Approved
April 20, 2006

Minutes of The New York State Board of Elections
Monday, April 3, 2006

The meeting of the New York State Board of Canvassers was called to order at 12:20 p.m. in the 40 Steuben Street, Albany, New York offices. Members of the State Board of Canvassers were: Chairmen Neil Kelleher and Douglas Kellner, Commissioners Evelyn Aquila and Helena Donohue. Staff present for both meetings were: Peter Kosinski, Stanley Zalen, Todd Valentine, Michael Johnson, Lee Daghlian, Bob Brehm, Anna Svizzero, Allison Carr, George Stanton, Pat Murray and William McCann. Guest list attached.

The Board of Canvassers voted 4-0 to certify the vote results of six special elections on February 28, 2006, including five Assembly races and one Senate race. The Commissioners commenced the regular Commissioners meeting at 12:25p.m.

Minutes of February 27, 2006 - accepted as written.

Minutes of March 21, 2006 - tabled

Unit Updates:

- **Legal Unit:** - Todd Valentine announced that there would be a special election in the 142nd Assembly District on May 2, 2006. The political calendar for that election has been completed. Todd also reported that documents are being prepared for the federal court deadline of April 10, 2006. There was some discussion about the documents being e-mailed to the court on 10th of April.

- **Election Operations:** Anna Svizzero reported that they are processing the county enrollment figures and formatting them for the April 1st. 2006 semi-annual publication. When this process is completed the figures will be posted on our website. She also stated that they are interviewing for a technical slot to assist with the certification process. They are continuing to fine tune the machine regulations and this project should be completed within two weeks.

- **NVRA/PIO:** Lee Daghlian reported that they are busy with phones calls as well as various HAVA assignments to include creating the Train the Trainer schedule and train a person for a series of six seminars in May 2006. Final arrangements and the collection of reservations for our annual NYSBOE conference in Syracuse on May 1 - May 3rd, 2006 is ongoing. The preliminary planning for the state fair exhibit, which is the last two weeks in August, are continuing.

- **ITU:** George Stanton reported on several ongoing projects. They are currently performing upgrades to the hardware for the state wide database. These upgrades are done

periodically because of wear and tear on the hardware; or to simply update with newer versions of the hardware. They are also installing database software for the NYS Voter One. George also reported that in light of the IBM situation, they are working with staff as well as the Department of Budget (DOB) and Office of General Services (OGS) to complete any changes in the RFP for the statewide database. The next issue was the affidavit envelope, where some changes are required. Commissioner Kellner explained what changes needed to be made. NYPIRG has made their recommendations to improving the existing envelope to make it less confusing. The discussion continued about this issue and the decision was to prepare two different envelopes to eliminate any confusion about party enrollment. One envelope would be for the primary election and the other for the general election. The Commissioners agreed and asked that the county boards be given a week to respond to these changes, with the intent of having a vote by the Commissioners at our next meeting.

- **Campaign Finance:** Michael Johnson reported that they are continuing the project of updating the Campaign Finance Filing Handbook which should be completed soon. This handbook will be used as a training guide for a series of seminars given around New York State that are hosted by him, Bill McCann and Josie Jackson in the beginning of May 2006. He also indicated that the Campaign Finance Unit will be interviewing for several openings within the next week, which were agreed to by the Commissioners.

- **Old Business:** Mr. Valentine asked for responses from the county boards on this version of the draft plan for the federal court which has to be completed by April 10, 2006. He also sent a survey to the county boards which asked them what they could do and what they intend to do to satisfy Plan B. There were several suggestions for changes and it was moved by Commissioner Kellner to approve pending changes and submit the document to the Court. The vote was 4-0 to do so.

  George Stanton discussed the RFP for the system integration, in light of the IBM memo, and again explained the problems this presented. He stated that we have four options and the document detailing these options is attached. The option the Commissioners agreed upon, given the approval of OGS, CIO and DOB, is option two. Steve from Gartner answered questions concerning this. Commissioner Kellner moved that we go with option two and to change the RFP to reflect that. The vote was 4-0 to approve that action. There was discussion regarding the time line that was developed by our staff to complete Plan B. There were explanations made and some changes needed in the dates. It was suggested that draft contracts be developed at this point and delivered to the counties. There was also a suggestion to develop the plan for acceptance testing. Commissioner Kellner felt there was an urgent need to put a plan into place as to how this testing will be done. He felt that we don't have sufficient state staff to complete this project and that perhaps it should be completed by the counties. There were further discussions on corrections to be made before submitting Plan B to the court.

- **New Business:** Discussion on Version 4 of the rules and regulations for machines. This version was just completed and the Commissioners agreed to review the new version and

make any additional changes before the next meeting. Their intent is to finalize and vote on the rules and regulations at the next meeting of the Commissioners. All agreed not to post this version of the rules and regulations on our website until they have been finalized and voted on. Commissioner Aquila praised everyone involved in completing this document. She acknowledged everyone's hard work on such a time consuming and tedious project.

Commissioner Kelleher adjourned the meeting to Executive Session to discuss enforcement cases and personnel issues at 2:10p.m.

Final Determination

_____CMP02-72 - Closed - 4-0

No personnel actions were taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21p.m.