

County of Alameda Elections Commission

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

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Minutes

1. Call To Order / Roll Call

The monthly Elections Commission meeting of September 19, 2024, convened at 4:00 p.m. in the Hayward/Union City Rooms. The clerk, Noe Lucio, ROV, called to order the meeting.

Present

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

Absent

Commissioners: Alexander H. Ramon; *City Clerk:* Anna Brown

2. Swearing In of new commissioners -- Allisa Moore was duly sworn in.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to change the order of Items 8(b)(1) and 8(a)(1) was made by President Lindsay, seconded by Commissioner Dieter, and passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes of July 18, 2024

A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Commissioner Butter, seconded by Commissioner Tsao, and passed unanimously.

5. Announcements and Communications

(a) From staff

There were no announcements from the staff.

(b) From commissioners

Ms. Butter announced that she attended a registration drive for 16-year-olds organized by the

City of Alameda high schools and the League of Women Voters.

Commissioner Moore noted that she has received questions about the implementation of Proposition 17 and would like the registrar to report on their progress.

Mr. Lindsay announced that Commissioner Singer has resigned, and that both Supervisors Marquez' and Miley's commission seats need to be filled.

Mr. Lindsay noted as a reminder that the president and vice present keep a list of commissioners' requests, and that the public may also submit requests.

Mr. Lindsay clarified the new procedures for determining public speaker time limits.

Mr. Lindsay announced that he spoke about the Elections Commission at the AKA sorority's symposium.

Commissioner Whitehurst announced that she participated in a "Get Out the Vote" event at McClymonds High School registering 16-years-olds.

6. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comment was allowed for all agenda items.

7. Monthly Report from Registrar of Voters office

Mr. Dupuis reported important dates for the upcoming election, that the voter rolls are growing (over 950,000). He also reported the voting methods: traditional for federal, state, county, school and special districts; ranked choice voting for four cities, and for the first time, youth voting for two school districts.

8. Old and New Business

(a) Ongoing Items from Committees

(1) Nominations sub-committee

A motion was made that Ms. Dieter be the new commissioner liaison for a one-year term from now through September 2025 by Ms. Tsao, seconded by Ms. Butter, and passed unanimously.

A motion was made to disband the sub-committee on Nominations by Ms. Tsao, seconded by Ms. Belcher and passed unanimously.

(b) Items carried over from a previous meeting

(2) Structure of the ROV position

Ms. Valentine reported that the sub-committee fellow, Darlene Azarmi, submitted her report on how other California county registrars manage their workload. The committee will continue to ask other interested parties for their preferences. She asked the Registrar how he allocates his time between the two jobs. He described how each agency is staffed and managed to meet the requirements of the county, concluding that the balance is fluid.

Ms. Dieter asked the Registrar to break down by percentage time spent between the two roles, Mr. Dupuis said it couldn't be broken down.

(3) Cast Vote Record Release sub-committee

Commissioner Belcher reported that over several months, the committee has met with all the supervisors to explain the significance of the cast vote record and sent correspondence to the office of the Secretary of State, and that PAL (the Personnel, Administration and Legislation Committee of Alameda County) forwarded the commission's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

A motion was made that the newly amended recommendation letter be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors by Ms. Butter, seconded by Ms. Dieter and passed unanimously.

A motion was made that Ms. Butter is authorized to send the amended letter on behalf of the commission by Ms. Belcher, seconded by Ms. Valentine and passed unanimously.

(4) Commission rules, procedures and best practices

The commission discussed the committee's recommendations.

A motion was made to adopt the Order of Business and Rosenberg's Rules of Order by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Ms. Dieter and passed 8 to 1.

(d) New Business

(1) Commission October Report to the Board of Supervisors

A motion was made for Mr. Lindsay, Ms. Valentine, Ms. Butter to produce the slide deck and BOS report for the commission to approve by Ms. Belcher, seconded by Ms. Valentine, and passed unanimously.

(2) Expectations for November 2024 and How Voters Can Help

Ms. Valentine asked how the public and advocacy groups can help the registrar accurately process the ballots as quickly as possible. Mr. Dupuis answered that voters who vote by mail can return their ballots as quickly as possible so they can be sorted, organized, vetted and processed; ready to tally shortly after 8:00 p.m. on election night, November 5, 2024.

9. Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

Public Comment was allowed for non-agenda items.

10. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Ms. Moore requested more information on incarcerated voting.

11. Adjournment

The next meeting will be October 17, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.