

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Carol R. Edmead, Keith Sullivan, 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
Tom Sattie, Director - Candidate Records Unit
Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contracting Officer

Following the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers, item #1 of the meeting agenda, the Continued Petition Hearings for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election in New York and Kings Counties, the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was convened.

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting with item #2 of the meeting agenda, Applications of Candidates – Appearance of Names on the June 27, 2023 Primary

Election Ballot. Mr. Ryan acknowledged Tom Sattie, Director of the Candidates Record Unit, to present the matter before the Commissioners Committee.

Mr. Sattie addressed the Commissioners Committee, and presented two affidavits for ballot name changes for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election Ballot.

In Brooklyn, Republican candidate for the 43rd New York City Council District, YingYing Tan has submitted an affidavit requesting to be listed on the ballot as Ying Tan. The second affidavit was submitted by Jin Liang Chen, a Republican candidate for the 20th New York City Council District in Queens, requesting to be listed on the ballot as Dany Chen.

Mr. Sattie stated that both requests are standard form and do not cause any confusion to the Primary Election ballot, and it is his recommendation that both ballot name change requests be approved.

Commissioner Umane moved to provide the ballot name as requested by the individuals submitting the affidavit. President Shamoun seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ryan added item #4 to the meeting agenda, a Report on the Finance Committee.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #3 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes of the March 21, 2023, March 28, 2023 and April 11, 2023 Commissioners Meetings.

The minutes of the March 21, 2023 and April 11, 2023 Commissioners Meetings were tabled, due to the absence of a quorum.

In regards to the March 28, 2023 Commissioners Meeting, Commissioner Umane appeared remotely, but not at a publically accessible location, and did not cast any votes.

President Shamoun moved to adopt the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Commissioners Meeting. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, with Commissioner Umane abstaining, the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #4 of the meeting agenda, a Report on the Finance Committee.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged Sherwin Suss, the Agency's Chief Contract Officer, to present the item before the Commissioners Committee.

Mr. Suss presented the following 6 matters that were discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting:

Democracy Live

This is a contract to provide ADA absentee ballots for the Board. This company remediates the paper ballot styles into an electronic form that can be used by the adaptive technology of the print disabled voter. This contract was solicited through the RFP process. This vendor was the highest technical scoring vendor and also provided the lowest price. The cost is for an annual license of \$59,000 per year. The contract is for a two year term with a two year renewal for a total not to exceed cost of \$236,000. The contract term is constructed this way because the State Board of Elections is in the process of creating their own system to provide this service for the entire state. This provides the option for the Board to join the State system when it is up and running or continue these services if needed.

Commissioner Umare informed the Commissioners Committee that the Finance Committee unanimously recommends this contract to the full Board.

Island Computer Products

This is a contract to provide delivery, installation, configuration and implementation of backup solutions for all Board Data files and servers. This contract will provide both the hardware and software. This upgrade is needed to meet the State Cyber Security requirements. This contract was procured through the OGS Umbrella information and Technology contract. The lowest priced vendor was selected. The not to exceed contract price is \$1,399,834.27. This purchase qualifies for reimbursement under New York State Cyber Security grants.

Commissioner Umare informed the Commissioners Committee that the Finance Committee unanimously recommends this contract to the full Board.

First Class Car Service

This is a contract to provide car service during the early voting period. This is a request to raise the ceiling of the current contract. The ceiling needs to be increased to pay outstanding invoices and for the services for the next two elections. The current contract ceiling was calculated on 100 early voting sites. The Board has exceeded that number, and currently using 146 sites during the last election with a goal to increase to 200 sites. In addition, extended use of the services last year with 5 special elections and

an August primary far exceeded the number of elections when calculating the current ceiling. We are requesting a ceiling increase of \$3,500,000 for a new not to exceed amount of \$10,950,000.

Commissioner Umare informed the Commissioners Committee that due to the extra elections and the other reasons cited by Mr. Suss, the Finance Committee unanimously recommends that this contract be approved by the full Board as well.

Pinnacle Security Patrol

This is a contract to provide unarmed security guards for early voting sites that cannot be secured during nonvoting hours. This contract was procured through the M/WBE non-competitive small purchase method pursuant to PPB Rule 3-08. The work was divided between 3 companies, since past experiences has shown that it is too large an assignment for any one vendor. 16 companies were solicited and 5 responded. The contract was awarded to the 3 lowest priced vendors according to the staffing information provided by each vendor. This is a two year contract for 5 full elections with a two year renewal at the option of the Board. The contract term is being constructed this way to allow the board the opportunity to evaluate the performance of the companies. We are requesting Pinnacle be awarded New

York and Queens Counties. The not to exceed two year amount for this contract is \$1,866,501.

A&H Security

This is a contract to provide unarmed security guards for early voting sites that cannot be secured during nonvoting hours. This contract was procured through the M/WBE non-competitive small purchase method pursuant to PPB Rule 3-08. The work was divided between 3 companies since past experience has shown that it is too large an assignment for any one vendor. 16 companies were solicited and 5 responded. The contract was awarded to the 3 lowest priced vendors according to the staffing information provided by each vendor. This is a two year contract for 5 full elections with a two year renewal at the option of the Board. The contract term is being constructed this way to allow the Board the opportunity to evaluate the performance of the companies. We are requesting A&H be awarded to Brooklyn and Richmond counties. The not to exceed two year amount for this contract is \$1,991,031.

Dreamland Security

This is a contract to provide unarmed security guards for early voting sites that cannot be secured during nonvoting hours. This contract was procured

through the M/WBE non-competitive small purchase method pursuant to PPB Rule 3-08. The work was divided between 3 companies since past experience has shown that it is too large an assignment for any one vendor. 16 companies were solicited and 5 responded. The contract was awarded to the 3 lowest priced vendors according to the staffing information provided by each vendor. This is a two year contract for 5 full elections with a two year renewal at the option of the Board. The contract term is being constructed this way to allow the Board the opportunity to evaluate the performance of the companies. We are requesting that Dreamland Security be awarded to Bronx County. The not to exceed amount for this contract is \$943,137.60.

Commissioner Umame noted that these contracts are necessary because many of the early voting sites have generators that remain outside, and the lines are run through windows. Although the doors are locked, there is access to the sites. Commissioner Umame informed the Commissioners Committee that the Finance Committee unanimously recommends this contract to the full Board.

Based on the Finance Committee report, all 6 contracts were adopted unanimously. The Finance Committee report was ratified.

President Shamoun moved adjourn the meeting, and set the next meeting date for Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 1:30 P.M.