

Warren County Board of Elections Meeting

September 25, 2012

5:00 PM

MINUTES

Gloria Decker, Chair for the Board called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Roll Call was taken with Board Secretary, Anthony Wyhopen, Commissioner Robert Stead, Commissioner Harry Brown and Bill Duffy, Administrator in attendance.

LEGAL NOTICE

The legal notice for this meeting was read by Mr. Duffy.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Decker noted the absence of public participation.

GENERAL ELECTION

Mail-In Ballots

Mr. Duffy gave the current status for Mail-In Ballots. Mail-In Ballots were mailed by the County Clerk's office to all voters who have requested one. Ms. Decker asked what the deadline was for receiving Mail-In Ballots post-election. Mr. Duffy stated that mailed-in ballots are to be received by the County Board of Elections no later than 8:00 PM Election Day.

Mail-In Ballot Processing

In anticipation of heavy voter turnout, the Board discussed the possibility of using "temporary workers", specifically for processing Mail-In Ballots. The 2008 General Election resulted in approximately three thousand (3,000) Mail-In Ballots being processed. Mr. Duffy stated that he believes that this election will result in as many Mail-Ins Ballots, if not more. "Work Sessions" would include 4 workers with at least one (1) of those being a Board Member. These sessions could be scheduled during daytime or early evening hours. Workers were previously paid a rate of \$10.00/Hour (2008). Tony Wyhopen made a motion to approve the use of temporary workers. This motion was seconded by Harry Brown. The motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Duffy stated he would provide the Board with a working schedule for the month of October.

Ballots (Via Voting Machines)

Mr. Duffy informed the Board that including School Elections within the November General Elections created crowded but functional ballots. Blairstown, Pohatcong and Lopatcong were the most crowded. Having said that, he stated that election preparation was progressing well.

Voter Registration Applications

Mr. Duffy reported that the number of Voter Registration Applications received is as follows:

August (1-31)	468
September (1-25)	487
September 16-23	92
September 24-25	91

Mr. Duffy suggested that overtime should probably commence relatively soon in order to avoid a time crunch. The Last Day of Voter Registration for the November 6 Election is October 16, 2012. The Board of Elections Office will remain open until 9 PM on that day so that last minute applicants may be accommodated. Voter Registration Applications mailed to office at 413 Second Street, Belvidere, must be postmarked no later than October 16, 2012 in order to qualify for this election.

Ballot Testing

Mr. Duffy stated that Ballot Testing had gone well and, due to the option of including School Elections with the General Election, ballots would be two-sided. The Blairstown Ballots will need to be printed on legal-size paper in addition to being two-sided.

Voting Machines

Mr. Duffy noted that two (2) voting machines (#121-Alpha 2 and #143-Franklin 2) continue to be a problem. They will be replaced with #123 and #150, respectively. Mr. Duffy stated that there are twenty (20) voting machines designated as "back-Up" with nineteen (19) of those being stored at the warehouse and one (1) stored at the Courthouse.

Provisional/Emergency Ballots

All Voting Districts will receive additional Provisional/Emergency Ballots in anticipation of heavy voter participation. Districts will receive fifty (50) Provisional Ballots (up from 30) as well as one hundred Emergency Ballots (up from 50).

Exit Polling

Mr. Duffy informed the Board that he had received notification that *Edison Research* will be conducting an Exit Poll at the Independence 2 polling location. The laws pertaining to Exit Polling were reviewed and discussed.

Pollworker Update – Training Sessions/Assignments for Pollworkers/Judges

Training Sessions are scheduled for September/October and will be held at the main campus of Warren County Community College. Pollworkers have been notified of all times and location.

Troubleshooter - Training Sessions

Lou Cicala recently held a Troubleshooter Training Session. This session was held at the warehouse, located behind the Wayne Dumont, Jr. Administrative Building in White Township. Only two (2) Troubleshooters were unable to attend the scheduled session due to prior obligations/scheduling. Training for those individuals will be completed prior to November.

2013 BUDGET

The Board discussed the proposed budget. A motion to approve and forward the 2013 Warren County Board of Elections Budget to the Freeholders was made by Harry Brown and seconded by Bob Stead. The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:45 PM by Tony Wyhopen and seconded by Harry Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.