



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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BOARD OF ELECTIONS MINUTES

June 1, 2023

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Chester County Board of Elections was called to order at 5:03 PM on Thursday, June 1, 2023 in Courtroom 2 of the Chester County Justice Center by Judge Bret Binder. Judge Analisa Sondergaard and Commissioner Michelle Kichline were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judge Binder asked Amy Rassmussin to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Barsoum, Director of the Chester County Voter Services Department, reported several updates for her department. She noted that there were 82,877 ballots cast this election, of which 55,065 were cast in-person and 27,612 were mailed-in. Director Barsoum also explained that the Voter Services Department conducted the 2% statistical recount, and participated in the Pennsylvania pre-certification Risk Limiting Audit as required by law. The rules of the audit and recount were reviewed, and an overview of all enhancements made to the County's Central Scan Operation was given. Finally, Director Barsoum noted that many additional resources can be found on the department's website and Facebook pages: www.chesco.org and <https://www.facebook.com/chescovoterservices>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Judge Binder made a motion to approve the Board of Elections meeting minutes from the last meeting on May 12, 2023. Judge Sondergaard seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2023 Board of Elections meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

Sally Mininger, Sandra Bowman, Bobbie Surrick, and Mary Buemi expressed concerns about certifying the election results.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gail Newman requested that a 24/7 video surveillance feed of the ballots and storage area be made available to the public.

Kieran Franke and Stephanie O'Brien commented on the many improvements that were implemented this election season and thanked the Board for the changes.

Charles Golden expressed concerns about Precinct 285 at Glen Acres Elementary School.

Rick Peevy and Eda Schwartz expressed their support in certifying the election results.

There was no further public comment on agenda items.

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Judge Sondergaard made a motion to adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Kichline. All were in favor; motion carried to adopt the June 1, 2023 agenda.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Review of Central Scan Operations

Karen Barsoum, Director of Chester County Voter Services, gave a presentation reviewing the County's Central Scan Operation.

Review of Central Scan Operations

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation of the Reconciliation Process

Director Barsoum gave a presentation outlining the County's Reconciliation Process.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of the Reconciliation Process

b. Resolution 34-23

Commissioner Kichline made a motion to approve Resolution 34-23 certifying the official results of the May 16, 2023 Municipal Primary Election. Judge Sondergaard seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried to approve Resolution 34-23.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandra Bowman, Mary Buemi, and Joseph Tolken expressed their concerns about election security and certifying the election results.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Charles Golden asked about the cost associated with all mail-in balloting procedures.

Linda Moore and Michael Taylor expressed concern about the notification surrounding any polling location changes, as well as parking at precincts located at schools.

Dave Shoemaker expressed his support of current election procedures and in certifying the election results.

There was no further public comment.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Binder made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Judge Sondergaard. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

ADJOURNMENT



Taken by Taylor Pettit

On behalf of Chief Clerk Robert J. Kagel

