

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

42 Broadway - 6th floor
Commissioners' Hearing Room

New York, NY 10004

April 27, 2021

1:30 p.m. - 3:02 p.m.

April 27, 2021

PRESENT:

President Frederic Umane

Secretary Miguelina Camilo

Commissioner Jose Araujo

Commissioner Michael Michel

Commissioner Gino Marmorato

Commissioner Simon Shamoun

Commissioner Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir

Commissioner Patricia Ann Taylor

Commissioner Tiffany Townsend

Commissioner John Wm. Zaccone

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director

Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager

Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager

1 April 27, 2021

2 (The meeting commenced at 1:38 p.m.)

3 MS. DAWN SANDOW: Good afternoon, today
4 is Tuesday, April 27, 2021 and this is the
5 commissioners meeting of the Board of Elections
6 in the city of New York. My name is Dawn Sandow
7 and I am the deputy executive director of the
8 Board of Elections. I will begin today's meeting
9 with the commissioners' roll call. President
10 Umane?

11 PRESIDENT FREDERIC UMANE: Here.

12 MS. SANDOW: Secretary Camilo?

13 SECRETARY MIGUELINA CAMILO: Here.

14 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Araujo?

15 COMMISSIONER JOSE ARAUJO: Here.

16 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Marmorato?

17 COMMISSIONER MARMORATO: Present, good
18 afternoon, everyone.

19 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Michel?

20 COMMISSIONER MICHAEL MICHEL: Present.

21 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Pepe-Souvenir?

22 COMMISSIONER RODNEY L. PEPE-SOUVENIR:
23 Good afternoon, present.

24 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Shamoun?

1 April 27, 2021

2 COMMISSIONER SIMON SHAMOUN: Present,
3 thank you.

4 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Taylor?

5 COMMISSIONER PATRICIA ANNE TAYLOR:
6 Present, good afternoon.

7 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Townsend?

8 COMMISSIONER TIFFANY TOWNSEND: Present,
9 good afternoon, everyone.

10 MS. SANDOW: Commissioner Zaccone?

11 COMMISSIONER JOHN WM. ZACCONE: Good
12 afternoon, everyone, present.

13 MS. SANDOW: Also joining us today from
14 executive management is Pamela Perkins,
15 administrative manager, Georgea Kontzamanis,
16 operations manager, Ken Moltner and Steven
17 Denkberg, counsel to the commissioners, have
18 joined us as well as and our general counsel
19 Hemalee Patel and deputy general counsel Raphael
20 joining us from a separate location. Adding to
21 the agenda committee reports for finance and
22 ballot committee, we'll start with ballots, item
23 one. I think, are we going to start with the
24 ballot committee?

1 April 27, 2021

2 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Yes, if we can.

3 MS. SANDOW: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: If I may, the
5 ballot committee met this morning prior to
6 today's meeting. We had some spirited discussion
7 regarding the form of the ballot and the process
8 we'll be using to distribute it to the public. As
9 of now, I think for four of the boroughs, they're
10 going to be two-page 19-inch ballots and for one
11 of the boroughs, it's going to be a two-page 17-
12 inch ballot. A question was presented to us as to
13 whether the ballot should be perforated or not
14 and given to the voter as one long sheet, 38
15 inches long, or as two separate sheets where
16 necessary.

17 After our discussions, it was our
18 thought that for the benefit of the voters, their
19 ease in filling out the ballots, their ease in
20 being able to vote, and because of the
21 difficulties we've had in the past with
22 perforated ballots and our voter scanning
23 machines, that we propose that two separate pages
24 be given to the voters when necessary for a two-

1 April 27, 2021

2 page ballot, that they be packaged together, so
3 that the page one and page two in the package
4 with a separate page of an obvious color so that
5 it's clear that the ballots are different between
6 the first and second and third, etc. Orange was
7 suggested but we leave that to the discretion of
8 the staff, and we would like the commissioners
9 approval on providing the two page separate
10 ballots where necessary as opposed to one long
11 perforated ballot that would have to be broken or
12 burst and then submitted into the scanning
13 machine. So are there any thoughts or questions
14 on that.

