

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

LISA DEELEY, CHAIRWOMAN  
AL SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER  
OMAR SABIR, COMMISSIONER

HELD AT:

Gas Commission Meeting Room  
1515 Arch Street, 8th Floor  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

REPORTED BY: Samantha Clearfield

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2 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

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4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning,  
5 everyone. I call to order the October 20,  
6 2021 meeting of the Philadelphia City  
7 Commissioners.

8 First I will preserve the order and  
9 decorum of these meetings. Everyone in  
10 attendance should be on notice that shouting  
11 out or interrupting the proceedings will not  
12 be tolerated. Those who violate this will be  
13 asked to leave.

14 The Sunshine Act permits anyone  
15 attending a public meeting to object to a  
16 perceived violation at any time during the  
17 meeting.

18 If you chose to do so, please  
19 succinctly state your objection. Objecting is  
20 not an opportunity for speech making.

21 Second, I would like to thank everyone  
22 who wore pink to the meeting today in  
23 recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

24 For me personally, I can say that my

1 mother was a fortunate to be spared because of  
2 the early detection and not only to bring  
3 awareness always but certainly this year when  
4 we consider so many people may have not gone  
5 for regular testing for many things last year.

6 So we just urge everybody to get back  
7 on track with regard to screening and testing  
8 and thank you everyone again for your  
9 consideration and for wearing pink.

10 We will now move to public comment.  
11 Commenters shall state where they live or, if  
12 they are not a resident of Philadelphia, that  
13 they are a Philadelphia taxpayer.

14 Public comment is not an opportunity  
15 for dialogue or Q and A. It is public  
16 comment, an opportunity for you to tell us  
17 what you think.

18 Each speaker shall have two minutes.  
19 However, I may extend this time at my  
20 discretion. All public comments must be  
21 relevant or germane to Board business.

22 Finally it is my responsibility to  
23 preserve the order and decorum of the  
24 meetings. As such, profane, slanderous,

1 discriminatory, or personal attacks will not  
2 be tolerated.

3 Anyone wishing to offer public comment  
4 please step forward. Seeing none, we will  
5 move to Secretary Omar Sabir for any emailed  
6 public comment.

7 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Good morning.  
8 There were no emailed public comments.

9 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you,  
10 Commissioner. We will now move to old  
11 business with Joe Lynch, our Executive  
12 Director, who has his report.

13 MR. LYNCH: Good morning,  
14 Commissioners.

15 Sunshine Report for October 20, 2021.  
16 County Board of Elections -- as of yesterday,  
17 they have approved 103,617 vote-by-mail  
18 applications. Of those 64,675 are paper  
19 applications and 38,942 are electronic  
20 applications.

21 This is including permanent ballot  
22 voters applied in the primary. Online ballot  
23 application processing is up-to-date through  
24 Monday and paper application processing is

1 up-to-date through Sunday.

2 Second Friday Pre-Election or Cycle 5  
3 campaign finance reports must be filed by  
4 October 22nd.

5 Twenty-four hour reporting began  
6 yesterday. Twenty-four reporting is required  
7 for any candidate or political committee  
8 authorized by a candidate and created solely  
9 for the purpose of influencing the November  
10 election on behalf of that candidate which  
11 receives any contribution or pledge of \$500 or  
12 more or any person making an independent  
13 expenditure of \$500 or more.

14 Voter Registration Report for the  
15 election cycle to date -- they have processed  
16 96,470 applications of which 8,621 were paper.  
17 All applications are up to date.

18 The Data unit is working on paper  
19 mail-in ballot applications, returned letters  
20 and proofing the paper apps.

21 The Imaging unit is processing  
22 electronic mail-in apps, appeal applications  
23 and pulling deceased from the dupe room.

24 Correspondence is working on returned

1 letters and pulling deceased.

2 Documents unit is working on mailing  
3 appeals and ID cards.

4 All polling place changes have been  
5 entered into SURE and the ID cards have been  
6 printed and labeled. 66,525 cards were  
7 printed and we're waiting on word where to  
8 send them.

9 Election Board Unit -- the turnout at  
10 Marion Bracetti's training was 173 workers.  
11 West Philadelphia High School at least 411  
12 workers that came out.

13 Overall, 1,825 poll workers attended  
14 in-person training.

15 Online training as of today is 842.

16 Total confirmed working is 5,627 and  
17 total workers not working is 1,704.

18 This week's training is being held at  
19 the CORA Center, Training Center.

20 All polling places are secure as of  
21 today. There are 707 sites this election  
22 cycle.

23 Signs are being hung in the divisions  
24 impacted by the changes.

1                   This week the Court of Common Pleas  
2 approved two late polling site moves as late  
3 refusals.

4                   Ward 20, Division 9 was moved from 1915  
5 North 11th Street to 809 West Berks Street.  
6 Ward 40, Division 49 was moved from 3025 South  
7 74th Street to 3021 South 74th Street.

