Minutes of April 8, 2019, State Board of Elections Meeting

Members Present: Mr. Pasquale, [D]-New Castle County
Ms. Philpotts, [D]-Wilmington
Mrs. Sandstrom, [D]-Kent County
Ms. Sikora, [R]-Sussex County
Mr. Sterling, [R]-New Castle County, At Large
Dr. Warfield-Walker, [R]-Kent County
Mrs. Whittington, [R]-New Castle County
Mrs. Williams-Mayo [D]-New Castle County, At Large

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

Public Present: None Present

1. Mr. Pasquale called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. The Board welcomed new member, Ms. Philpotts.

3. Mrs. Sandstrom moved and Dr. Warfield-Walker seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2018, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the current financial status of the Department per its appropriation in the FY2019 State Budget. Expenditures are higher than expected due to costs related to the purchase and implementation of the new voting equipment and related systems. The Department is working the Office of Management and Budget to determine additional funds needed.

5. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the current statewide voter registration total. The total number of registered voters in the State as of April 1, 2019, was 716,829.
6. Commissioner Manlove provided a summary of upcoming elections and the Department’s upcoming outreach and staff activities.

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

8. Commissioner Manlove provided a summary of Voter Registration transactions through March 31, 2019, by type and source.

9. Commissioner Manlove provided a recap of recent elections-related legislation being advanced by the Governor, including consolidation of the Presidential and State Primary elections, same day voter-registration, early voting, and elimination of reasons needed to obtain an absentee ballot. Mr. Pasquale inquired about the status of the National Popular Vote legislation, which Commissioner Manlove was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor.

10. Commissioner Manlove reviewed the status of Campaign Finance violations. The Commissioner updated the Board that the Department is now utilizing an investigator contracted via the Department of Justice to follow up on these infractions.

11. Commissioner Manlove provided an update on the status of the conversion to the new voting system. Meetings are ongoing with ES&S regarding the conversion. The Department continues to be very happy with the performance of ES&S in the execution of the contract.

12. OLD BUSINESS:
   - Ms. Sikora recapped the unresolved issues regarding concerns from the 2018 General Election. Ms. Sikora will provide a copy of her observations, including: polls opening early, lack of understanding among election officers regarding the use of provisional ballots, discord among election offers at two polling places, & polling places with insufficient space/inefficient traffic flow which have not been addressed to date. Mr. Pasquale requested that Commissioner Manlove will follow up with Sussex County Office to address the issues.

13. NEW BUSINESS:
   - NONE

14. Mr. Sterling moved and Mrs. Sandstrom seconded the motion to approve the removals as presented.
15. Ms. Sterling moved and Mrs. Williams-Mayo seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

James A. Sterling, III
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019
LOCATION: OFFICE OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, 905 S. GOVERNORS AVE; DOVER, DE 19904