15 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: I have a
16 question. This is Commissioner Pepe-Souvenir. The
17 benefit of having two separate pages as opposed
18 to it being perforated by the voter, if I could
19 just understand the reasoning why the two is
20 better than having --

21 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Sure,
22 commissioner, I'd be happy to. We last had two
23 page ballots in the year 2018 for the general
24 election I believe it was. There were some

1 April 27, 2021

2 problems with the perforated ballots in that they
3 were difficulties that the voters were having
4 separating them, or bursting them. There were a
5 number of torn ballots that had to then be
6 resubmitted and have the voters go back and start
7 again. There was some difficulties with tearing
8 or with not having clean cuts on the
9 perforations. And the perforations were, at least
10 according to what we've learned in hindsight,
11 making it difficult for the machines to take the
12 ballots and generating paper dust within the
13 machines themselves and causing jams.

14 Our thoughts were a clean edge being
15 submitted into the machine would be much less
16 likely to jam than a perforated edge and wouldn't
17 be generating all that paper dust that we were
18 getting in there and causing a problem.

19 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: So then the
20 poll worker would then, in providing the ballots
21 to the voter, would see that there's one page,
22 and then there's a different colored page, would
23 know that the second page would be after that
24 different colored page?

1 April 27, 2021

2 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Actually, our
3 suggestion was that it would be in a two page
4 ballot, you would get page one and page two of
5 the ballot, then a separator page, dividing the
6 next ballot.

7 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: So that it would
9 be clear that the, if you were supposed to get
10 two pages, you would have the two pages, then the
11 separator page --

12 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: Then you'd
13 know, got you.

14 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Right.

15 COMMISSIONER PEPE-SOUVENIR: Okay. Okay.

16 PRESIDENT UMANE: I think that sounds
17 very good. I would just want to make sure that
18 the separator pages were not of a color that
19 could be attributable to any of the political
20 parties that were involved in the election. I
21 guess it really doesn't matter for this, because
22 it's a primary and only party members would be
23 allowed to vote. But I think we ought to try and
24 stay away from the quote political colors just to

1 April 27, 2021

2 avoid a problem when we have a regular, general
3 election and just get used to not having say blue
4 or red or one of the other colors. And from
5 petitioning, green is a color attributable to a
6 particular party and I guess cherry to another
7 major political party, it's not pink, it's
8 cherry, for those of you who don't know. And we
9 ought to try and stay away from those colors for
10 the extra page. That was just my suggestion.

11 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: No, Commissioner
12 Umane, that's a valid point and I think in our
13 discussions, I had mentioned a particular, you
14 know, the use of garish colors so that it would
15 be clear to everybody and I thought of orange or
16 something else that would be very visible so
17 there wouldn't be any question.

18 SECRETARY CAMILO: Will there be any
19 writing on the separator page, like intentionally
20 left blank or something like that?

21 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: That's certainly
22 open for discussion and for doing. We thought
23 just the color itself would be enough to do with
24 that. With the training that our employees will

1 April 27, 2021

2 get that they'd be the separator page.

3 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: I agree with
4 Commissioner Camilo. I think it may be worth over
5 communicating, sorry.

6 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: No, not at all. I
7 think, you know, I have no problem with adding
8 separator page you do not give out or, you know,
9 ballot on next page or whatever. But I think
10 something like that is best left to the staff and
11 discussions with our chiefs and deputies, because
12 they're the ones dealing with the poll workers
13 and they will figure out the easiest and most
14 efficient way to do that.

15 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: But we do want to
16 --

17 MS. SANDOW: [unintelligible] [00:16:31]
18 and to the print vendors to ensure that we are
19 not delaying the process of producing the ballots
20 and getting them packaged and delivered to get
21 all of our work done. But we can check with all
22 of the vendors and the chiefs and circle back
23 with you guys next Tuesday.

