

1 OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS

2 ELECTION BOARD MEETING

3 - - -

4 Monday, November 22, 2021

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7 Election Board Meeting, taken
8 pursuant to notice, was held at the Voting
9 Machine Warehouse, 11311 Roosevelt Boulevard,
10 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19154 commencing at
11 11:00 a.m., on the above date, before Torre Lynn
12 Adams, a Court Reporter and Notary Public in the
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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16 STREHLOW COURT REPORTING
17 54 FRIENDS LANE, SUITE 116
18 NEWTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18940
19 (215) 504-4622
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1 APPEARANCES:

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3 COMMISSIONER LISA DEELEY - CHAIRWOMAN

4 COMMISSIONER AL SCHMIDT - VICE CHAIR

5 COMMISSIONER OMAR SABIR

6 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NICK CUSTODIO

7 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SETH BLUESTEIN

8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER DEVIN UQDAH

9 RICH GARELLA

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1 MADAM COMMISSIONER: I call the
2 November 22, 2021 meeting of the Return Board
3 for 2021 General and Special Election to order.

4 First, I will preserve the order
5 and decorum of these meetings. Everyone in
6 attendance should be on notice that shouting out
7 or interrupting the proceedings will not be
8 tolerated. Those who violate this will be asked
9 to leave. The Sunshine Act permits anyone
10 attending a public meeting to object to a
11 perceived violation at any time during the
12 meeting. If you choose to do so, please
13 succinctly state your objection, objecting is
14 not an opportunity for speechmaking.

15 Second, the staff ran into a
16 technical obstacle with the website generally
17 yesterday, a Sunday, and was physically unable
18 to make any updates including posting the agenda
19 until this morning when OIT was able to resolve
20 the problem.

21 Therefore, I would like to make a
22 motion to amend the agenda to add the signing of
23 the certification and it included with the
24 agenda that was posted on our website at 9:41

1 a.m. on November 22nd.

2 As I stated earlier, our staff ran
3 into a technical difficulties posting the agenda
4 to the website 24 hours before the meeting and
5 were physically unable to do so without
6 assistance from OIT.

7 In addition, the signing of the
8 certification was included in the public notice
9 for this meeting. Furthermore, the agenda was
10 posted on our website at 9:41 a.m. on November
11 22nd shall be considered the amended agenda.

12 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Second.

13 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Aye vote.

14 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

15 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Commissioner
16 Sabir.

17 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.

18 MADAM COMMISSIONER: That motion
19 passed.

20 We will now move to public
21 comment. Commenters shall state where they live
22 or, if they're not a resident of Philadelphia,
23 that they're a Philadelphia taxpayer. Public
24 comment is not an opportunity for dialogue or

1 Q&A, it's public comment, a chance for you to
2 tell us what you think.

3 Each speaker shall have two
4 minutes. However, I may extend this time at my
5 discretion. All public comments must be
6 relevant, or "germane", to Board business.

7 Finally, it's my responsibility to
8 preserve the order and decorum of the meetings
9 such as profane, slanderous, discriminatory, or
10 personal attacks will not be tolerated.

11 Is there anyone here for public
12 comment?

13 MR. GARELLA: Yes.

14 Good morning. My name Rich
15 Garella. I'm a resident of Philadelphia, and
16 I'm with Protect Our Vote Philly.

17 I just want to point out as far as
18 the agenda not being posted in time, these
19 technical problems that sometimes cause that
20 maybe could be fixed if you had more time to fix
21 them. There's nothing in the Sunshine Act that
22 says that the agenda -- Sunshine Act says the
23 agendas have to be posted at least 24 hours in
24 advance. It doesn't say that they can't be

1 posted more than 24 hours or 25 hours in
2 advance.

3 So, for a meeting like this where
4 you know days in advance what it's going to be,
5 you could just go ahead and post the agenda one
6 day, two days, three days in advance, and then
7 if a technical problem arose, you'd have time to
8 fix it.

9 This problem really comes from the
10 curious propensity of this Board to post agendas
11 to the public as late as possible.

12 So, I'm proposing an easy fix for
13 that, and I hope you will do it in the future so
14 the public knows what's going to be happening at
15 these meetings. That's the intention of the
16 legislature.

17 Thank you.

18 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Move to
19 Secretary Sabir for E-mail public comment.

20 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Good morning.

21 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Good morning.

22 COMMISSIONER SABIR: As of 9:45
23 a.m., they were no public E-mail comments.

24 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Thank you,

1 Commissioner.

2 We will sign the Certification of
3 Election for everything but Commonwealth Court.
4 The signing for that office will be on
5 Wednesday, November 24th at 12:30 p.m.

6 Commissioner Schmidt, do you have
7 any items?

8 (Whereupon the signing commenced).

9 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Commissioner
10 Schmidt, do you have any items to be added to
11 the agenda?

12 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: I do not.

13 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Commissioner
14 Sabir, do you have any items to be added to the
15 agenda?

16 COMMISSIONER SABIR: I do not.

17 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Thanks
18 everybody. Have a great day.

19 (Whereupon the meeting concluded
20 at 11:05 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the witness
was duly sworn by me and that the deposition is
a true record of the testimony given by the
witness.

Torre Lynn Adams,
Court Reporter and Notary Public
Dated: December 15, 2021

