

# Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners

4422 Brandywine Dr., STE 1 · Peoria, IL 61614

Phone: 309.324.2300 Website: [www.peoriaelections.org](http://www.peoriaelections.org)

## The September 2020 Monthly Meeting of the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners was held at the Election Commission Office at 4422 Brandywine Dr. on Tuesday, September 14, 2020 at 2:00 PM.

PRESENT: James Manning, Chairman  
Mark Ketterer, Vice Chairman  
Matt Bartolo, Secretary  
Arun Pinto, Commissioner  
Thomas Bride, Executive Director  
Elizabeth Gannon, Assistant Executive Director  
Jenni Cordis Boswell, Assistant State's Attorney

ABSENT: Sandra Burke, Treasurer

GUESTS: Irene Pritzger, Katrina Forseth, Theresa Johanson, Jody Oltman, Matt Schrader, Becky Kelly, Jackie Petty, DeWayne Arington, Lee Carlise, Robert J. Pratt

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

A Roll Call of the Commissioners was taken by Chairman Manning finding all Commissioners present except Treasurer Burke.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chairman Ketterer moved to approve the minutes for the August 11, 2021 annual meeting with changes to him being absent from meeting. Commissioner Pinto seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Expenses**

Executive Director Bride explained the bills (see attached) to the Board. Commissioner Pinto moved to approve the bills. Vice Chairman Ketterer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Three-Year Contract with SOE Software Corporation (d/b/a ScytI) for Online Election Judge Training**

Treasurer Burke entered the meeting at 2:09 pm.

Executive Director Bride detailed the contract to the Board for Online Election Judges. The Board used the software last year on a one-year contract and this would continue the use for the next three years. Assistant Executive Director explained how the service worked. Chairman Manning asked why it was a three-year contract and Executive Director Bride explained that was to lock in the current price instead of year to year without price certainty and to support the new voting system. Secretary Bartolo moved to approve the contract with approval of the State's Attorney of the terms of the contract. Commissioner Pinto seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Report of the Executive Director**

### **Request for Proposal for new Voting System Update**

Executive Director Bride told the Board that the Election Commission received two proposals in response to the Request for Proposals. They were from Hart InterCivic and ES&S. The staff has not yet started evaluation of the proposals. Chairman Manning asked about the projected timeline for a new voting system. Executive Director Bride stated he hopes to bring a recommendation to the full board at the November meeting. Sent to approval in late November for County Way & Means Committee and December for County Board Meeting for capital appropriation. The plan is to have the evaluation committee meeting by the end of September and vendor presentations in late October.

### **2022 New Vote by Mail Drop Boxes Discussion**

Executive Director Bride detailed a meeting with both County Party Chairman about several issues. On the drop boxes, he explained their only concerns were with security of the drop boxes and data to explain the placement of the new drop boxes. Chairman Manning asked how soon a decision needed to be made. Executive Director Bride told the Board his only concern was making sure the purchase of new drop boxes was in 2021. He told the Board he would come back with a staff recommendation at the next meeting.

### **2022 Vote by Mail Paid Return Postage Discussion**

Executive Director Bride explained that the parties only concern with changing the return postage policy was returns with insufficient postage. He told the Board that State Statute already required the Board to pay for insufficient postage on returns and that the amount required for mailing the Ballots back had to be printed on the envelope. Chairman Manning asked what the expense was related to return postage for VBM Ballots. Executive Director Bride expected about \$13,000 per year. Vice Chairman Ketterer asked for confirmation regarding postmarks. The post office is required to postmark a stamped envelope but is not required to postmark a postage paid envelope. Executive Director Bride stated that was correct, although the local post office has done a much better job of postmarking prepaid envelopes. There was a discussion about the process of determining the validity of returned envelopes. It was decided to continue the discussion to next month.

## **Report of the Attorney**

No Report

## **Old Business**

No Old Business

## **New Business**

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Election Commission office.

## **Public Comment**

There was a question about whether either of the proposed new voting systems connected to the internet.

Theresa Johanson stated that many citizens are concerned about elections. She talked about issues related to past elections. She asked why public comment after other parts of the agenda. She asked about several past bills. She asked about the press release explaining the Request for Proposal process. She asked about the Request for Proposals. She asked about the contract with SOE Software Corporation. There was discussion about paper ballots.

There was a discussion about how to become an Election Judge or pollwatcher.

There was discussion about Vote by Mail ballots.

There was a question about Vote by Mail ballots being surrendered and voting in person.

Katrina Forseth spoke about election results in 19 states that showed a 5% difference.

Jody Oltman spoke about voting equipment having modems and having Chinese parts. She also asked about the current voting system's certification. She spoke about the California Secretary of State's 2006 report of voting system. She asked about passcodes for voting systems. She asked about vetting of the new voting system proposals.

There was a question about foreign ownership of the companies submitting voting system proposals.

Theresa Johanson asked about the mailing of Vote by Mail applications. She talked about the voter rolls. She also talked about prepaid postage for returned Vote by Mail ballot. She spoke about the process of the dates of returned envelopes.

There was a discussion about scanning paper ballots. There was a question about adjudicated ballots.

There was a question about how the voting system adjudication process works.

There was question about voter integrity and fair elections.

## **Executive Session**

Vice Chairman Ketterer moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings at 3:19 pm. Secretary Bartolo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Ketterer moved to come out of Executive Session at 3:29 pm. Commissioner Pinto seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Pinto moved to adjourn. Vice Chairman Ketterer seconded. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 pm.

<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Acct #</b>
Ameren Illinois	Gas & Electric	\$533.35	53600
Ludy's Cleaning	Office Cleaning	\$316.67	54367
Digital Copy Systems	Copier Lease	\$111.00	54380
Illinois American Water	Water for Brandywine	\$78.74	54363
PDC Services	Garbage Service	\$51.33	54366
Verizon	Wireless Phones	\$8.41	54338
Ziad A. Musaitif	Oct 2021 Rent & CAM Charges	\$3,594.23	54390
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,693.73</b>	
<b>MISC</b>			
Home Depot Pro	Restroom Supplies	\$154.83	52210
IACCR	Fall Conference	\$140.00	54000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$294.83</b>	
<b>PCard</b>			
Hobby Lobby	Frame	\$8.99	52210
<b>Payroll</b>			
Staff	8/13/1991	\$10,383.29	51031
Staff	8/27/1991	\$10,383.29	51031
Part-Time	8/13/1991	\$638.16	51040
Part-Time	8/27/1991	\$638.16	51040
Commissioners	8/13/1991	\$615.40	51145
Commissioners	8/27/1991	\$615.40	51145
Medical Benefits	8/13/1991	\$1,450.88	51241
Medical Benefits	8/27/1991	\$1,450.88	51241
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,175.46</b>	
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$31,173.01</b>	