

ELECTIONS COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco

Christopher Jerdonek, President
Jill Rowe, Vice President
Roger Donaldson
Charles Jung
Dominic Paris
Rosabella Safont
Winnie Yu



John Arntz, Director of Elections

Nadya Hewitt, Secretary

MEETING MINUTES

San Francisco Elections Commission
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
6:00 p.m.
City Hall, Room 408
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, California 94102

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Jerdonek called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present: Commissioners Donaldson, Jerdonek, Jung, Paris, Rowe, and Yu. Absent: Commissioner Safont. Also present: Director of Elections John Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Joshua White, and Commission Secretary Nadya Hewitt.

2. General Public Comment

Mr. Otto Duffy commented that the voter rolls contain people that no longer live in the indicated precinct. Mr. Brent Turner spoke about the California Association of Voting Officials. Mr. Peter Lindener commented that he would like to speak during item 7.

3. Approval of Minutes for previous meeting

Moved by Vice President Rowe and seconded by Commissioner Paris to approve the draft minutes of the October 21, 2015 Elections Commission Meeting. No public comment. The vote was UNANIMOUS to approve.

4. Commissioners' Reports

President Jerdonek reported that the Department of Technology will soon be temporarily freezing access to the Commission's website because they are migrating the site to a new system called Drupal, which is an open source system. President Jerdonek also reported that he participated in the election as a polling place inspector and as an observer. Since the canvass is still being conducted, he will be referring the review of the election to the next BOPEC meeting, where the election reports will be available.

Commissioner Yu commented on her experiences voting at a polling place located in a firehouse.

5. Director's Report

Director Arntz reported that the 1% manual tally is still being conducted and that the election will be certified shortly. Pier 31 is still not confirmed as a future warehouse location because of the construction schedule.

Commissioner Paris asked about the possible vote irregularities in District 3. Director Arntz replied that there is no new information since the last meeting. Commissioner Paris asked about the processes for removing deceased individuals from the voter rolls. Director Arntz described the processes.

Public comment: Mr. David Cary commended Director Arntz on the improvements to the reporting of RCV results in the past election. Mr. Otto Duffy said that he will forward information regarding his voter roll observations to the Department. Mr. Brent Turner commented on the conflicting numbers reported for vote totals and ballots cast.

Director Arntz explained the reason for the apparent discrepancy in the vote totals, which is that Card 1 was the "counter" card for the total ballots cast, but more Card 3's were cast than Card 1.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding open source voting systems

President Jerdonek said that at the last meeting, Commissioner Paris asked if Mr. Jason Fried of LAFCo could present to the Commission on LAFCo's final open source voting report. President Jerdonek said that Mr. Fried was unable to attend today's meeting. President Jerdonek instead summarized Mr. Fried's description of the differences between the final version of the LAFCo report and the draft version that Mr. Fried previously presented to the Commission.

President Jerdonek said that at the last meeting, Commissioner Yu asked if the Commission could learn more about New Hampshire's use of the Prime III voting system. President Jerdonek said that he spoke with Mr. Anthony Stevens and Mr. Daniel Cloutier about New Hampshire's use of the system. They both hold the title of Assistant Secretary of State in New Hampshire. President Jerdonek described what he learned.

President Jerdonek reviewed the open source voting systems resolution that he drafted and that was included in the agenda packet. The Commission discussed the resolution. Director Arntz stated that he would no longer be putting out an RFP for a new voting system in January as originally planned.

Vice President Rowe moved to adopt the resolution with page 7, item (g) changed to read, "Spread project costs over multiple years to reduce risk, spending funds in subsequent years only after the results of prior expenditures are known." Commissioner Paris seconded the motion.

Public comment: Mr. Peter Lindener, Mr. Otto Duffy, Mr. Jim Soper, Mr. Brent Turner of the California Association of Voting Officials, Mr. John Sebes of the OSET Foundation, Ms. Shelley Furse of Everyone Counts, and Mr. David Cary spoke.

The vote on the motion was UNANIMOUS to approve.

Vice President Rowe moved that the Commission authorize President Jerdonek and his designee to advocate on behalf of the Commission on the positions stated in the resolution. Commissioner Paris seconded the motion. Vice President Rowe also requested that President Jerdonek let the Commission know of any public appearances in advance so that additional people could attend. The vote on the motion was UNANIMOUS to approve.

7. Agenda items for future meetings

Public comment: Ms. Sylvia Johnson spoke. Mr. Brent Turner suggested that Brian Fox be invited to speak at a future meeting. Mr. Otto Duffy spoke in favor of a smaller paper ballot. Mr. Jim Soper spoke about the California Association of Voting Officials. Mr. Peter Lindener suggested that data interchange standards be a topic of a future meeting.

Adjourned at 7:38 p.m.