

ELECTIONS COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco

**BUDGET AND OVERSIGHT OF PUBLIC
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE (BOPEC)**

Chris Jerdonek, Chairperson
Jill Rowe



John Arntz, Director of Elections

MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

**Budget and Oversight of Public Elections Committee (BOPEC)
of the San Francisco Elections Commission**

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

6:00 p.m.

City Hall, Room 421

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, California 94102

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioner Jerdonek called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Commissioners Rowe and Jerdonek. The third committee seat is currently vacant. Also present: Director of Elections John Arntz.

2. General Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of minutes from April 2, 2014 meeting

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the April 2 meeting minutes. Commissioner Jerdonek seconded. No public comment. The vote was UNANIMOUS to APPROVE.

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the September 3 meeting minutes. Commissioner Jerdonek seconded. No public comment. The vote was UNANIMOUS to APPROVE.

5. Review of November 4, 2014 election

Commissioner Jerdonek commended Director Arntz on the conduct of the election and discussed the two memos he circulated to the committee: "November 4, 2014 Election At a Glance" and "November 4, 2014 Election Observations." He raised the issue of "open data" and said that the release of TSV files was a positive step in this direction. He suggested that the Election Plan could be condensed in the future by moving some of the detailed process sections to the Department website. Commissioner Jerdonek asked Director Arntz about the absence of a forklift at City Hall when he observed the loading of ballots onto the truck for transport to the warehouse. Director Arntz replied that the forklift was out of power that day and is managed by Building Services.

Commissioner Rowe asked Director Arntz to clarify the meaning of "challenged" in the vote-by-mail ballot report provided to the Commission. Director Arntz confirmed that it means "rejected" or "not counted." Commissioner Rowe said that using one of those terms would be clearer. Commissioner Rowe asked if the percentage of rejected ballots is ever analyzed across precincts or across elections. Director Arntz replied that they haven't done such analyses. Commissioner Rowe asked how many of the ballots listed as "spoiled" in the vote-by-mail report correspond to voters who later cast a valid vote with a new ballot. Director Arntz said that that information is not currently tracked in the report, but it could be.

Commissioner Jerdonek said that he previously analyzed the percentage of uncounted vote-by-mail ballots by neighborhood for the June election and presented those findings to the Commission over the summer. Commissioner Jerdonek mentioned the recently passed state law that will lengthen the deadline for receiving vote-by-mail ballots by three days. Director Arntz confirmed that the law will go into effect for the next election.

Commissioner Rowe moved forward to the full Commission a recommendation that the November 4, 2014 election be found to be in substantial compliance with the Election Plan approved by the Elections Commission. Commissioner Jerdonek seconded. No public comment. The vote was UNANIMOUS to APPROVE.

Adjourned at 6:20 p.m.