24 [CROSSTALK]

1 April 27, 2021

2 MR. STEVEN DENKBERG: If I could add one
3 thing --

4 PRESIDENT UMANE: Are we going to get
5 nailed for killing extra trees? For having a page
6 in between? I'm just -- there are people out
7 there who like to criticize. I just want to point
8 out --

9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I think we will
10 need to say that we considered that and we didn't
11 find that there would be a solution that would
12 handle our issue. What I did want to say that we
13 should be sure to have recycling bins so that the
14 extra pages will go some place in particular and
15 be recycled paper, in other words, because the
16 poll worker will be throwing away that extra
17 page. We're not going to be giving it to the
18 voter.

19 SECRETARY CAMILO: I think our priority,
20 which the committee did address, is avoiding any
21 jams with the scanners. So having two separate
22 pages is essential. We've seen that it works, so
23 I commend the committee on thinking to address
24 that issue with the separate paper.

1 April 27, 2021

2 MR. DENKBERG: Right, and also if I
3 could just stick my two cents in, per statute,
4 the ballots will be prominently labeled one of
5 two, two of two, so the voter will clearly be
6 able to differentiate between the two pages, and
7 that there are two pages.

8 PRESIDENT UMANE: Okay. I would, there's
9 no need for a motion because it's a committee
10 recommendation. I'll call the question, that is
11 all in favor of adopting the suggestions of the
12 ballot committee and subject to a couple of typos
13 that I think were identified that we would
14 approve the form of ballots that were submitted
15 to us, subject to the recommendations of the
16 ballot committee and the correction of the typos
17 that were mentioned. There's no second necessary.
18 All in favor?

19 MULTIPLE: Aye.

20 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
21 abstentions? So it's carried. Thank you, and I
22 thank the committee for their hard work on this.

23 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT UMANE: Next, is finance.

1 April 27, 2021

2 MS. SANDOW: Could we just hold -- we're
3 going to hold finance, can we hold finance off,
4 because I just want to go into getting approval
5 for poll worker training, which a refresher
6 training. Since we approved the ballots, we would
7 like to do a refresher training for our
8 coordinators, three hours for \$75 and our poll
9 workers, interpreters, line clerks and
10 information clerks, two hours at 50. As you know,
11 we need to -- we need this refresher so we can go
12 over the new way of voting for this election,
13 ranked-choice voting, as well as the two-page
14 ballot.

15 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Does that include
16 through the scanner inspectors?

17 MS. SANDOW: Yes, everybody.

18 MS. KONTZAMANIS: Everybody,
19 commissioner.

20 PRESIDENT UMANE: The question is, is
21 two hours enough?

22 MS. SANDOW: Two hours is enough for the
23 poll workers, interpreters, line clerks, and
24 information clerks and three hours for the

1 April 27, 2021

2 coordinators.

3 MS. KONTZAMANIS: It's a refresher.

4 MS. SANDOW: It's a refresher with a
5 target on what the changes will be.

6 PRESIDENT UMANE: But it's the 103 or 4
7 course, right?

8 COMMISSIONER TOWNSEND: It's the
9 graduate level courses.

10 PRESIDENT UMANE: Yeah, that's what I
11 was -- okay. Alright. I would move that we adopt
12 the pricing and the suggestions of staff for
13 refresher courses for the poll workers. Is there
14 a second?

15 SECRETARY CAMILO: Second.

16 PRESIDENT UMANE: All in favor?

17 MULTIPLE: Aye.

18 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
19 abstentions? Okay. Refresher course.

20 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Mr. President,
21 just one other thing. We want to go back to the
22 ballot committee, I think there's just one issue
23 that we want to bring to the attention to the
24 rest of the commissioners. Mr. Sattie had

1 April 27, 2021

2 indicated that it's possible that on a couple of
3 the ballots for, I think he said Brooklyn and
4 Queens, that there might be candidates who
5 exceed, their names exceed the character
6 limitations, in which if we reduce the character
7 -- the amount of letters for each name would
8 affect the font size and I believe it was the
9 recommendation and discussion amongst the
10 committee members that we should not reduce the
11 font size to fit the name, but that the board
12 staff should reach out to the candidates and
13 inform them that there is a possibility that we
14 may just use their last name and a first initial
15 as the statute permits and Tommy, if you just
16 want to address that to the full board so that
17 everyone is apprised of the issue.

