

**ELECTION BOARD MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2024**

Those present at the public meeting of the Venango County Commissioners held in Room 100 of the Courthouse Annex:

Commissioner Samuel Breene
Commissioner Kenneth J Bryan
Commissioner Chip Abramovic
Bridey Shawgo, Chief Clerk
Laura Anna, Admin Assistant
Rich Winkler, Solicitor
Diona Brick, Fiscal
Justin Wolfe, Human Resources

Amie Wood-Wessell, Human Services
Luke Kauffman, Two Mile Run Park
Hilary Buchanan, Planning
Adam Craig, Jail
Wes Paxton, Jail
Kara O'Neil, The Derrick
Sam Dotan, Public
Jeff Lehman, Public
Linda Lehman, Public
Wayne Edmunson, Public

The Election Board meeting was convened and adjourned prior to the start of the Retirement Board meeting. The Retirement Board meeting was convened and adjourned prior to the start of the Salary Board meeting. The Salary Board meeting was convened and adjourned prior to the state of the Commissioner Board meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Dulaney called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 09, 2024 MEETING:

- Commissioner Breene made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 09, 2024 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Bryan, aye all.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ELECTION BOARD AGENDA: NONE

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Approval of referendum petition to add two supervisors in Cranberry Township. Commissioner Bryan made a motion to approve the referendum, seconded by Commissioner Abramovic, aye all.
- Ratification of the temporary relocation of the Franklin 2 polling location from City Hall to the Franklin Knights of Columbus. Commissioner Abramovic made a motion for ratification, seconded by Commissioner Bryan, aye all.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- The EGIP elections grant has been applied for to access the Fall 2024 funds. It appears Venango County will receive \$167,761.20.
- The UMOVA (Uniformed Military and Overseas Voters Act) Notice has been posted on the county website as required by Federal Law, for the 2024 Fall Federal Election.
- List Maintenance activities (ERICs, AVNs, and 5 Year Notices) were conducted, these activities have been completed to be in compliance with the 90 day quiet period before the election where those activities may not be directed by the elections office.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Jeff Lehman made the observation that we need to move away from machine counting of ballots and that hand counting is necessary for accuracy. He indicated that it is a myth that machines are faster and better for this purpose. Lehman referenced other counties that have conducted hand counts. He encourages Venango County to be transparent.
- Wayne Edmunson made the comment that he would like to see it return to a voting day not a voting season.
- Linda Lehman made the observation that she would like to see it be a statewide policy to have to show ID to vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm upon a motion by Commissioner Abramovic and seconded by Commissioner Bryan, aye all.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura E. Anna
Administrative Assistant

Reviewed by: Samuel H. Breene

Kenneth J. Bryan

Albert A. Abramovic