

Meeting of the Commissioners - Elections  
April 21, 2021

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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April 21, 2021

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

LISA DEELEY, CHAIRWOMAN  
AL SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER  
OMAS SABIR, COMMISSIONER  
SETH BLUESTEIN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
NICK CUSTODIO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
TRINA BODNIK

PRESENT:

JOE LYNCH, ELECTION ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

HELD AT:

Liacouras Center  
1776 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

REPORTED BY: John A. Kelly  
Strehlow & Associates, Inc.  
(215) 504-4622

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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. Today is Wednesday,  
5 April 21, 2021. I would like to call to order the  
6 Philadelphia City Commissioners Board of Elections meeting.

7 We will begin with public comments. Commenters shall  
8 state where they live, or if they are not a resident of  
9 Philadelphia, that they are a Philadelphia taxpayer.

10 Public comment is not an opportunity to dialogue or Q  
11 and A. It is public comment, a chance for you to tell us  
12 what you think. Each speaker shall have two minutes;  
13 however, I may extend the time at my discretion.

14 All public comments must be relevant or germane to  
15 Board business. Finally, it is my responsibility to  
16 preserve the order and decorum of the meeting. As such,  
17 profane, slanderous, discriminatory or personal attacks will  
18 not be tolerated.

19 Anyone wishing to offer public comment, please step  
20 forward.

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Hearing none, we will now move to a  
23 report from the Secretary, Commissioner Sabir for e-mailed  
24 public comments.

25 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Good morning.

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1 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Good morning.

2 COMMISSIONER SABIR: There were no public comments  
3 emailed.

4 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Commissioner Sabir. We  
5 will now proceed to old business with a report from our  
6 executive director, Joe Lynch.

7 MR. LYNCH: Good morning, Commissioners.

8 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Good morning, Joe.

9 MR. LYNCH: The County Board report for today, we are  
10 currently accepting absentee and mail-in ballot applications  
11 online at [votespa.com](https://votespa.com) or by paper application.

12 Additionally, the County Board of Elections office at  
13 City Hall, Room 140 is now open for walk-in voting. Our  
14 hours are Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm through Election Day. For  
15 those interested, please enter City Hall through the south  
16 gates across from the Ritz-Carlton hotel.

17 For this week, only voters that have not previously  
18 applied for an absentee or mail-in ballot this election can  
19 apply for and receive a ballot at our City Hall office.  
20 Beginning Monday, April 26th, voters that need a replacement  
21 ballot can order one at [ballotform.philadelphiovotes.com](https://ballotform.philadelphiovotes.com) or  
22 pick up a replacement ballot at our City Hall office.

23 As of yesterday, we have approved 69,384 vote-by-mail  
24 applications for the Primary. Of those, 55,963 are paper  
25 applications, and 13,421 are electronic applications. We

1 have mailed the first 63,862 absentee and mail-in ballots  
2 last Monday, which voters should be receiving this week.

3 As of yesterday, we also opened 14 ballot drop boxes  
4 throughout the city. Ballot drop boxes will be open 24/7  
5 through Election Day. Visit [philadelphiavotes.com](http://philadelphiavotes.com) for  
6 details in order to see where they are located.

7 Voter Registration, for the election cycle to date we  
8 have processed 107,339 applications, of which 7,400 were  
9 paper. All applications are up to date. Imaging, Data and  
10 Correspondence units are working on filing registrations and  
11 mail in applications.

12 Polling Places, to date we have 1,635 secured divisions  
13 and 689 secured sites, 37 divisions outstanding along with  
14 15 outstanding sites.

15 As of today, we have 42 division chiefs that will be  
16 heard at next week's meeting. The Election Board, to date,  
17 the Board has confirmed 4,757 Board workers who wish to work  
18 on Election Day, and are still reaching out and trying to  
19 recruit additional workers, answering 366 Board workers  
20 since the last report.

21 Election activity, the remaining material that needs to  
22 go to the Elections Bureau will be shipped up -- (inaudible)  
23 -- tomorrow. There will be a truck coming to -- (inaudible)  
24 -- and Spring Garden. Once the table ballots come, they  
25 will sticker and mark them up to be distributed. The

1 remaining ballots will be shipped to a warehouse and put  
2 into boxes. That's all I have today for my report.

3 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: Thank you, Joe.

4 Now we will proceed to new business. Does anybody have  
5 any new business? Commissioner Sabir?

6 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Thank you, Madam Chair. I motion  
7 that we authorize the staff to schedule mobile, mail-in and  
8 absentee ballot drop-offs that will be staffed by the Board  
9 of Elections personnel with the location and times of those  
10 drop-offs to be released in advance.

11 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Second that. All in favor?

