

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umame
 Secretary Rosanna Vargas

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Lisa Grey, Maria R. Guastella, Michael Michel, Michael Rendino, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Nina M. Crispino, Director, Personnel
Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contract Officer, Procurement
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Rosemarie Hameed
 Katharine Loving, NYC Campaign Finance Board
 Kate Doran, LWVNYC
 Amanda Melillo, CFB
 Bo Deitl
 John Ward
 Nick Persielli

President Umame called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M.

Secretary Vargas moved to adopt the minutes for the March 15, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Rendino seconded the motion, with Commissioner Grey abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Ms. Perkins reported on the recommended hours of operations for the 30th Senate Special Election voter registration deadline on Saturday, May 13, 2017. As per past practice, Ms. Perkins recommended for the Manhattan Office to be opened from 9:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M. President Umane moved to adopt Ms. Perkins' recommendation. Commissioner Schulkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Umane requested to add a Commissioners' Finance Committee Report to the agenda.

President Umane reported that the Commissioners' Finance Committee recommended renewing the two (2) year contract for Election Center. Election Center updates the Board's poll worker training materials, assists in developing online training modules, and recommends new innovations in election operations including best practices for each borough. The cost for the two (2) year renewal is \$888,000 which will be billed at the cost of \$37,000 per month. The current contract expires on

April 1, 2017. President Umane moved for the full Board to adopt the Finance Committee's Report. Commissioner Rendino seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. President Umane reported on the DB-TIP sign language interpreting services contract. This contract is for sign language interpreters for use by Board employee Sean Gerlis. The contract is for twenty (20) months from April 2017 through December 31, 2018. This contract is calculated for a maximum of two (2) interpreters per day for Mr. Gerlis for the entire term of the contract. Currently, Mr. Gerlis uses one (1) interpreter per day with a seconded interpreter needed only during formal meetings to allow the interpreters to keep up translating the entire conversations taken place at the meeting. The ceiling cost for this contract is \$456,528 and is a not to exceed contract. In addition, the Board's Finance Department is seeking funding to hire a permanent Board sign language interpreter. The DB-TIP contract can then be used to supplement an additional interpreter for meetings or if the Board interpreter is not available for any reason. Commissioner Michel raised concerns about the cost. President Umane recommended for the full Board to adopt the Commissioners' Finance Committee Report. Commissioner Rendino seconded the motion, with Commissioner Michel opposing. The motion was adopted.

President Umane reminded that various Commissioners and Board staff will be attending the New York State Government Education and Information Day in Albany, NY next Tuesday.

President Umane moved to convene an Executive Session for purposes of personnel and litigation. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and Mr. Ryan reported the following actions that were taken in Executive Session:

- I. A Stipulation of Settlement for a disciplinary matter concerning Dorcas Valentin, a Clerk in the Bronx Office, was ratified by the full Board of Commissioners. Ms. Valentin is placed on probation for a term of one (1) year commencing on March 14, 2017 and her merit money of \$1,200 has been forfeited;
- II. Executive Management, in consultation with the Commissioners, has been authorized to conduct a realignment of voting critical units in the General Office.

President Umane recognized Bo Deitl, a member of the public, who requested for the Board to look into Mayor Bill de Blasio's campaign fundraising. In response to the request, President Umane recommended Mr. Deitl to contact the State Board's Campaign Finance Enforcement Unit.

President Umane moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on April 4, 2017 at 1:30 P.M.