



BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING

October 1, 2019 – 9:00 AM

Courthouse
2nd Floor, Commissioners Hearing Room
Carlisle, PA

Minutes

Present: Al Whitcomb; Jim Hertzler; Dale Sabadish; Sandy Moyle, Chief Clerk; Bethany Salzarulo, Bureau of Elections; Mark Adams, IMTO; Jennifer Hipp, Assistant Solicitor.

Call to Order: Chairman Al Whitcomb called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Chairman, Al Whitcomb; Vice-Chairman, Jim Hertzler; Secretary, Dale Sabadish.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Hertzler made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2019. Secretary Dale Sabadish seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Approval of Appointments for Judges and Inspectors: Bethany explained that these positions are replacing individuals that have resigned. Commissioner Hertzler asked how individuals are aware of the available positions. Bethany explained that they check with poll workers on that board to see if they are interested. Dale Sabadish made a motion to approve the appointments for Judges and Inspectors. Commissioner Hertzler seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Sohnage filing to be removed from Ballot: Solicitor Jen Hipp explained that on Monday, September 23rd, Kirk Sohnage filed an emergency petition with the Commonwealth Court to withdraw his name from the ballot for the position of Judge for our County. A hearing was held Thursday, September 26 at 1:00 p.m. Judge Wojcik ordered that Kirk's petition was granted, a schedule was set for the County Republican Party to submit a substituted nominee for that position by September 30th at 4:00 p.m. Carrie Hyams is the substitute for that position. The Judge issued a deadline of Wednesday, October 2 by 4:00 p.m. at which time any objections to remove Hyams name as the substituted candidate are to be filed. Bethany will wait to see what happens by 4:00 p.m. tomorrow, in terms of preparing for the election.

Commissioner Hertzler made a motion to authorize Bethany to proceed with the November 5th Municipal Election, should there be no further petitions filed in Commonwealth Court by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 2nd. Dale Sabadish seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Commissioner Hertzler mentioned this unusual occurrence is six week beyond the normal statutory requirement when candidates can withdraw from a ballot. Overseas ballots have gone out so a new ballot will be issued. If they voted for Sohnage on the first ballot but do not return the supplemental ballot it will be considered a write in vote for Sohnage. We need to recover all our costs from this delay for materials and all the staff time.

In the Sentinel September 24th Sohnage stated that if there was a cost, he would cover those costs. Hertzler made a motion for Solicitor Hipp to take any legal actions necessary to seek reimbursement of all the costs associated with the petition filed by Sohnage. Jen Hipp stated that Judge Wojcik's Order said that each party shall bear its own costs relative to the matter of Mr. Sohnage's petition. Dale Sabadish declined to second the motion. The motion failed.

Letter Re Camp Hill District 3 Polling Place: Solicitor Jen Hipp explained that there have been many letters sent to the County from William C Kelly to the Commissioners and Board of Elections regarding concerns of his polling place. Solicitor Hipp and Bethany Salzarulo have addressed his requests and complaints concerning his polling place. He contacted Attorney Michael Butler, U.S. Attorney's Office, First Assistant District Attorney Matthew Smith, and the Commissioners complaining about the letter that was sent to him. Camp Hill polling place 3 will be moved in the future due to the parking lot not being ADA compliant.

Bethany explained that his current complaints are that he doesn't like the location of the voting area. Acoustics are not good in the room, lighting issues, and poll watcher concerns. There are no complaints from voters or election workers.

The Board requested Solicitor Hipp draft a letter for the Chairman of the Board of Elections to sign.

Executive Sessions Reported: Chairman Al Whitcomb reported there were executive sessions held on September 25, 2019 @ 3:00 p.m. and October 1, 2019 @ 8:30 a.m. regarding Potential Litigation

Other Business: None

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Crum
Administrative Specialist