12 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

14 VOICE FROM AUDIENCE: I object to this motion on the  
15 basis of Sunshine Act 710.1. The Board did not provide the  
16 public with a reasonable opportunity to comment and be  
17 heard.

18 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Commissioner Schmidt, any new  
19 business?

20 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: No new business. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: For the record, the motion as  
22 proposed by Commissioner Sabir has passed.

23 Any more new business?

24 (No response.)

25 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Hearing none, I call for a motion to

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1 adjourn.

2 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: So moved.

3 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: Second?

4 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Second.

5 CHAIRMAN DEELEY: All in favor?

6 COMMISSIONER SCHMIDT: Aye.

7 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Aye.

8 CHAIRWOMAN DEELEY: This meeting is adjourned to the  
9 call of the Chair. Thank you, everybody. Have a great day.

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11 (Whereupon the meeting concluded at 11:06 a.m.)

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 I hereby certify that the foregoing  
3 proceedings were reported by me, and that I read this  
4 transcript and attest that this transcript is a true and  
5 accurate record of the proceedings.

6 By:

7 John A. Kelly

8 Court Reporter

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<p><b>A</b></p> <p>a.m 6:11 absentee 3:10 3:18 4:1 5:8 accepting 3:10 accurate 7:5 Act 5:15 ACTIVITI... 1:11 activity 4:21 additional 4:19 Additionally 3:12 adjourn 6:1 adjourned 6:8 ADMINIS... 1:11 advance 5:10 AL 1:7 answering 4:19 anybody 5:4 application 3:11 applications 3:10,24,25 3:25 4:8,9 4:11 applied 3:18 apply 3:19 approved 3:23 April 1:3 2:5 3:20 ASSISTANT 1:11 Associates 1:16 attacks 2:17 attest 7:4 AUDIENCE 5:14 authorize 5:7 Aye 5:12,13 6:6,7</p> <hr/> <p><b>B</b></p> <p>ballot 3:10,18 3:19,21,22 4:3,4 5:8</p>	<p>ballotform... 3:21 ballots 4:1,24 5:1 basis 5:15 Beginning 3:20 BLUESTE... 1:8 Board 2:6,15 3:9,12 4:16 4:17,17,19 5:8,15 BODNIK 1:9 boxes 4:3,4 5:2 Broad 1:14 Bureau 4:22 business 2:15 3:5 5:4,5,19 5:20,23</p> <hr/> <p><b>C</b></p> <p>C 2:2 7:1,1 call 2:5 5:25 6:9 Center 1:13 certify 7:2 Chair 5:6 6:9 CHAIRM... 3:1 5:11,18 5:21,25 6:3 6:5 CHAIRW... 1:6 2:4,22 3:4,8 5:3 6:8 chance 2:11 chiefs 4:15 city 2:6 3:13 3:15,19,22 4:4 come 4:24 coming 4:23 comment 2:10,11,19 5:16 Commenters 2:7 comments 2:7,14,24 3:2 Commissio... 1:7,7,8,8</p>	<p>2:23,25 3:2 3:4 5:5,6,12 5:13,18,20 5:22 6:2,4,6 6:7 Commissio... 1:1,5 2:6 3:7 concluded 6:11 confirmed 4:17 Correspon... 4:10 County 3:9 3:12 Court 7:8 currently 3:10 CUSTODIO 1:8 cycle 4:7</p> <hr/> <p><b>D</b></p> <p>D 2:2 Data 4:9 date 4:7,9,12 4:16 day 3:14 4:5 4:18 6:9 decorum 2:16 DEELEY 1:6 2:4,22 3:1,4 3:8 5:3,11 5:18,21,25 6:3,5,8 DEPUTY 1:8 1:8 details 4:6 dialogue 2:10 director 3:6 discretion 2:13 discriminat... 