

**Minutes of the New York State Board of Elections  
October 23, 2017**

The meeting of the Commissioners of the New York State Board of Elections held at the offices of the New York State Board of Elections, 40 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room was called to order at 12:05 p.m. The meeting was chaired by Commissioner Douglas Kellner. Commissioners present were Peter Kosinski, Andrew Spano and Gregory Peterson. Staff members present were: Robert Brehm, Todd Valentine, Brian Quail, Kim Galvin, Bill McCann, Nick Cartegena, Tom Connolly, Brendan Lovullo, John Conklin, Bill Cross and Risa Sugarman. The guest list is attached.

**Minutes of September 15, 2017** – Minutes were approved. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Kosinski, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**

**Unit Updates:**

**Executive** – Robert Brehm and Todd Valentine reported on several issues including:

- Conference call with US Dept. of Homeland Security with regards to Russian hacking. NY was not hacked by the Russians.
- Todd attended a meeting in Atlanta with NASED, NASS, FBI, EAC, Election Center and IGO to discuss cyber security in the elections.
- Submitted a budget to include cyber security management.

**Legal** – Brian Quail reported on activities related to the Counsel/Compliance Unit including:

- The Attorney General's Office is representing the Board in a few cases.
- Training webinars are taking place.
- Compliance has completed 74,000 reviews to date.

**Election Operations** – Tom Connolly reported that the Election Operations unit is working on several ongoing issues including:

- Conference call with Center for Civic Design concerning usability issues.
- Comments have been integrated into the automated audit tool regulation.
- In discussion with OGS to renew the contract with the testing lab.
- Tom Connolly attended an EAC cyber security roundtable in DC and a table-talk in NYC

**PIO/NVRA** – John Conklin reported that the PIO/NVRA unit is working on several issues.

- Received approval for the legal ads for the upcoming election.
- Meetings held to begin the process of updating our website to include campaign websites
- Updates were made to the regulations on our website.

**ITU** – Bill Cross reported that ITU unit is working on several issues:

- Held two outreach sessions for working groups on the CAPAS-FIDAS redesign.
- Have made significant progress on the NYSVoter infrastructure upgrade.
- Working on developing an in-house application for Military and Overseas Voters.

- Work has continued with NYSTEC on the risk assessment for counties.

**Enforcement** – Risa Sugarman reported on the Enforcement Unit:

- Ms. Sugarman had nothing to report.

### **Old Business:**

- Final draft of regulations for 6210.20 Automated Audit Tool should be completed by next board meeting.
- VOTE to appoint Cheryl Couser as the Deputy Director of Public Information. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Kosinski, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**
- Next Board Meeting is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- There was a motion to go into Executive Session for enforcement matters. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioners Kellner, Kosinski, Spano and Peterson voting in the affirmative; 4 Yes and 0 No).**

### **Executive Session**

**The meeting was adjourned at 1:45p.m.**

**New York State Board of Elections  
APPROVED RESOLUTION – October 23, 2017**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHERYL COUSER**

**TO THE POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**WHEREAS**, there currently exists a vacancy within the New York State Board of Elections in the Deputy Director of Public Information position effective August 11, 2017 due to the promotion of Thomas Connolly, and

**WHEREAS**, Cheryl Couser has indicated a willingness to serve as Deputy Director of Public Information, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Cheryl Couser be and hereby is appointed Deputy Director of Public Information effective October 26, 2017.

**Approved October 23, 2017  
VOTE 4-0**