8                   The report from Vote by Mail Center --  
9 there was 100 -- so far they sent out 101,848  
10 mail-in ballots and received back 28,605 as of  
11 today.

12                   That's all I have, Commissioners.

13                   CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Joe. We  
14 will now proceed to new business with a motion  
15 from Commissioner Sabir.

16                   COMMISSIONER SABIR: Since the passing  
17 of Act 77, we have seen an increase of vote by  
18 mail applications and mail-in ballots.

19                   Although drop boxes to return mail-in  
20 ballots exist, more are needed to properly  
21 serve the citizens of Philadelphia but our  
22 budget is constrained.

23                   Nonetheless the City Commissioners are  
24 committed to expand access to the ballot. We

1 represent the people and heard from the people  
2 of Philadelphia.

3 Therefore I put forth this motion today  
4 for mobile drop boxes. I motion that we  
5 authorize the deputy to schedule mobile,  
6 mail-in and absentee ballot drop offs that  
7 will be staffed by Board of Election personnel  
8 with the locations and times of these drop  
9 offs to be released in advance.

10 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Second. All in  
11 favor?

12 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

14 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Motion granted.  
15 Commissioner Schmidt, do you have any items to  
16 be added to the agenda?

17 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: I do not.

18 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Commissioner Sabir,  
19 do you have any additional items to be added  
20 to the agenda.

21 COMMISSIONER SABIR: I do not.

22 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: With no items  
23 remaining on the agenda this meeting is  
24 adjourned to executive session to discuss an



1 employment matter.

2 Thank you.

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4 (Whereupon the meeting concluded at 11:07 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence noted are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Court Reporter-Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means, unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