2:17 distributed 4:25 division 4:15 divisions 4:12 4:13 drop 4:3,4 drop-offs 5:8 5:10</p>	<p><b>E</b></p> <p>E 2:2,2 7:1,1 e-mailed 2:23 election 1:11 3:14,18 4:5 4:7,16,18 4:21 Elections 2:6 3:12 4:22 5:9 electronic 3:25 emailed 3:3 enter 3:15 everybody 6:9 executive 3:6 extend 2:13</p> <hr/> <p><b>F</b></p> <p>F 7:1 favor 5:11 6:5 filing 4:10 Finally 2:15 first 4:1 foregoing 7:2 forward 2:20</p> <hr/> <p><b>G</b></p> <p>G 2:2 Garden 4:24 gates 3:16 germane 2:14 go 4:22 Good 2:4,25 3:1,7,8 great 6:9</p> <hr/> <p><b>H</b></p> <p>Hall 3:13,15 3:19,22 heard 4:16 5:17 Hearing 2:22 5:25 HELD 1:12 hotel 3:16 hours 3:14</p> <hr/> <p><b>I</b></p> <p>Imaging 4:9 inaudible 4:22,23</p>	<p>interested 3:15</p> <hr/> <p><b>J</b></p> <p>Joe 1:11 3:6 3:8 5:3 John 1:16 7:7</p> <hr/> <p><b>K</b></p> <p>Kelly 1:16 7:7</p> <hr/> <p><b>L</b></p> <p>Liacouras 1:13 LISA 1:6 live 2:8 located 4:6 location 5:9 Lynch 1:11 3:6,7,9</p> <hr/> <p><b>M</b></p> <p>Madam 5:6 mail 4:11 mail-in 3:10 3:18 4:1 5:7 mailed 4:1 mark 4:25 material 4:21 meeting 1:1 2:6,16 4:16 6:8,11 minutes 2:12 mobile 5:7 Monday 3:20 4:2 Monday-Fr... 3:14 morning 2:4 2:25 3:1,7,8 motion 5:6 5:14,21,25 move 2:22 moved 6:2</p> <hr/> <p><b>N</b></p> <p>N 2:2 need 3:20 needs 4:21 new 5:4,5,18 5:20,23 NICK 1:8</p>	<p>North 1:14</p> <hr/> <p><b>O</b></p> <p>O 2:2 object 5:14 offer 2:19 office 3:12,19 3:22 old 3:5 OMAS 1:7 Once 4:24 online 3:11 open 3:13 4:4 opened 4:3 opportunity 2:10 5:16 order 2:5,16 3:21 4:6 outstanding 4:13,14</p> <hr/> <p><b>P</b></p> <p>P 2:2 paper 3:11 3:24 4:9 passed 5:22 Pennsylvania 1:14 personal 2:17 personnel 5:9 Philadelphia 1:14 2:6,9,9 philadelphi... 4:5 pick 3:22 Places 4:12 please 2:19 3:15 Polling 4:12 PRESENT 1:5,10 preserve 2:16 previously 3:17 Primary 3:24 proceed 3:5 5:4 proceedings 7:3,5 processed 4:8 profane 2:17 proposed 5:22 provide 5:15</p>	<p>public 2:7,10 2:11,14,19 2:24 3:2 5:16 put 5:1</p> <hr/> <p><b>Q</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>R</b></p> <p>R 2:2 7:1 reaching 4:18 read 7:3 reasonable 5:16 receive 3:19 receiving 4:2 record 5:21 7:5 recruit 4:19 Registration 4:7 registrations 4:10 released 5:10 relevant 2:14 remaining 4:21 5:1 replacement 3:20,22 report 2:23 3:5,9 4:20 5:2 reported 1:16 7:3 Reporter 7:8 resident 2:8 response 2:21 5:24 responsibili... 2:15 Ritz-Carlton 3:16 Room 3:13</p> <hr/> <p><b>S</b></p> <p>S 2:2 Sabir 1:7 2:23,25 3:2 3:4 5:5,6,12 5:22 6:4,7 schedule 5:7 Schmidt 1:7 5:13,18,20 6:2,6</p>	<p>Second 5:11 6:3,4 Secretary 2:23 secured 4:12 4:13 see 4:6 SETH 1:8 shipped 4:22 5:1 sites 4:13,14 slanderous 2:17 south 3:15 speaker 2:12 Spring 4:24 staff 5:7 staffed 5:8 state 2:8 step 2:19 sticker 4:25 Street 1:14 Strehlow 1:16 Sunshine 5:15</p> <hr/> <p><b>T</b></p> <p>T 7:1,1 table 4:24 taxpayer 2:9 tell 2:11 Thank 3:4 5:3,6,20 6:9 think 2:12 time 2:13 times 5:9 today 2:4 3:9 4:15 5:2 tolerated 2:18 tomorrow 4:23 transcript 7:4,4 TRINA 1:9 truck 4:23 true 7:4 trying 4:18 two 2:12</p> <hr/> <p><b>U</b></p> <p>units 4:10</p>
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<b>V</b>	<b>3</b>						
Visit 4:5	366 4:19						
VOICE 5:14	37 4:13						
vote-by-mail 3:23	<b>4</b>						
Voter 4:7	4,757 4:17						
voters 3:17 3:20 4:2	42 4:15						
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<b>W</b>	<b>6</b>						
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wish 4:17	710.1 5:15						
wishing 2:19	<b>8</b>						
work 4:17	<b>9</b>						
workers 4:17 4:19,19	9am-5pm 3:14						
working 4:10							
<b>X</b>							
<b>Y</b>							
yesterday 3:23 4:3							
<b>Z</b>							
<b>0</b>							
<b>1</b>							
1,635 4:12							
107,339 4:8							
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13,421 3:25							
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