18 MR. SATTIE: Sure. There are three
19 candidates, three in Brooklyn and one in Queens,
20 that there are space limitations that force those
21 candidates to a smaller than 12 font size. The
22 law requires that the candidate's last name be
23 printed in full and that a first name could be
24 shortened. So what I'd like to do is reach out to

1 April 27, 2021

2 each of the candidates to get a suggestion for
3 them on how they'd like to shorten their name.
4 There is no specific guidelines as to how long a
5 candidate has to make this, to make this
6 suggestion, so my suggestion that I suggest that
7 it would be by the end of this week, we could
8 reach out to them every which way we could, be it
9 by regular mail, email and phone when possible,
10 to give the candidates every opportunity to make
11 their suggestion on how to shorten their name.
12 And of course, if we did not receive a response
13 by the end of the week to come back to the board
14 with a suggestion on how to shorten it, which I'm
15 sure would be to use the candidate's first
16 initial.

17 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Now, Tommy, just
18 so the record is clear, the reason why we're
19 putting it out to Friday is because Monday, Mr.
20 [unintelligible] [00:23:00] had indicated we need
21 to start building the ballots in order to send
22 them out to the printer and start testing them.

23 MR. SATTIE: That's correct, sir.

24 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: So it's an issue

1 April 27, 2021

2 of time constraint where we're at right now, and
3 that information.

4 PRESIDENT UMANE: So it's a committee
5 recommendation, so we don't need a motion and
6 second. All in favor?

7 MULTIPLE: Aye.

8 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
9 abstentions? So it's carried. Thank you,
10 Commissioner Araujo for pointing that out.

11 COMMISSIONER ARAUJO: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: And I'm sorry,
13 just one more things, folks, from the ballot
14 committee. When making our determination of using
15 the separate pages for the ballots for election
16 day, our staff and chiefs and deputies had
17 suggested that for the absentee ballots, the
18 military ballots, that a perforated document, one
19 long document, instead of two separate pages be
20 used to assist the borough offices in ballot
21 accountability and because of the concerns we had
22 with the use of a perforated ballot are not as
23 germane when it comes to our staff feeding them
24 into these scanners and having issues with the

1 April 27, 2021

2 perforations. As you know, when the absentee
3 ballots come in, a bipartisan committee will open
4 the ballot and review it. They can burse the
5 perforation on it and make sure it's submitted to
6 the machine correctly. So that concern really
7 doesn't apply in absentee ballots. And the
8 suggestion was made that the absentee ballots
9 remain one long document, perforated where
10 necessary. So I just wanted to remind everybody
11 out there that was our discussions during the
12 ballot committee and if everybody else is in
13 agreement with that.

14 PRESIDENT UMANE: Okay. What do we
15 think? Does anybody have anything to say on it or
16 we'll just take it as a recommendation and all in
17 favor of that recommendation, essentially keeping
18 the perforations in the absentee and military
19 ballots. And just something, I caught on at the
20 end, we were taking out the word and military
21 ballots and just calling them absentee ballots. I
22 believe that was part of it. I don't know if
23 that's a separate motion. But that's consistent
24 with the statute. So we had gotten into some

1 April 27, 2021

2 trouble because we had used absentee / military
3 ballots as a reminder to our staff that it's the
4 same ballot, but we're going to have to teach the
5 staff that it's the same ballot and not put the
6 words and military ballot or / military ballot,
7 so that we're in conformity with section, I think
8 it was 7-122 and 123 of the Election Law. So I'm
9 going to throw that into the same motion if I
10 can, Commissioner Zaccone, and all in favor of
11 that please indicate or please say aye.

