Minutes of July 8, 2019 State Board of Elections Meeting

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

Staff Present:    Mr. Albence, State Election Commissioner
                 Mrs. Young, County Director, Kent 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
                 Mr. Broujos, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice

Public Present:   None present

1. Mr. Pasquale called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

2. Mrs. Whittington moved to approve the meeting minutes from June 10, 2019, and Mrs. Sandstrom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Commissioner Albence provided an update on the current financial status of the Department per its appropriation in the FY2019 State Budget.

4. Commissioner Albence provided an update on the Department’s plans for disposal/recycling of old voting equipment. The Department is working with DSWA contractor, Covanta, to recycle materials as appropriate. Covanta will issue a certificate of destruction confirming appropriate methods of disposal have been used.
5. Commissioner Albence provided an update to elections-related legislation. The bills and the content of the bills were detailed in the board information packet distributed to members.

- Approved legislations:
  - HB 38 – Early Voting
  - SB 121 – Auditing provisions for the new voting machines
  - SB 10 – Correction to address minimum age requirements to vote in Special Elections

- No action on the following legislations:
  - Vote by mail
  - Removing reasons for absentee voting
  - Consolidation of Presidential and State Primaries

6. Commissioner Albence addressed a concern that Mr. Pasquale brought up in reference to the percentage of polling places tested for connectivity. Commissioner Albence mentioned that connectivity testing will continue at all locations housing polling places to ensure the capability for real-time reporting.

7. Commissioner Albence 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 Albence provided an update on progress regarding move from the State's mainframe system. This move is scheduled to take place by the end of August.

9. Commissioner Albence addressed an inquiry from Mr. Sterling regarding ES&S' progress in completing contractual requirements.

10. Commissioner Albence provided an update on the current statewide voter registration total. The total number of registered voters in the State as of July 1, 2019, was 707,394.

11. Commissioner Albence provided a summary of upcoming elections and the Department's upcoming outreach and staff activities.

12. Commissioner Albence provided a summary of Voter Registration transactions through June 30, 2019, by type and source.

13. OLD BUSINESS:
   - NONE
14. NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion for filling vacancy for New Castle County Director. Commissioner Albence suggested to place a posting on SEC's website and on NCC office website regarding the available position.

- Commissioner Albence will follow up on the possibility of obtaining state email addresses for board members.

15. Mr. Sterling moved and Mrs. Pugh seconded the motion to approve the removals as presented.

16. Ms. Pugh moved and Mr. Pasquale seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting until the call of the chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sterling, III
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019
LOCATION: OFFICE OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, 905 S. GOVERNORS AVE; DOVER, DE 19904