10-20-21 Meeting of the Commissioners  
October 20, 2021

<b>A</b>	8:6 ballots 7:10 7:18,20 began 5:5 behalf 5:10 Berks 7:5 Board 3:21 4:16 6:9 8:7 boxes 7:19 8:4 Bracetti's 6:10 Breast 2:23 bring 3:2 budget 7:22 business 3:21 4:11 7:14	1:11 Commissio... 1:7,8 4:7 4:10 7:15 7:16 8:12 8:13,15,17 8:18,21 Commissio... 1:1,6 2:7 4:14 7:12 7:23 committed 7:24 committee 5:7 Common 7:1 concluded 9:4 confirmed 6:16 consider 3:4 considerati... 3:9 constrained 7:22 contained 10:5 contribution 5:11 control 10:17 CORA 6:19 correct 10:7 Correspon... 5:24 County 4:16 Court 1:20 7:1 10:13 created 5:8 cycle 5:2,15 6:22	dialogue 3:15 direct 10:17 Director 4:12 discretion 3:20 discriminat... 4:1 discuss 8:24 Division 7:4 7:6 divisions 6:23 Documents 6:2 drop 7:19 8:4 8:6,8 dupe 5:23	<b>E</b> E 10:1 early 3:2 election 5:10 5:15 6:9,21 8:7 Elections 4:16 electronic 4:19 5:22 emailed 4:5,8 employment 9:1 entered 6:5 everybody 3:6 evidence 10:5 executive 4:11 8:24 exist 7:20 expand 7:24 expenditure 5:13 extend 3:19	<b>F</b> F 10:1 far 7:9 favor 8:11 FAX 1:22 filed 5:3 Finally 3:22 finance 5:3 First 2:8 Floor 1:11 foregoing 10:6,15	forth 8:3 fortunate 3:1 forward 4:4 Friday 5:2 FRIENDS 1:20 fully 10:5	<b>G</b> Gas 1:11 germane 3:21 Good 2:4 4:7 4:13 granted 8:14	<b>H</b> heard 8:1 held 1:10 6:18 High 6:11 hour 5:5 hung 6:23	<b>I</b> ID 6:3,5 Imaging 5:21 impacted 6:24 in-person 6:14 including 4:21 increase 7:17 independent 5:12 influencing 5:9 interrupting 2:11 items 8:15,19 8:22	<b>J</b> Joe 4:11 7:13	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b> labeled 6:6 LANE 1:20 late 7:2,2 leave 2:13 letters 5:19 6:1	LISA 1:7 live 3:11 locations 8:8 Lynch 4:11 4:13	<b>M</b> mail 7:8,18 mail-in 5:19 5:22 7:10 7:18,19 8:6 mailing 6:2 making 2:20 5:12 Marion 6:10 matter 9:1 10:7 means 10:17 meeting 1:1 1:11 2:6,15 2:17,22 8:23 9:4 meetings 2:9 3:24 minutes 3:18 mobile 8:4,5 Monday 4:24 Month 2:23 morning 2:4 4:7,13 mother 3:1 motion 7:14 8:3,4,14 move 3:10 4:5,10 moved 7:4,6 moves 7:2	<b>N</b> N 10:1 needed 7:20 new 7:14 NEWTOWN 1:21 North 7:5 noted 10:5 notes 10:6 notice 2:10 November 5:9	<b>O</b> O 10:1 object 2:15	Objecting 2:19 objection 2:19 October 1:3 2:5 4:15 5:4 offer 4:3 offs 8:6,9 old 4:10 Omar 1:8 4:5 Online 4:22 6:15 opportunity 2:20 3:14 3:16 order 2:5,8 3:23 Overall 6:13	<b>P</b> P-R-O-C-E... 2:2 paper 4:18 4:24 5:16 5:18,20 passing 7:16 Pennsylvania 1:12,21 people 3:4 8:1,1 perceived 2:16 permanent 4:21 permits 2:14 person 5:12 personal 4:1 personally 2:24 personnel 8:7 Philadelphia 1:12 2:6 3:12,13 6:11 7:21 8:2 pink 2:22 3:9 place 6:4 places 6:20 Pleas 7:1 please 2:18 4:4 pledge 5:11 political 5:7	poll 6:13 polling 6:4,20 7:2 Pre-Election 5:2 PRESENT 1:6 preserve 2:8 3:23 primary 4:22 printed 6:6,7 proceed 7:14 proceedings 2:11 10:4 processed 5:15 processing 4:23,24 5:21 profane 3:24 proofing 5:20 properly 7:20 public 2:15 3:10,14,15 3:20 4:3,6 4:8 10:13 pulling 5:23 6:1 purpose 5:9 put 8:3	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b> R 10:1 received 7:10 receives 5:11 recognition 2:23 refusals 7:3 regard 3:7 Registration 5:14 regular 3:5 released 8:9 relevant 3:21 remaining 8:23 report 4:12 4:15 5:14 7:8 REPORTED 1:15
<b>B</b>	8:6 back 3:6 7:10 ballot 4:21,22 5:19 7:24	<b>D</b> Data 5:18 date 5:15,17 deceased 5:23 6:1 decorum 2:9 3:23 DEELEY 1:7 2:4 4:9 7:13 8:10 8:14,18,22 deputy 8:5 detection 3:2	<b>D</b> discuss 8:24 Division 7:4 7:6 divisions 6:23 Documents 6:2 drop 7:19 8:4 8:6,8 dupe 5:23	<b>F</b> F 10:1 far 7:9 favor 8:11 FAX 1:22 filed 5:3 Finally 3:22 finance 5:3 First 2:8 Floor 1:11 foregoing 10:6,15	forth 8:3 fortunate 3:1 forward 4:4 Friday 5:2 FRIENDS 1:20 fully 10:5	<b>G</b> Gas 1:11 germane 3:21 Good 2:4 4:7 4:13 granted 8:14	<b>H</b> heard 8:1 held 1:10 6:18 High 6:11 hour 5:5 hung 6:23	<b>I</b> ID 6:3,5 Imaging 5:21 impacted 6:24 in-person 6:14 including 4:21 increase 7:17 independent 5:12 influencing 5:9 interrupting 2:11 items 8:15,19 8:22	<b>J</b> Joe 4:11 7:13	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b> labeled 6:6 LANE 1:20 late 7:2,2 leave 2:13 letters 5:19 6:1	LISA 1:7 live 3:11 locations 8:8 Lynch 4:11 4:13	<b>M</b> mail 7:8,18 mail-in 5:19 5:22 7:10 7:18,19 8:6 mailing 6:2 making 2:20 5:12 Marion 6:10 matter 9:1 10:7 means 10:17 meeting 1:1 1:11 2:6,15 2:17,22 8:23 9:4 meetings 2:9 3:24 minutes 3:18 mobile 8:4,5 Monday 4:24 Month 2:23 morning 2:4 4:7,13 mother 3:1 motion 7:14 8:3,4,14 move 3:10 4:5,10 moved 7:4,6 moves 7:2	<b>N</b> N 10:1 needed 7:20 new 7:14 NEWTOWN 1:21 North 7:5 noted 10:5 notes 10:6 notice 2:10 November 5:9	<b>O</b> O 10:1 object 2:15	Objecting 2:19 objection 2:19 October 1:3 2:5 4:15 5:4 offer 4:3 offs 8:6,9 old 4:10 Omar 1:8 4:5 Online 4:22 6:15 opportunity 2:20 3:14 3:16 order 2:5,8 3:23 Overall 6:13	<b>P</b> P-R-O-C-E... 2:2 paper 4:18 4:24 5:16 5:18,20 passing 7:16 Pennsylvania 1:12,21 people 3:4 8:1,1 perceived 2:16 permanent 4:21 permits 2:14 person 5:12 personal 4:1 personally 2:24 personnel 8:7 Philadelphia 1:12 2:6 3:12,13 6:11 7:21 8:2 pink 2:22 3:9 place 6:4 places 6:20 Pleas 7:1 please 2:18 4:4 pledge 5:11 political 5:7	poll 6:13 polling 6:4,20 7:2 Pre-Election 5:2 PRESENT 1:6 preserve 2:8 3:23 primary 4:22 printed 6:6,7 proceed 7:14 proceedings 2:11 10:4 processed 5:15 processing 4:23,24 5:21 profane 3:24 proofing 5:20 properly 7:20 public 2:15 3:10,14,15 3:20 4:3,6 4:8 10:13 pulling 5:23 6:1 purpose 5:9 put 8:3	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b> R 10:1 received 7:10 receives 5:11 recognition 2:23 refusals 7:3 regard 3:7 Registration 5:14 regular 3:5 released 8:9 relevant 3:21 remaining 8:23 report 4:12 4:15 5:14 7:8 REPORTED 1:15	

