

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 AT 1:00 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umane
Secretary Jodi Morales

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, *Michael J. Coppotelli, Marc A. Landis, Gino A. Marmorato, Frank R. Seddio, Simon Shamoun, Michele A. Sileo

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Michael D. Corbett, Administrative Manager
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners
Grace Pyun, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Pete Holmberg, Coordinator – Candidate Records Unit
Tom Sattie, Director – Candidate Records Unit
Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contracting Officer

Kings County:
Salvatore Barrera, Chief Clerk
Daniel Ortiz, Deputy Chief Clerk

Richmond County:
Daniel Lavelle, Chief Clerk
Anthony Andriulli, Deputy Chief Clerk

GUEST:
Eljon Wardally

*Commissioner Coppotelli appeared remotely, but not at a publicly accessible location, and therefore did not cast any votes.

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director, opened the meeting by introducing the staff, and turned the meeting over to President Umane to convene a Meeting of the

Board of Canvassers, in the City of New York to certify the results of the April 29, 2025, Staten Island Special Election in the 51st Council District, and to Recertify the Results of the March 25, 2025, Brooklyn Special Election in the 44th Council District.

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 2 of Article 9 of the New York State Election Law, President Umane called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York to order, for the purpose of certifying the canvass of votes cast in the Special Election for the City Council, 51st Council District in Richmond County.

President Umane welcomed Commissioner Landis, who joined the meeting.

President Umane designated Commissioner Marmorato to serve as the other Republican Member of the Canvassing Board, and Secretary Morales designated Commissioner Sileo as the other Democratic Commissioner to serve as a member of the Canvassing Board.

The Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk of Richmond County and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the Special Election for the 51st City Council District held in Richmond County, in accordance with this Board's policies and procedures.

Some Commissioners, along with the Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk of Richmond County, are appearing remotely, and the Returns of Canvass have been provided electronically to the Board of Canvassers for their review and approval.

The Richmond County Chief Clerk, Daniel Lavelle and Deputy Chief Clerk, Anthony Andriulli confirmed that the results are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report to the Board, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners, as required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law, has been successfully completed.

Based on that report, Commissioner Marmorato moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Special Election for the 51st Council District conducted in Richmond County. Commissioner Seddio seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Richmond County Staff of the Board of Elections were adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Marmorato moved to authorize the use of the Commissioners' electronic signatures as needed and appropriate on each Statement

and Return of Canvass for the Special Election in the 51st Council District. Commissioner Sileo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Umane continued with the Recertification of the Results of the Special Election for the City Council, 44th Council District in Kings County.

President Umane acknowledged Commissioner Shamoun, who joined the meeting.

Commissioner Marmorato moved to reconvene the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York, for the purpose of re-certifying the canvass of votes cast for in the Special Election for the City Council, 44th Council District in Kings County. Commissioner Seddio seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 2 of Article 9 of the New York State Election Law, President Umane called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York to order, for the purpose of recertifying the canvass of votes cast for in the Special Election for the City Council, 44th Council District in Kings County.

President Umane designated Commissioner Shamoun to serve as the other Republican Member of the Canvassing Board, and Secretary Morales designated

Commissioner Seddio as the other Democratic Commissioner to serve as a member of the Canvassing Board.

The Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk of Kings County and their staff have prepared and signed the revised Returns of Canvass for the Special Election for the 44th City Council District held in Kings County, in accordance with this Board's policies and procedures.

Some Commissioners, along with the Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk of Kings County, are appearing remotely, and the Returns of Canvass have been provided electronically to the Board of Canvassers for their review and approval.

The Kings County Chief Clerk, Salvatore Barrera and Deputy Chief Clerk, Daniel Ortiz confirmed that the results are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report to the Board, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners, as required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law, has been successfully completed.

Based on that report, Commissioner Shamoun moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Special Election for the 44th Council District conducted in Kings County. Commissioner Seddio seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Kings County Staff of the Board of Elections were adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Shamoun moved to authorize the use of the Commissioners' electronic signatures as needed and appropriate on each Statement and Return of Canvass for the Special Election in the 44th Council District. Commissioner Seddio seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Umame moved to adjourn the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York and to convene the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections in the City of New York. Secretary Morales seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

The Meeting of the Board of Canvassers, in the City of New York was adjourned.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged Commissioner Sullivan, who joined the meeting and was present during the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers.

Commissioner Shamoun thanked the Brooklyn staff for their ongoing efforts and getting the certification done for the Special Election.

Mr. Ryan added two additional items to the meeting agenda: Item #5 - The Finance Committee Report, and Item #6 - a Voter Challenge, pursuant to NYS Election Law §5-220.

Mr. Ryan stated that for item #6, the Voter Challenge, the individual is present and asked that she step up to the podium to address the Commissioners when asked.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged Grace Pyun, General Counsel, to present the matter.

