

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir
Secretary Simon Shamoun

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Gino A. Marmorato,
Patricia Anne Taylor, Frederic M. Umane

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director

Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director

Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager

Hemalee J. Patel, General Counsel

Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel

Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners

Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contracting Officer

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting with item #1 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes of the November 1, 2022 Commissioners Meeting.

Mr. Ryan noted that Commissioners Taylor and Sullivan were not present at the November 1, 2022 meeting, and asked that the Commissioners make a motion to table this item.

Commissioner Araujo moved to table the minutes of the November 1, 2022 Commissioners Meeting. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The minutes of the November 1, 2022 Commissioners Meeting were tabled.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, and provided the following update on November 8, 2022 General Election:

- The General Election concluded on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.
- A total of 1,698,164 votes were cast and reported on election night, which included the total of votes cast on Election Day, during Early Voting and any absentee ballots canvassed prior to Election Day.
- A total of 1,236 poll sites were opened on Election Day, and 140 poll sites were opened during Early Voting.
- A total of 79,935 individual pieces of voting equipment was deployed.

- Accessibility equipment was installed at 604 sites to meet ADA compliance for Election Day, and was installed in a total of 677 sites for both Election Day and Early Voting.
- There were a total of 32,377 poll workers assigned for Election Day.
- The Board received a total of 2,196 calls on Election Day, and 74 emails from voters requiring assistance.

Mr. Ryan noted that there has been a reduction in the number of phone calls and emails, and an increase in the number of individuals accessing the Board's website and other forms of electronic media for information.

Post-election preparations commenced once the polls were closed, and thus far, the Board has received the following:

- Affidavit Ballots:

To date, a total of 40,559 affidavit ballots were cast.

- Absentee Ballots:

A total of 220,186 absentee ballots were mailed, including 730 accessible ballots and 51,399 military/UOCAVA, federal and special ballots.

To date, the Board has received back a total of 137,028 absentee ballots, and a total of 130,461 ballots have been marked valid and canvassed.

With the new process, absentee ballots received and canvassed by November 4, 2022 were included in our election night reporting totals.

Citywide, a total of 84,714 absentee ballots were included in the election night reported totals. This represented 74% of the total absentee ballots that had been received as of November 4, 2022.

A total of 5,923 absentee ballots have been marked invalid.

A total of 3,857 absentee cure notices have been mailed out, and 1,819 are still outstanding.

As a reminder, today is the last day for the Board to receive a timely postmarked absentee ballot. Military/UOCAVA ballots must be received by November 21, 2022.

The canvass of absentee ballots is ongoing. The canvass of affidavit ballots begins today, but preliminary work began post-election, including cure notices.

As a reminder, affidavit ballots that are missing a signature and/or have a mismatched signature are now curable. To date, we have mailed out 11 affidavit cures citywide, all of which are still outstanding.

As of today, the latest cure expires November 23, 2022. This is a rolling process until all deadlines are met, since any returned ballots could be subject to the cure process.

Our goal is to certify the results of the November 8, 2022 General Election, no later than Friday, December 2, 2022. This is dependent on ballots received back and the cure notice timeline, which is seven days for military and UOCAVA ballots.

This concluded the update on the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Mr. Ryan noted that the feedback received thus far has been very positive, the Board conducted a very successful election, and he is proud of the work that the staff and poll workers have done.

Mr. Ryan further noted that this was a remarkably busy year for elections. The Board conducted a total of eight elections which included early voting, as well as the once every ten year reapportionment, pursuant to the redistricting associated with the census data which was done twice in three months.

Mr. Ryan stated that we as a team prevailed mightily this year, and the Commissioners, Executive Staff and Board staff have a lot to be proud of.

President Pepe-Souvenir echoed Mr. Ryan's sentiments, and extended a special thanks to the Borough Chiefs and Deputies for their excellent work during Early Voting and Election Day, and noted that their leadership and guidance to the poll workers and everyone working to make this happen has to be noted. President Pepe-Souvenir stated that we have received a lot of complements, and is very proud of all who helped make this election happen.

Secretary Shamoun also expressed his appreciation, and noted that this was a product of continually striving to make things better over time, and is proud of the employees and the voters who came out in droves to vote during this election.

Commissioner Umame agreed with the positive feedback expressed by the Commissioners and Executive Management.

Commissioner Umame added an additional item to the meeting agenda, item # 4, the Commissioners Finance Committee Report for approval by the full Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged Sherwin Suss, the Agency Chief Contracting Officer, to present the report before the Commissioners Committee.

The following items were presented:

RJR Communications

This is a contract to provide cabling infrastructure and server racking equipment in preparation for the new agency wide telephone and network installation. This contract was procured through the M/WBE noncompetitive small purchase bidding process. A total of 14 companies were solicited and the lowest priced vendor was selected. The not to exceed price of this contract is \$175,328.

Commissioner Umame stated that it was the unanimous recommendation of the Finance Committee, that this contract be approved.

Secretary Shamoun moved to approve the Finance Committee Report. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Finance Committee Report in regards to the contract for RJR Communications, was approved.

The second item was presented for consideration:

FJC Security Services Inc.

This is a contract to provide armed security guards to all Board locations agency wide. This is a task order procured through the DCAS Citywide Security Guard Services contract. The Board conducts a mini bid between the two security guard companies that have already been vetted with pricing secured through a competitive sealed bidding process conducted by DCAS. The lowest priced vendor was selected which also happens to be the same vendor that has provided service to the Board for the last 5 years. This is a 3 year contract with a not to exceed amount of \$6,184,021.87.

Commissioner Umane stated that it was the unanimous recommendation of the Finance Committee, that this contract be approved.

Commissioner Umane thanked the Security Guards for their service to this agency.

Commissioner Umane moved to approve the Finance Committee Report. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Finance Committee Report in regards to the contract for FJC Security Services, Inc., was approved.

Mr. Ryan asked that the Commissioners Committee make a motion to set the date of the next meeting, for Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 1:30 P.M., and convene an Executive Session to discuss a Litigation matter.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to schedule the next meeting of the Commissioners for Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 1:30 P.M., and adjourn the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners, and convene an Executive Session to discuss Litigation. Secretary Shamoun seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

Mr. Ryan stated that litigation was the only matter discussed during Executive Session, and has nothing further to report.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.