10-20-21 Meeting of the Commissioners  
October 20, 2021

Page 2

reporter 10:18	staffed 8:7	6:2,9	103,617 4:17	9 7:4		
Reporter-N... 10:13	state 2:19	up-to-date 4:23 5:1	11:07 9:4	96,470 5:16		
REPORTE... 1:20	3:11	urge 3:6	116 1:20			
reporting 5:5	stenographic 10:6	<hr/> V <hr/>	11th 7:5			
5:6	step 4:4	VIDEOGR... 1:20	1515 1:11			
reports 5:3	Street 1:11	violate 2:12	173 6:10			
represent 8:1	7:5,5,7,7	violation 2:16	18940 1:21			
reproduction 10:16	STREHLO... 1:19	vote 7:8,17	1915 7:4			
required 5:6	succinctly 2:19	vote-by-mail 4:17	<hr/> 2 <hr/>			
resident 3:12	SUITE 1:20	Voter 5:14	20 1:3 2:5			
responsibili... 3:22	Sunday 5:1	voters 4:22	4:15 7:4			
return 7:19	Sunshine 2:14 4:15	<hr/> W <hr/>	2021 1:3 2:6			
returned 5:19,24	supervision 10:18	waiting 6:7	4:15			
room 1:11	SURE 6:5	Ward 7:4,6	215 1:22,22			
5:23	<hr/> T <hr/>	we're 6:7	22nd 5:4			
<hr/> S <hr/>	T 10:1,1	wearing 3:9	28,605 7:10			
Sabir 1:8 4:5	taken 10:6	WEDNES... 1:3	<hr/> 3 <hr/>			
4:7 7:15,16	taxpayer 3:13	week 7:1	3021 7:7			
8:12,18,21	tell 3:16	week's 6:18	3025 7:6			
Samantha 1:15	testing 3:5,7	West 6:11 7:5	38,942 4:19			
schedule 8:5	thank 2:21	wishing 4:3	<hr/> 4 <hr/>			
Schmidt 1:7	3:8 4:9	word 6:7	40 7:6			
8:13,15,17	7:13 9:2	wore 2:22	411 6:11			
School 6:11	things 3:5	workers 6:10	49 7:6			
screening 3:7	think 3:17	6:12,13,17	<hr/> 5 <hr/>			
Second 2:21	time 2:16	working 5:18	5 5:2			
5:2 8:10	3:19	5:24 6:2,16	5,627 6:16			
Secretary 4:5	times 8:8	6:17	500 5:11,13			
secure 6:20	today 2:22	WWW.ST... 1:21	504-4622 1:22			
Seeing 4:4	6:15,21	<hr/> X <hr/>	504-7155 1:22			
seen 7:17	7:11 8:3	<hr/> Y <hr/>	54 1:20			
send 6:8	tolerated 2:12 4:2	year 3:3,5	<hr/> 6 <hr/>			
sent 7:9	total 6:16,17	yesterday 4:16 5:6	64,675 4:18			
serve 7:21	track 3:7	<hr/> Z <hr/>	66,525 6:6			
session 8:24	training 6:10	0	<hr/> 7 <hr/>			
shouting 2:10	6:14,15,18	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	707 6:21			
Signs 6:23	6:19	1,704 6:17	74th 7:7,7			
site 7:2	transcript 10:7,16	1,825 6:13	77 7:17			
sites 6:21	turnout 6:9	100 7:9	<hr/> 8 <hr/>			
slanderous 3:24	Twenty-four 5:5,6	101,848 7:9	8,621 5:16			
solely 5:8	two 3:18 7:2	<hr/> U <hr/>	809 7:5			
South 7:6,7	<hr/> U <hr/>	unit 5:18,21	842 6:15			
spared 3:1			8th 1:11			
speaker 3:18			<hr/> 9 <hr/>			
speech 2:20						