12 MULTIPLE: Aye.

13 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
14 abstentions? So, both of those are covered. Thank
15 you, Commissioner Zaccone and the rest of the
16 ballot committee. Anything else that we've
17 omitted or forgotten about? Good.

18 MR. SATTIE: Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: If there is, I
20 forgot about it, commissioner.

21 PRESIDENT UMANE: Can we move to
22 finance?

23 MS. SANDOW: Yes.

24 MR. SUSS: Yes. Okay, good afternoon,

1 April 27, 2021

2 commissioners. A couple of items were before the
3 finance committee earlier today. The first was a
4 contract with Finesse Creations. This is a
5 contract to provide rental of tables and chairs
6 to the board which we use for all our voting
7 sites. This actually is a new vendor. This was
8 done by competitive sealed bid and we received
9 three bids and we actually chose the cheapest,
10 the lowest price bid I should say. And actually I
11 want to point out that the lowest price bid for
12 this contract is actually over \$180,000 less than
13 our previous contract. It's a substantial
14 savings, because all the pricing was much higher
15 from our other vendors.

16 The board, myself and some other board
17 members did visit this vendor, as a new vendor.
18 We went to their warehouse. We did check to make
19 sure they had sufficient quantities of equipment.
20 Our pollworkers will be very happy because it's
21 all brand new tables and chairs that are going
22 out this June for them. We also did a check, a
23 background check on this vendor. I personally
24 contacted several recommendations they've given

1 April 27, 2021

2 me. They've done work in the past for the
3 Department of Transportation, Parks, DCAS and
4 also Department of Sanitation. Everybody gave
5 them very good reviews and that they've done the
6 work in a timely manner, on time and when
7 required.

8 PRESIDENT UMANE: You had pointed out to
9 us that they are a women and minority owned
10 business, which --

11 MR. SUSS: Yeah, that's correct. They
12 are a minority owned business as well.

13 PRESIDENT UMANE: -- we're supposed to
14 be using when we can, and this would qualify for
15 that, besides being the lowest bidder and buying
16 all new stuff, they also qualify for that
17 category which is a good thing for us to be
18 doing, I guess.

19 MR. SUSS: This is a four year contract.
20 I'm sorry, it's a four year contract not to
21 exceed \$2,325,000, I'm sorry, commissioner, go
22 ahead.

23 PRESIDENT UMANE: No, that's okay. And
24 there's a two-year option to renew recommended by

1 April 27, 2021

2 the committee. Anybody have any questions? If
3 not, then all in favor of the committee
4 recommendation, please signify by saying aye.

5 MULTIPLE: Aye.

6 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed, all
7 abstentions? So this carries. We have two more to
8 go, Mr. Suss, go ahead.

9 MR. SUSS: The second one is Election
10 Center. This is a contract for consulting
11 services to the board for review of the training
12 and redesign development of online and classroom
13 training of our poll worker and also our manuals
14 and review of our staff. This is also a
15 competitive sealed bid, and keeping with what we
16 talked about last weekend, because this was
17 services, we didn't go solely on price. We also
18 asked other criteria as part of our decision. In
19 this particular case, we ask for the quantity and
20 quality of successful relevant experience,
21 organizational capability and quality of the
22 proposed approach. And each of these vendors did
23 submit an actual detailed, you know, books, for
24 lack of a better word outlining how they would

1 April 27, 2021

2 approach revising the training, the training
3 manuals and this was evaluated by a committee and
4 we chose the highest scoring vendor. In this
5 case, it was Election Center, which had also been
6 a previous vendor to the board in the past in
7 this type of matters. This is a three year
8 contract with a one year option to renew at the
9 board's discretion, and is a not to exceed
10 contract price of \$1,512,000.

11 PRESIDENT UMANE: Okay. This is a
12 company well known to the board, and I would
13 point out that there are bipartisan people there.
14 There are both Republicans and Democrats that are
15 part of this, and it's the recommendation of the
16 finance committee that the board approve it. Are
17 there any questions? Okay. Hearing none, all in
18 favor of adopting this contract, please indicate
19 by saying aye.

