

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2007
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

P R E S E N T: James Sampel, Secretary

Commissioners Graham, Schacher, Soumas, Umane, Yennella

John Ravitz, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Valerie Vasquez, Director of Communications
John Ward, Finance Officer
John O'Grady, Chief Voting Machine Technician
Gladys Fernandez, EVS
John Naudus, Sr. Computer Programmer, EVS
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration
Charles Webb, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steve Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Guests: Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club
 Alyssa Usui, NYC Voter Assistance Commission
 Mark Herman

Secretary Sampel called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M. in the
absence of the President.

Commissioner Graham moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 2007, March 8, 2007, March 15, 2007, and March 19, 2007 and tabled the minutes of April 11, 2007. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that:

- 1) The State Board is still in the process of issuing an RFP seeking a new independent testing authority that has been certified by the EAC.
- 2) The City Board continues to meet with its Public Information Consultants Burson-Marsteller.
- 3) The State Board asked the City Board to review OGS' Contracts for new voting systems. The City Board has made numerous recommendations and submitted a revised order form for their consideration.
- 4) The State Board's Annual Conference will be held from Monday, April 30, 2007 through Wednesday, May 2, 2007 in Syracuse, New York.
- 5) Senior Management is requesting approval to post approved minutes of the Commissioners' meetings on our website.

Commissioner Soumas moved to table this request. Commissioner Schacher seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Finance Officer John Ward provided the Commissioners with the Comparative Expenditure Report dated April 24, 2007 and the Vacancy Report dated April 17, 2007.

The Executive Director provided the Commissioners with copies of H.R. 811 [U.S. House of Representatives] and discussed some of the provisions of the bill. He stated that the Board staff is conducting an in-depth analysis and will draft a letter to the NYC Congressional Delegation for the Commissioners' review and approval at their next meeting.

Commissioner Schacher moved to grant Mario Baskin, a VMT in the Brooklyn VMF, a 30-day sick leave extension. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Umane moved to grant Angel Holcomb, an Administrative Assistant in the Poll Site Accessibility Unit, a retroactive 30-day sick leave extension. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Soumas stated that an the Governor issued an Executive Order calling a Special Election in the 65th Assembly District for May 22, 2007. Since the City Board had not received written notification rescinding that order why isn't the Board moving forward?

The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director reported that the State Board advised the City Board last week that the Special Election will be rescheduled for June 5, 2007. In addition, the General Counsel spoke with the Governor's Counsel's Office and was advised that the copy of the Governor's Proclamation which was sent to him was a "courtesy copy" of a document that was never officially filed. Therefore, in the view of the Governor's Counsel, that Proclamation was never effective. The General Counsel further advised that in response to Commissioner Soumas' request, an email inquiry transmitting his [Commissioner Soumas] question and concern was sent to the Assistant

Counsel to the Governor Mariya Treisman. A response is anticipated in the near future.

Extensive discussion between and among the Commissioners followed, but no action was taken regarding this matter.

Commissioner Umane moved to adjourn. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Secretary Sampel announced that the next Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.