Minutes of April 11, 2016 State Board of Elections Meeting

Members Present:
Mr. Chambers, [R]-Wilmington
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
Mrs. Williams-Mayo [D]-New Castle County, At-Large

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

Guests:
Dr. Mark Holodick, Superintendent, Brandywine School District
Mr. Scott Kessel, Chief Financial Officer, Brandywine School District

1. Mr. Sterling called the meeting to order.

2. Mr. Chambers moved and Mrs. Sandstrom seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Sterling as Acting President for the meeting. Motion passes unanimously. Mrs. Pugh moved and Mr. Sterling seconded the motion to appoint Mrs. Sandstrom as Acting Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Mr. Sterling recognized Dr. Holodick and Mr. Kessel from the Brandywine School District. Dr. Holodick spoke to the Board regarding non-school polling places used in the March 23, 2016, Brandywine School District referendum. Dr. Holodick requested that the Board authorize removal Brandywine Library, Brandywine Hundred Fire Company, and Brandywine Town Center as polling places for the May 17, 2016, referendum. Dr. Holodick cited the location nearby and ease of access to nearby polling
places in schools as a reason supporting the removal. He stated that he believes that the addition of the polling places is leading to the politicization of the referendum process.

4. Mrs. Pugh moved and Mr. Chambers seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2016, meeting, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Commissioner Manlove presented an update on the status of the Department's budget for the current fiscal year to date. Expenditures for the Department are on target for the fiscal year. The Department has exhausted federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds, which have funded any initiatives in the past.

6. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the current statewide voter registration total as of April 1, 2016, as well as historical voter registration data. The total number of registered voters in the State as of April 1, 2016 was 659,779.

7. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of upcoming elections and the Department's recent and upcoming outreach activities, and absentee hours being offered for the Presidential Primary election.

8. 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.

9. Commissioner Manlove relayed information on recent dialogue with the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) regarding improvements by DHSS in meeting requirements to offer voter registration services.

10. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of current State legislation:
    - HB 167: A bill changing penalties related to failure to comply with campaign finance law.
    - HB 247: A bill proposing updates to campaign finance law which increases allowable contribution limits and regulations regarding contributions and exempts certain expenditures related to the construction of party headquarters buildings and certain uses of postage be political parties from campaign finance reporting.
    - SB 155: A bill proposing some of the same updates to campaign finance law proposed in HB 247, specifically, related to the construction of the party headquarters.
    - SB 250: A bill amending the State Constitution to require a Special Election to fill a vacancy in the office of Lt. Governor.
11. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap regarding the Department's ERIC program, including historical statistics over the last 12 months, as well as statewide voter registration transactions for the month of February, and from January 1-January 31, 2016, including details on transactions by type.

12. Commissioner Manlove reported that Mr. Albence and Mr. Sholl will represent the state at the upcoming federal Election Assistance Commission Standards Board meeting in Carlsbad, CA.

13. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of those Candidate and Political Action Committees late on filing required Campaign Finance reports, per deadlines established in Delaware Code.

14. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap on training recently conducted for the Kent County IT Coordinator regarding voting machines

15. OLD BUSINESS:
   - None

16. NEW BUSINESS:
   - None
   - NOTE: No motion was offered by a board member regarding the request presented by representatives from the Brandywine School District.

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

18. Mr. Chambers moved and Mr. Smith seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Sandstrom
Acting Secretary

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, May 9, 2016, AT 4 p.m.
LOCATION: OFFICE OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, 905 S. Governors Ave; STE 170, Dover DE 19904