

ELECTION BOARD
October 14, 2024

Present at the meeting were:

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

Present from the Public: Mary Ann Brownawell, Andrew Burke, Jeff Garman, Robbyn Metz, Jed Nessinger, Jerry Philpott, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock

The Election Board met on Monday, October 14, 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 and Jed Nessinger.

Public Comments: None

Meeting Business: Commissioner Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sarah Geesaman, Election Director, stated that the HAVA grant that was approved at the Commissioners' meeting will be used for poll training expenses. She noted that poll worker training would take place on October 21st and 22nd and all precincts have signed up.

Ms. Geesaman said that to date, 4,075 mail in/absentee ballots have been mailed out and 710 ballots have been returned.

Sarah Geesaman commented that the Board would need to discuss extended ballot drop off hours.

Ms. Geesaman said the last day to register to vote was October 21st and the Election Office would be open to 5:00 p.m. that day. She also said the last day to apply for a mail in or absentee ballot was October 29th and again the office would be open until 5:00 p.m.

Sarah Geesaman noted that on October 17th she would be participating at a voter registration drive at Susquenita School District, at the request of their civic club.

The Board discussed extended hours for mail in and absentee ballot drop off at the Freedom Building. The Board talked about hours during the week and weekend hours that would accommodate voters that work outside the County, as well as work around the trick or treating in Bloomfield Borough and the Halloween parade. The Board also discussed the fact that two staff members should be present in the Election Office during the extended hours.

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to approve the below extended hours for mail in/absentee ballot drop off hours. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Wednesday, October 23, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 24, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday, October 25, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 28, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 2, 2024 – 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Ms. Geesaman reminded voters that you may only bring in your ballot to the drop box unless you have a completed designated agent form. She said the form is available on the Election page of the County website, on the Department of State website, or hardcopies are available in the Election Office.

Public Comments: Jerry Philpott asked if there would be machine testing tomorrow. Ms. Geesaman stated that L&A testing would take place on October 15th and 16th and said each party may have a representative observe the process.

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.