

Location: Via Zoom/In person
Alameda County Training & Education Center
125 – 12th Street, 4th Floor
Suite 400 Hayward/Union City Rooms
Oakland, CA 94612

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 17, 2024
Time: 4:00 PM

Zoom Link for Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87808718172>
The video recording of the meeting is normally posted 2-3 days after the meeting.
You can find it at: <https://bos.acgov.org/>

Minutes

1 -- Call To Order / Roll Call at 4pm -- 2 minutes

The monthly Elections Commission meeting of October 17, 2024, convened at 4:00 p.m. in the Hayward/Union City Rooms. The clerk, Noe Lucio, ROV, called to order the meeting. President Lindsay reported that City Clerk Anna Brown, who was representing the city clerks, resigned from her post on the commission, and she is looking for a replacement.

Present

Commission Members: Judy Belcher, Karen A. Butter, Irene Dieter, Susan R. Henderson, James R. Lindsay, Alexander H. Ramon, Benita Tsao, Zabrae Valentine, Allie Whitehurst; *Registrar of Voters:* Tim Dupuis, Cynthia Cornejo, Noe Lucio; *County Counsel:* Jason Allen.

Absent

Commission Members: Alissa Moore; *City Clerk:* Anna Brown

2 -- Swearing In of New Commissioners -- none

3 -- Approval of Agenda -- 2 min

No adjustments were made to the agendas.

4 -- Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2024 -- 6 minutes

Corrections were made to the minutes.

A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes as amended by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Tsao, approved with one abstention.

5 -- Announcements and Communications -- 5 minutes

(a) From staff

There were no announcements from staff.

(b) From commissioners

Commissioner Belcher read activists complaints regarding the post-election manual audit.

Commissioner Dieter requested that committee reports include the names of the committee members and whether the item is for "action" or "discussion only." President Lindsay requested that the instruction be added to the commission's rules and procedures document.

President Lindsay announced that Supervisor Miley has made an appointment to the commission, Karl Seabrook.

Commissioner Butter thanked Amy Shrago for her help getting the CVR onto the supervisor's calendar.

6 -- Public Comment on Agenda Items -- 15 minutes

Public comments were made for all agenda items.

7 -- Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office -- 10 minutes

Registrar Dupuis reminded the commission and the public of the important dates for the November 5, 2024, General Election, as well as the ways to vote and types of contests the number of vote centers that will open in the county, and the post-election day canvass. Commissioners Butter, Dieter, Belcher, Whitehurst, Belcher, and Lindsay asked questions regarding election-related and the cast vote records release.

8 -- Old and New Business

(a) Items carried over from previous meeting

There were no items carried over.

(b) Ongoing Items from Committees

All of these will be for possible action. See attachments for each committee report. The convener / reporter for each subcommittee has an asterisk by their name.

(1) Cast Vote Record Releases (subcmte: K Butter*, I Dieter, J Belcher) -- 30 min

Mr. Dupuis noted that the board of supervisors did direct the registrar to produce the cast vote record, and that he met with Supervisor Carson and his staff for further clarification. Members of the sub-committee asked questions of clarification.

2) ACEC October Report to the BOS (Lindsay*, Valentine, Butter) -- 20 min

Ms. Dieter, Ms. Belcher, Ms. Butter and Commissioner Ramon made suggestions regarding the report, and discussion ensued.

A motion as amended was made to strike all recommendations and, on the second two bullet points, add in how the commission is mitigating those challenges by Ms. Belcher, seconded by Ms. Butter, and passed unanimously.

A motion was made that the subcommittee make the edits as discussed and after completing those edits send the entire report to the Board of Supervisors by Mr. Ramon, seconded by Ms. Belcher and passed unanimously.

(3) Structure of the ROV position (subcmte: Z Valentine*, J Belcher, Whitehurst) – 5 min

Vice President Valentine reported the committee’s recent activities and plan to prepare a report for presentation at the January 16, 2025 meeting.

Ms. Belcher reported that someone told her data on the website is inaccurate from the March 2022 election, and that a court order might be required to change it. Mr. Dupuis asked Ms. Belcher to send in writing the details.

(4) Commission Rules, Procedures and Best Practices (S Henderson*, I Dieter, B Tsao, J Lindsay) – 10 minutes

Commissioner Henderson asked Counsel what might constitute a conflict of interest whether commissioners can contact the counsel. She also asked whether the commission could place certain links on the website. There were no other specific items to address.

(5) Dedicated Staff Support to the ACEC (Ramon*, Tsao) -- 5 minutes

Mr. Ramon reported that the committee plans to speak to other elections commissions about their experiences with support staff before making recommendations to the commission and related issues. The committee expects to make a recommendation in November.

(c) Special Report from the ROV -- no special reports until January 2025

(d) New Business -- for discussion and possible action

(1) Black Male Voting Numbers (A. Moore) -- 10 minutes

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

(2) Resolution re. Early Voting (Valentine) -- 5 minute

Ms. Valentine suggested that the commission submit an editorial to encourage voters to cast their votes early.

A motion was made that the vice president on behalf of the commission submit an editorial or a letter to an editor urging voters to cast their votes early by Ms. Dieter, seconded by Mr. Ramon, and passed unanimously.

(3) Reconstituting the Nominations Committee -- 5 minutes

A motion to reconstitute the Nominations Committee with Commissioners Ramon and Tsao was made by Ms. Belcher, seconded by Ms. Butter, and passed unanimously.

9 -- Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items -- 20 minutes

Public Comment was allowed for non-agenda items.

10 -- Requests for Future Agenda Items

The issue of AB-626, Elections Code 30165 will be placed on the January 2025 agenda. Ms. Belcher requested the issue of public email communications be revisited.

11 -- Adjournment (as close to 6:30 as is viable)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

The next meeting will be held November 21, 2024.