Ms. Pyun introduced the voter, Eljon Wardally, and stated that Ms. Wardally wishes to challenge the registration of another voter and has completed the challenge oath form.

President Umane administered the challenge oath to the voter, Eljon Wardally, pursuant to §5-220 of the NYS Election Law.

Mr. Ryan asked Ms. Pyun to briefly describe the circumstances that brought this matter to the Board's attention, and to assist in clarifying the record so that the Commissioners can make a determination.

Ms. Pyun stated that the voter, Eljon Wardally, claims that there is an individual claiming that name who is registered at her mother's address, and has been voting at that address. Ms. Wardally claims that this person does not exist at her mother's registered address.

Eljon Wardally addressed the Commissioners and stated that she used to live at 55 East Houston Street, Apt. 2C, New York, NY 10012, with her mother who is also present with her today. She has not lived at that address for over 10 years and now resides at 205 West End Avenue, Apt. 28S, New York, NY 10023. The voter's serial number 305321673 for Eljon Wardally does not exist. A person with that voter serial number has never lived at 55 East Houston Street, Apt. 2C, New York, NY 10012. Ms. Wardally presented two pieces of mail, one with the voter serial number for herself at her address where she currently resides, and the other contains the serial number and the 55 East Houston Street address where the person does not exist.

President Umane administered the second oath to Eljon Wardally, and Ms. Wardally signed the challenge oath form.

Mr. Ryan advised Ms. Wardally of the next steps for this process. Once the Commissioners make a determination they will order an investigation to be done,

in this case by the Manhattan Borough Office, and once their investigation is complete they will present their findings to the Board of Commissioners. If there is concurrence with Ms. Wardally's representation, the Commissioners will take appropriate action.

President Umane informed Ms. Wardally that the Board will notify her of any actions taken and thanked her for coming forward. The Commissioner also informed Ms. Wardally's mother that a Board representative might contact her to confirm whether or not someone is living at that address, as part of the investigation.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #3 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes from the April 8, 2025 Commissioners Meeting.

Hearing no objections or amendments, the minutes of the April 8, 2025 Commissioners Meeting were adopted as submitted.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #5 of the meeting agenda, The Finance Committee Meeting.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contracting Officer, to present the items.

Mr. Suss presented the following three matters that were brought before the Finance Committee:

1. Staples Contract and Commercial

This is a contract used to supply the Board with the items needed to fill the various supply bags provided for each election poll site and general office supplies Agencywide. This is a continuation of a contract that has been working successfully for the Board for the last 4 years providing a reliable source for many supplies. This contract is procured through Sourcewell, which is a government buying cooperative operated by the State of Minnesota of which the Board is a member. This contract is for a term of four years with a not to exceed amount of \$1,900,000.

2. Kismet Trading Inc.

This is a contract to provide hardware to upgrade the memory and storage of the board's server network. This contract was procured through the M/WBE small purchase noncompetitive method pursuant to PPB Rule 3-08. Seven companies were solicited, and the lowest priced vendor was selected. This is a local New York Company. This is a one-year contract with a not to exceed amount of \$271,272.96.

3. Pinnacle Security Patrol

This contract is to provide unarmed security guards for early voting poll sites when they are closed, for the boroughs of Manhattan and Queens. The unarmed guards are assigned to the site after the sites close to watch the equipment there. A lot of these locations have generators and wires that go into the windows and doors. These rooms cannot be secured, which is why we have an unarmed guard there to secure the site during the early voting election period. This contract was procured through the M/WBE small purchase noncompetitive method pursuant to PPB Rule 3-08. Six companies were solicited, and the lowest priced vendor was selected. This is a one-year contract with a not to exceed amount of \$900,000.

Mr. Ryan reported that all of the items have been unanimously approved by the Finance Committee and suggested proceeding with a simple voice vote, unless there were any objections.

Hearing no objections, the Finance Committee Report was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ryan stated that there are two remaining items: first, to go into the Executive Session, and second, to set the date for the next meeting.

Commissioner Shamoun moved to set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. President Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Marmorato moved to convene an Executive Session for Personnel Matters. President Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following the Executive Session the open meeting resumed.

The following actions were taken by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

1. Dante Powell, a Senior Voting Machine Technician, was granted an advance of 70 hours, effective as of April 28, 2025. Dante Powell's agency start date is August 25, 2013, and is a Manhattan Democrat.
2. Martin Daniel Badonsky, a Senior Voting Machine Technician, was granted an advance of 210 hours, effective to the date of May 7, 2025. Martin Daniel Badonsky's agency start date is July 19, 2010, and is a Bronx Republican.

3. Maria Carluccio, an Administrative Assistant, was granted an advance of 210 hours, effective to the date of May 12, 2025. Maria Carluccio's agency start date is August 19, 2013, and is a Manhattan Republican.
4. Shanette Brown, a Project Coordinator, was granted an advance of 210 hours, effective to May 12, 2025. Shanette Brown's agency start date is January 27, 2008, and she is a Bronx Republican.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.