20 MULTIPLE: Aye.

21 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
22 abstentions? So this contract is also approved.
23 Next, Mr. Suss.

24 MR. SUSS: The last item is with

1 April 27, 2021
2 [unintelligible] [00:31:31] the present vendor
3 that provides support and maintenance of our
4 electronic poll books and our ballot on demand
5 printer systems. Due to a surge of early voting
6 in the past November election and because of
7 COVID and the multiple special elections we've
8 had, we had to rely on extra support and
9 maintenance in order for the poll books and VODs
10 to be maintained. In particular, we had to load
11 and prep these pads with new IOD updating,
12 especially for November elections. So, all of
13 this increased support required additional costs
14 that were beyond original contract that was done,
15 so this is actually a request to increase the
16 contract ceiling. So the amount of this request
17 includes the actual what they did for us in
18 November, the special elections we recently had,
19 and also for the prep and preparation for the
20 June primary. So we're asking for an increase of
21 \$4,800,000 for the contract increase. And this is
22 just to go through the end of this fiscal year.
23 The contract does end this fiscal year and I will
24 be coming back to you within probably the next

1 April 27, 2021

2 month with a proposal for a new contract at that
3 time, but continuing their services. As I
4 indicated to the committee and discussed earlier,
5 we are in discussion about changing the support
6 and having our staff take more responsibility for
7 training and that's going to be part of the new
8 contract, so we'd be able to take over more of
9 the responsibility of operating the systems as we
10 move forward. But this past year, we're still
11 relatively new, it's really only a year and a
12 half of using these systems.

13 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Just a question,
14 Mr. Suss, has there been any discussion or review
15 into looking into other systems, rather than
16 remaining with this one?

17 MR. SUSS: That is a possibility. I'm
18 not aware of that, having that discussion,
19 because it would be quite a -- we wouldn't have
20 to buy new equipment but changing training, it
21 would be a lot of different things we would have
22 to do. I don't think you could do that that
23 quickly if that was going to be entertained. I think
24 you need to have a longer timeframe to be able to

1 April 27, 2021

2 properly make the transition, because you're not
3 going to be able to transition for a November
4 election over the summertime of changing over the
5 equipment and then training all the people. I
6 just don't think it's practical or possible.

7 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: I'm sorry if I
8 wasn't clear, Mr. Suss. I wasn't speaking about
9 it for this contract. I was speaking about it in
10 terms of the future contract that's going to be
11 coming up next year in front of us.

12 MR. SUSS: Well, I guess when I come
13 back to you in about a month with the new
14 contract, that could be a discussion I would
15 suggest, sir.

16 COMMISSIONER ZACCONE: Okay.

17 MR. SUSS: [unintelligible] [00:34:36]
18 to the new contract.

19 PRESIDENT UMANE: I mean that would
20 require a whole review of other systems that are
21 out there, which is probably not going to happen
22 in the timeframe that we're going to need for the
23 next contract. But these are to be used, so we
24 would have time over the course of time, if we

1 April 27, 2021

2 found that the [unintelligible] [00:35:00] system
3 wasn't working, to start looking for other things
4 and just not, you know, not use this up, but
5 there would be significant additional costs to
6 starting with somebody new in terms of their
7 equipment and all of their stuff. We're somewhat
8 locked in, having bought this stuff previously.
9 But there's nothing to stop us from looking into
10 some new things. But for now, and for the June
11 primary, we need to allocate the additional funds
12 and that's the recommendation of the committee.
13 Are there any other questions? Hearing none, all
14 in favor?

15 MULTIPLE: Aye.

16 PRESIDENT UMANE: All opposed? All
17 abstentions? So this contract is also approved.
18 Ms. Sandow?

19 MR. SUSS: Thank you, commissioners.

20 MS. SANDOW: We're going to give an
21 update on ranked-choice voting software. As the
22 State Board reported in their meeting last
23 Thursday, the source code and functional testing
24 for the RANKED-CHOICE VOTING tabulating software

1 April 27, 2021

2 has been completed. The testing revealed some
3 issues including a software configuration change
4 needed to handle more than 1.1 million vote cache
5 records, as well as some documentary issues. The
6 State Board is working with its testing partners
7 and the RCV Resource Center who developed the
8 software configuration to handle New York City
9 numbers and any outstanding documents needed for
10 submission.

