

LANCASTER COUNTY ELECTION BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

The Board of Elections met today for an Election Board Meeting.

Present at today's meeting:

John B. Trescot, Chairman
Christina L. Hausner, Vice-Chairman
Judge Jeffery D. Wright
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Jacquelyn Pfursich, Esquire
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Also present:

Ray D'Agostino
WEST LAMPETER

Melissa Ellis, Resident
EPHRATA

Patrick Gerlach
MOUNT JOY

Erin Gibson
LITITZ

Danielle Lindemuth
ELIZABETHTOWN

Stephen Lindemuth
ELIZABETHTOWN

Christa Miller, Chief Clerk/Registrar
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Robert Misciagna
COLUMBIA

Kandice Null
EAST HEMPFIELD

Joshua Parsons
EAST HEMPFIELD

Gina Sangunetti
LITITZ

Dorothy Snyder
FREE PA

David Terrell
ELIZABETHTOWN

Commissioner Trescot called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Trescot announced the approval of the February 8, 2023, Election Board meeting minutes.

Update and Motion regarding KnowInk Electric Poll Book Pilot

Christa Miller, Chief Clerk and Registrar

Ms. Miller was present to ask for the Board's authorization to pilot the KnowInk poll pads in seven total precincts, six locations, for the spring Municipal Primary. KnowInk is currently in 36 states. There are other electronic poll books that they also could potentially pilot, but they are starting with KnowInk knowing that there will be seamless integration with the new SureVote – Voter Registration system that the Department of State is looking at for the entire state of Pennsylvania. Currently, there are 10 counties with over 1,500 poll pads in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Miller addressed security explaining that the KnowInk poll pads do not connect to the internet. They connect to each other. The Bluetooth is not findable by anything other than the poll pads themselves. The poll pads have been approved by SISA, which is the cybersecurity used by the State and Federal law, as well as for election integrity.

**Lancaster County Election Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

A number of citizens expressed their concerns about the security of KnowInk electric poll book pilot. Others were in favor of the pilot.

On motion of Ms. Hausner, seconded by Judge Wright, it was agreed for the Lancaster County Board of Elections to approve the KnowInk electronic poll book pilot for the 2023 Municipal Primary Election.

Motion passed unanimously.

Petitions Update

Christa Miller, Chief Clerk and Registrar

Ms. Miller reported they are at a total of 485 petitions that they have received in the last three weeks. These are from County-Wide, to School Board, to Townships, Boroughs, Lancaster city, etc. Now they are in the objection window. Objections are due to the Court of Common Pleas, filed with the Prothonotary Office by close of business day on March 14, 2023. Ms. Miller stated they have Casting of Lots this upcoming Monday, March 13, 2023, in Rooms 102/104 at 12:00 p.m. to set the ballot order.

Ballot Curing Information Update

Jacquelyn Pfursich, County Solicitor

Ms. Pfursich provided the Board with the legal status of ballot curing. Ballot curing is the process by which a County allows voters who may have already surrendered their mail-in ballot, to cure defect, or otherwise surrender their ballot unable to be counted. Examples of those are mail-in ballots that failed to have a security envelope, a signature, or a date. All of which are required under the election code. The County's current policy is that they do not permit ballot curing. This was put into place largely because there is nothing in the election code that permits ballot curing, or procedures to address it. There is also nothing in the election code that prohibits the process of ballot curing. Ms. Pfursich stated that the question of the legality of the ballot curing is currently before the Commonwealth Court.

The Board addressed questions and concerns raised by members of the public.

On motion of Ms. Hausner, seconded by Judge Wright, the meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Lydia Kovalchuk, Executive Assistant
Commissioners' Office