## MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025, AT 1:00 P.M. 42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM NEW YORK, NY 10004

## PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umane

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Marc A. Landis, Gino A. Marmorato, Frank R. Seddio, \*Simon Shamoun, Michele A. Sileo

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager Michael D. Corbett, Administrative Manager Grace Pyun, General Counsel Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners Tom Sattie, Director – Candidate Records Unit Pete Holmberg, Coordinator – Candidate Records Unit

GUESTS: Walter Iwaichiu Kate Doran, League of Women Voters

\*Commissioner Shamoun appeared remotely, but not at a publicly accessible location, and therefore did not cast any votes.

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director, opened the meeting by introducing the

staff. Before proceeding with the meeting agenda, he shared the following updates:

• The Primary Election was concluded on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

• Without including affidavit and absentee numbers, slightly over 1 million voters voted in New York during Election Day and Early Voting.

Mr. Ryan took a moment to express his and the Commissioners' deepest gratitude to the incredible staff and poll workers for their extraordinary work during this unprecedented election. Faced with record-breaking heat, they rose to the occasion with dedication, professionalism, and resilience.

On short notice, the Board successfully distributed over 5,000 cases of water. In coordination with various city agencies, including the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the New York City Public School System, we ensured that some form of cooling was available at every poll site. Mr. Ryan acknowledged that this was a very challenging effort and recognized the contributions of our partners at OEM and NYC Public Schools, also noting that DCAS likely played a role in the process.

Mr. Ryan also thanked all voters across the city, noting that they are the backbone of our democracy and their commitment does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Mr. Ryan continued with additional updates:

- 1,213 Election Day poll sites were opened.
- 69,698 pieces of voting equipment were distributed.
- Accessibility equipment was installed in 528 sites to meet the ADA compliance requirements.
- 29,594 poll workers were assigned to work on Election Day, and we are still in the process of completing the payroll, many of whom worked through a 16- to 17-hour day under very difficult conditions.
- The Board received 2,604 calls on Election Day for voter assistance.
- The Board received 535,995 hits on "Find Your Poll Site" on Election Day and nearly 30,000 hits on the new Election Day "Wait Time Map".
- Post-election preparations began once the polls closed and are in full swing.
- The Board has received approximately 68,404 affidavit ballots, citywide.
- A total of 130,907 ballots were mailed, along with 134 accessibility ballots.

- The Board has received 84,290 ballots back, along with 63 accessibility ballots.
- As of 12:00 Noon today, 77,658 ballots have been marked canvassed as valid; 6,000 have been marked preliminarily invalid.
- To date, 3,193 Cures have been mailed out; 2,140 Cures are still outstanding.

This concluded the summary of the Election at this point.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #1 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes from the June 17, 2025 Commissioners Meeting.

Hearing no objections or amendments, the minutes of the June 17, 2025 Commissioners' Meeting were adopted as submitted.

Before moving on to the next agenda items, Mr. Ryan stated that Vincent Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director, had a brief announcement to make.

Mr. Ignizio announced that at 12:00 noon today, the Board released the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) Rankings, and the results can be found on the Board's website at <u>www.vote.nyc</u>.

Mr. Ignizio expressed gratitude and thanked the team of Board staff who ensured proper distribution and passage of RCV in an appropriate and efficient manner. Mr. Ignizio stated that the subsequent rounds will be released next Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 12:00 noon, and the intention is to certify the election on that day as well.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, the Continued Hearings on the Specifications of Objections to Independent Nominating Petition Matters for the November 4, 2025 General Election.

Mr. Ryan turned the meeting over to President Umane to convene a meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York for the continued hearings on challenges to Independent Nominating Petitions for Public Offices to be contested in the November 4, 2025 General Elections.

Following the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York, the regular stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners resumed.

Mr. Ryan indicated that two speakers would like to address the Commissioners.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged the first guest, Walter Iwachiw.

President Umane noted that Commissioner Araujo has recused himself from any matters concerning Walter Iwachiw.

Mr. Iwachiw was acknowledged by the Commissioners and addressed the Board. The Commissioners thanked him for his appearance.

Mr. Ryan acknowledged the second guest, Kate Doran from the League of Women's Voters.

Ms. Doran stated that the League of Women's Voters received a voter complaint on Election Day, and she read the email aloud to the Board. In the letter, the voter states that she has lived in New York City for 42 years and has lived and voted at one address in Manhattan for the past 25 years, yet she was still required to provide identification to vote on Election Day. Ms. Doran stated that she has just received the information and has not yet had the opportunity to contact the voter, but she wanted the Board to go on record to clarify when a person would be required to provide ID at a poll site.

Mr. Ryan stated that the facts presented might not be accurate, as it is a onesided account of an event that occurred at a poll site. The best course of action would be for Ms. Doran to provide the voters' information, if the voter permits her to do so. Then, the Board can perform a forensic review of the system to determine whether the voter's perception was accurate or correct.

Mr. Ryan stated that, generally speaking, if not provided previously, a signature might be required, potentially under the new law. Under the law that has existed for years, the last four digits of your Social Security number or non-driver or driver ID number from the Department of Motor Vehicles. Those would be the basic reasons that an ID may be required to vote at the polls on election day.

Mr. Ryan also noted that many watchdogs are at the poll sites on election day, including the Attorney General's Office, which also has a hotline. On election day, the Board generally receives inquiries throughout the day, including from the Attorney General's Office. The calls are monitored and addressed by members of the Executive Staff.

Ms. Doran further commented that the voter claims that she went through the whole process at the poll site, was about to get her ballot, and then was called back.

Commissioner Coppotelli thanked Ms. Doran for bringing this matter to the Board's attention and stated that, as Mr. Ryan previously mentioned, the Board will consider the information, provided the voter consents, and look into it to ensure the proper procedures and protocols were followed. Commissioner Coppotelli continued to say that what Ms. Doran described is an anomaly at best because it doesn't follow the typical protocol, and the Board should investigate further.

Ms. Doran will reach out to the voter for further details.

The Board expressed its thanks to Ms. Doran for appearing.

Before convening an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, Mr. Ryan suggested that the Commissioners set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, July 15, 2025, which is also tentatively scheduled for certification.

Commissioner Coppotelli moved to set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Marmorato moved to adjourn the regular stated meeting and convene an Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following the Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

Mr. Ryan stated that the following action was taken by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

 Joanna Morgan, a Senior Voting Machine Technician, was granted an advance of 210 hours, effective retroactively to June 20, 2025. Ms. Morgan's agency start date is February 21, 2016, and she is a Manhattan Republican.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Commissioners of Elections will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.