Minutes of September 14, 2015 State Board of Elections Meeting--DRAFT

Members Present:  
Mr. Chambers, [R]-Wilmington  
Mr. Pasquale, [D]-New Castle County  
Mrs. Pugh, [D]-Sussex County  
Mrs. Sandstrom, [D]-Kent County  
Mr. Smith [D]-Wilmington  
Mr. Sterling, [R]-New Castle County, At-Large  
Mrs. Tatman, [R]-Sussex County  
Dr. Warfield, [R]-Kent County  
Ms. Whittington, [R]-New Castle County

Staff Present:  
Mr. Albence, Director, New Castle County Office  
Mr. Greig, Deputy Director, Kent County Office  
Comm. Elaine Manlove, State Election Commissioner  
Mr. McDowell, Director, Sussex County Office  
Mr. Sholl, Deputy Director, New Castle County Office  
Ms. Turner, Deputy Director, Sussex County Office  
Ms. Young, Director, Kent County Office

1. Mr. Pasquale called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. Mrs. Pugh moved, and Dr. Warfield seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2015 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Commissioner Manlove presented an update on the status of the Department's budget for the current fiscal year to date. Commissioner Manlove informed the Board that a Fiscal Administrative Officer has been hired. The start date for the new staff member is September 21, 2015.

4. Commissioner Manlove informed the Board of the status of Department activities with the General Assembly’s Sunset Committee.

5. Commissioner Manlove updated the board on the status of a lawsuit filed by the Delaware Strong Families organization regarding campaign finance disclosure requirements, as well as the status of a lawsuit filed by the ACLU Delaware regarding the February 24, 2015, Red Clay School District referendum.

6. Commissioner Manlove circulated materials regarding voter registration removals for members to review, and provided additional information on
voter registration transactions by type, including new registrations and removals by type.

7. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the upcoming elections scheduled throughout the State.

8. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the status of the iVote online voter registration system and voter portal. System enhancements are ongoing, being coordinated by Mr. Sholl and Mr. Chris Ramos, of the Commissioner’s office IT staff.

9. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of the website statistics of the Department, including visits to the State Election Commissioner and county office websites, provided via the Google Analytics program.

10. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of upcoming IT staff training on voting machine and absentee system ballot creation, as well as the training planned for the new Fiscal Administrative Officer.

11. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on equipment maintenance, repair, and upgrades currently underway. In addition to the information presented in the report to the Board, Commissioner Manlove shared that a painting project is underway at the Sussex County Office warehouse.

12. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of the status of the project to virtualize the computer servers used to store the signatures captured at the Division of Motor Vehicles for voter registration purposes. The virtualization process has been completed, and DTI will be providing support for the virtualized servers.

13. Commissioner Manlove provided an update the FOIA tracking system that the Department has implemented.

14. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap regarding the Department’s ERIC program, including historical statistics over the life of the program’s implementation to date.

15. OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Sterling inquired about the status of developing the list of responsibilities for Board members. Commissioner Manlove reported that this will be prepared and prepared to the Board for review as soon as possible.
- Commissioner Manlove reported that the Special Election for the vacancy in the 18th Representative District took place on Saturday, 9/12. The election proceeded smoothly, with all results reported online by 8:34PM. Voter turnout was approximately 10%.
- Mr. Sterling inquired about the status of volunteers from the Democratic and Republican parties to certify voting machines.
Commissioner Manlove will be following up with the parties regarding this.

16. NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Smith raised questions regarding the status of “no-excuse” absentee voting, “early voting”, and same day (as elections) voter registration in Delaware. These topics were raised recently at a community meeting he attended. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the status of these activities per current Delaware law and the history of recent proposed legislative action regarding these topics.

17. Mr. Sterling moved and Mrs. Pugh seconded a motion to approve the removals as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

18. Mrs. Pugh moved and Mrs. Tatman seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sterling, III
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, October 12, 2015 AT 4:00PM
LOCATION: DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS WAREHOUSE/TRAINING CENTER-NEW CASTLE COUNTY (220 LISA DR; NEW CASTLE, DE 19720)