present from the Public: Rich Fultz, Jeff Garman, Kathy Garman, Wayne Leshner, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Angela Schlegel, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Ashley Weaver

The Election Board met on Monday, April 22, 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: Jeff Garman stated that it would be a good idea if voters could get a receipt when voting showing that they voted and who they voted for. He said a receipt would confirm the vote.

Ashley Weaver said she loves her Country and is passionate about the constitution. She stated that she agreed with Mr. Garman regarding a receipt. She commented that when you lose faith in people it ends in chaos and urged the Board to reconsider what she said at the previous meeting. Ms. Weaver said we need paper ballots and hand counting. She stated that Perry County could be the light on this issue for the Country and again asked for paper ballots, hand counting, and receipts.

Jeff Garman asked how the Board would feel if the incumbent President had pictures of voting machines and ballots in the Oval Office. He said ballots should not be in any elected official's office.

Kathy Garman questioned that if the voting machines are connected to WIFI in any capacity when the votes are tallied, how are the tallies transmitted out. She said she wants total separation from the internet. Ms. Weaver said many counties in different states are now moving to paper ballots.

Wayne Leshner asked Commissioner Watson if she would be stepping aside considering the allegations against her and Sarah Geesaman.

Kathy Garman stated that would be a no.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sarah Geesaman, Election Director, stated that the Pennsylvania Department of State required new ballot return envelopes this year and said the Department of State has directed that if the month and day are on the envelope the ballot should be counted.

Ms. Geesaman said voting equipment pick up was occurring that day until 7:30 p.m.

Sarah Geesaman providing following ballot return counts:

	Republican	Democratic	Total
Mail-In & Absentee:	608	721	1,329

Ms. Geesaman noted that 4,123 ballots had been sent out to date.

Sarah Geesaman said she has the work schedules for pre-canvas, canvas, and final count and would be distributing them. She stated that Gary Thomas from the newspaper would be in attendance on election night and would need a space to work.

Public Comments: Jeff Garman asked for confirmation of the number of ballots that were mailed out and questioned when outstanding ballots need to be returned. Sarah Geesaman confirmed that ballots must be returned by election day at 8 p.m.

Kathy Garman questioned if ballots are double checked to ensure that doubles are not received from a voter. She further asked if there is a way to check that only those people that request a mail-in or absentee ballot receive them. Ms. Garman stated that she had family members that received ballots and they did not request them. Sarah Geesaman explained that a barcode is used so that someone is not able to vote more than once.

Wayne Leshner asked if questions were being answered. He questioned if Commissioner Watson would be stepping down. Mr. Leshner said that Commissioner Watson has been implicated in wrong doing and questioned how she can sit as Chair of the Election Board.

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.