

# Board of Elections



## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE – BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

10:30 a.m.

### MINUTES

#### ATTENDANCE

Legislators Andrew Aronstam, Jake Brown, Ron Ciotoli, and Bill Standinger.

Commissioner James Wahls.

Guests: County Administrator Jackson Bailey, Legislative Clerk Cathy Haskell, Legislative Chair Tracy Monell.

Absent: Commissioner Kelly Johnson.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Legislator Standinger. Second by Legislator Brown. All in favor. Carried.

#### FINANCIAL

The YTD Budget Report was presented.

The NYS Budget provided for extensions of existing grants, which includes the Ballot by Mail Grant and Vote by Mail Grant. It also provided for new grants, including yet another mail ballot postage grant, and a 2026 Election Grant that can be used for any election expenses that were not previously budgeted for.

#### OLD BUSINESS

See May minutes.

Independent Petitions were timely filed for Berkshire Town Clerk and Candor Superintendent of Highways.

Ballot certification for the 2026 Primary was completed and ballots were created. Pre-election testing of voting machines has been completed successfully.

Mail ballots were sent out timely, and ballots are now being received and canvassed.

#### NEW BUSINESS

It is mandated per state regulation that county Boards of Elections be members of the Center for Internet Security's (CIS) Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), and the subgroup for Election Infrastructure (EI-ISAC). This was a federally funded program until the 2025 federal budget cuts, and now it has shifted to a membership fee-based service. The BOE will have to include this fee in the budget moving forward.

In preparation for the June Primary, Commissioner Wahls has coordinated some necessary temporary poll site modifications with the Commissioner of Public Works. Buildings and Grounds staff are fabricating portable parking signs so we can ensure accessible parking spaces at poll sites are ADA-compliant. This came as a result of the poll site accessibility surveys conducted earlier this year. Additionally, to be better prepared for the prospect of a heat wave during the primary election, the BOE is looking to purchase some portable AC units, or swamp coolers, to provide cooling at poll sites that do not have AC. There are a wide range of models available, with widely variable prices, so we're not sure about the best options. Legislator Aronstam said the Village of Waverly has some that work very well, and he will find out what model they have.

2026 Primary Election Calendar:

Early Voting is June 13-21, and Election Day June 23. There are countywide Democratic contests for Comptroller and Representative in Congress, 23<sup>rd</sup> District, and a Republican contest in the Town of Spencer for Town Justice.

The post-election audit of voting machines will be on June 26.

The review of affidavit ballots and invalid mail ballots will be on June 29.

The Recanvass begins July 1 and is projected to take 2 days.

The Statement of Canvass and Audit Certification are due to the State BOE on July 6.

Legislator Standinger asked whether there were enough election workers for the primary. Commissioner Wahls replied that we are running a bit short on workers, because many people have other things going on in June. However, it is largely a single-party primary for most of the county, so it is not going to be as intensive as a general election, and poll sites should still be able to function normally with fewer people.

## PERSONNEL

As of this morning, there were 139 people signed up for summer election inspector training. We want to train at least 185 over the course of the summer to ensure we have enough for the busy general election. Legislator Aronstam inquired if the lag in recruitment is normal. Commissioner Wahls indicated that it is, and we expect more sign-ups before training begins, but the Board is prepared to make phone calls and issue press releases if necessary.

BOE office staff attended on-site Liberty Vote Software Training May 5-7. The training was beneficial in that our technicians will be able create election projects and design ballots more efficiently moving forward, and it provided cross-training to staff who do not regularly use the software.

RESOLUTIONS / PROCLAMATIONS – None.

Meeting adjourned.