11 The State Board has verified that their
12 goal is to have all testing reports available for
13 the State Board to review and take action at a
14 meeting in May. They have scheduled their monthly
15 meeting for May 25th. After discussion with the
16 State Board, we don't foresee any problems.

17 PRESIDENT UMANE: Okay. Well, if they
18 don't approve it on May 25th, then what are we
19 going to do? It sort of puts us up the creek
20 without a paddle so to speak, or without a
21 program, but okay. Thank you. Is there anything
22 else on today's agenda?

23 MS. SANDOW: Yes. One of the
24 improvements, this is for June as well, one of

1 April 27, 2021

2 the improvements we'll unveil for the primary
3 election is an interactive webpage added to our
4 site that will help voters plan their trip to
5 their assigned early voting site by indicating
6 how busy an early voting site might be and how
7 long a voter's approximate time will be when they
8 go to vote. So we'll have more of an update on
9 that as we move along, but we're preparing it for
10 the June election.

11 Our staff will be visiting the print
12 ballot vendor tomorrow to verify all absentee
13 quality control procedures are in place and we
14 will have more to report on that next week. This
15 concludes this week's agenda. Shall we set a next
16 meeting date before we go into executive session?

17 PRESIDENT UMANE: Sure. Next Tuesday, I
18 guess it's May 4th at 1:30 would be our next
19 meeting, and I guess we'll report out after we go
20 into executive session. Just one thought, would
21 some people on your latest report, would some
22 people say that by putting the time periods for
23 waiting, might that discourage people from voting
24 and it might facilitate people to vote.

1 April 27, 2021

2 MS. SANDOW: It's not, there's not going
3 to be -- yeah, there's not going to be an exact
4 time, but it'll let voters know whether it's a
5 good time for them to go vote. It's not going to
6 discourage them, especially with the nine days of
7 early voting that they have and election day. I
8 think it can prepare them to set another time.

9 SECRETARY CAMILO: And it sounds like
10 this is an added feature. We're not cutting back
11 on any measures as far hours and locations, and
12 this is actually something that has been seen
13 during the pandemic time for restaurants and
14 other type of establishments. Just hearing of
15 this now, I think it's great, I think it's great
16 if we could provide that. It's an added benefit
17 to the voter.

18 PRESIDENT UMANE: Do we also have to
19 vote on the additional hours or the hours for
20 early voting?

21 MS. SANDOW: Yeah, that'll be next
22 Tuesday.

23 MS. KONTZAMANIS: Next Tuesday.

24 PRESIDENT UMANE: Okay. That's fine.

1 April 27, 2021

2 Okay. So our next meeting, I move we adjourn to
3 executive session for employment and possibly
4 litigation. Our next meeting will be on May 4th
5 at 1:30, and if necessary, we'll report out any
6 business conducted in executive session.

7 SECRETARY CAMILO: I second both
8 motions.

9 MS. SANDOW: [unintelligible] [00:40:04]
10 thank you very much.

11 MS. KONTZAMANIS: Okay, commissioners,
12 just give us a few minutes to get us offline.

13 [EXECUTIVE SESSION]

14 MS. SANDOW: Good afternoon, this
15 afternoon. This concludes today's agenda. Our
16 next meeting will be Tuesday, May 4th at 1:30
17 p.m. There's nothing to report out from executive
18 session. Have a nice day everyone. Thank you.

19 (The meeting concluded at 3:02 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

I, Claudia Marques, certify that the foregoing transcript of the Board of Elections in The City of New York on April 27, 2021 was prepared using the required transcription equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Certified By



Claudia Marques

Date: November 22, 2021

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