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February 22nd, 2023
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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- JAMES C. CRUMLISH, CHAIRMAN
- SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER
- ERIC KAPENSTEIN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
- VINCENT GOWANS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
- NICK CUSTODIO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

HELD:

VIA ZOOM.
(Audio Transcription)

1 - - - - -

2 PROCEEDINGS

3 - - - - -

4 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Good morning
5 everyone. I'm going to call to order the
6 February 22, 2023 meeting of the Philadelphia
7 City Commissioners. First of all, I want to
8 remind everyone, this is a public meeting.
9 The chair will presume the order and decorum
10 of these meetings.

11 The Sunshine Act permits anyone
12 attending a public meeting to object to a
13 proceeding violation at any time during the
14 meeting. If you choose to do so, please
15 distinctly state your objection. Objecting
16 is not an opportunity for an argument or
17 speech making.

18 We will now move to public
19 comment. Any person present who wishes to
20 make a comment at this point they're invited,
21 if not we will move on.

22 - - - - -

23 (No response.)

24 - - - - -

1 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Commissioner
2 Bluestein, do we have any email public
3 comments?

4 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: There
5 were no email public comments.

6 JUDGE CRUMLISH: We will move on.
7 For matter of old business, I call on
8 Mr. Lynch to read the Executive Directors
9 Report.

10 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. Good
11 morning. Today's Sunshine Report for
12 February 22nd, 2023, the County Board of
13 Elections Report, the County Board of Election
14 is now accepting mail-in and absentee ballot
15 applications. Voters on the annual mail-in
16 and absentee list started receiving their
17 annual applications in the mail.

18 Voters will need to complete and
19 return their application to the County Board
20 of Election to continue to automatically
21 receive either a mail-in or absentee mail
22 ballots for the election of 2023. Voters may
23 apply online rather than returning the paper
24 applications.

1 As of yesterday, we have
2 approved 5,236 vote my mail applications.
3 Which is 4,043 added from last weeks total.
4 Of those, 170 are paper applications, and
5 5,066 are electronic applications. This is
6 including civilian overseas and military
7 voters.

8 We have started receiving back the
9 annual mail-in and absentee applications
10 leaving us with a total of 22,844 applications
11 waiting to be proceeded. Of those 12,057 are
12 paper applications, and 10,787 are electronic
13 applications.

14 Petitions for the upcoming primary
15 election for municipal offices are now
16 available both at City Hall, Room 142, and on
17 our website, vote.phila.gov. Petitions had
18 begun being circulated, and can be filed as of
19 February 14th.

20 The last date to circulate and
21 file nomination petitions is on March 7th, and
22 the last date for candidates to withdraw is on
23 March 22nd, 2023. Petitions for judicial
24 offices in the upcoming primary, including the

1 Court of Common Pleas, and Municipal Court,
2 are available from the Department of State.

3 We're carefully monitoring the
4 number of candidates who are running, as well
5 as potential ballot questions, as to the
6 affect it would have on the length of the
7 ballot.

8 The ballot drawing for municipal
9 candidates will be held at 11:00 a.m. on
10 Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 in City Hall,
11 Room 202. Our voter registration office,
12 520 North Columbus Boulevard, is extending
13 it's hours to accommodate the petition reviews
14 for the 2023 primary starting, Tuesday,
15 tomorrow, February 23rd.

16 The office will be open Monday
17 through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., on
18 Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and from 7:00
19 a.m., to 3:00 on Saturday and Sunday.

20 Anybody wishing to look up
21 petitions or go to our office at
22 520 North Delaware Avenue can call
23 215-686-VOTE and press 4 for voter
24 registration, and voter services to schedule

1 an appointment.

2 Voter registration unit for the
3 election cycle to date, they have process
4 80,465 applications, of which 2,850 were
5 paper. All applications are up to date. They
6 are processing mail-in ballot applications,
7 voter registration applications, and stuffing
8 letters.

9 The election board unit to date
10 for the fall E-Poll book trainings, they have
11 had 2,178 board workers attend trainings.
12 There are 1,656 board workers scheduled for
13 upcoming trainings.

14 The unit is currently scheduling
15 people to attend the remaining seminars. The
16 polling place unit as of this morning -- the
17 polling unit has surveyed 185 sites to
18 prepared for the use of electronic poll books
19 for the May 16th election. The unit is also
20 continuing to work on changes from the last
21 election cycle.

22 That's all I have.

23 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you very
24 much, Mr. Lynch. I'm going to direct that the

1 commission staff make Mr. Lynch's report part
2 of the permanent record of the Commission
3 Meeting.

4 I have matter of new business. I
5 have motion that I'm going to propose. The
6 basis is to better accommodate the Judicial
7 schedules of the commissioners, and as of
8 public convenience that we amend the first
9 sentence of the first -- January 15th -- the
10 Chair Person shall schedule and conduct
11 regular meetings for the Board of Elections on
12 Wednesday.

13 So I have a second?

14 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: Second.

15 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Second having
16 been duly noted, I will now call the role.

17 All in favor by acclimation?

18 - - -

19 (Respond I.)

20 - - -

21 JUDGE CRUMLISH: So recorded.

22 Thank you, Commissioner. The future weekly
23 meetings of the Philadelphia Board of
24 Elections will take place monthly at noon on

1 Wednesdays, expect for the March 15th meeting,
2 for the drawing of the ballet position which
3 will remain at it's previously announced time
4 at 11:00 a.m. the staff shall publish all the
5 required notices.

6 Commissioner Bluestein, do you
7 have anything to add as an additional agenda
8 item?

9 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have
10 none.

11 JUDGE CRUMLISH: With no more
12 items remaining on the agenda, I motion to
13 adjourn. All in favor?

14 - - -

15 (Respond I.)

16 - - -

17 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Thank you very
18 much. Meeting adjourn.

19 - - - -

20 (Whereupon, the hearing is
21 concluded.)

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

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

Court Reporter - Notary Public

(The forgoing 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.)

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