

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF REGISTRATION

March 15, 2015

This meeting of the Santa Fe County Board of Registration commenced at approximately 1:07 p.m., March 15, 2015 in the Legal Conference Room, County Administration Building, 102 Grant Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501.

Roll was called by County Clerk Geraldine Salazar and a quorum was achieved with the following Board members present:

Members Present:

Clifford M. Rees
Samuel LeDoux
Julia Barnes [alternate for Donna Connelly]

Member(s) Absent:

Donna Connelly

Others Present:

Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk
Eric Barraza, Acting Deputy Chief Bureau of Elections
Bruce Frederick, Assistant County Attorney
Theresa Atencio, Elections Administration Supervisor
Celeste Sanchez, Voter Information Specialist

Chair Rees announced that Donna Connelly is out of town. The Democratic Party requested and the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved an alternate, Ms. Julia Barnes. Clerk Salazar administered the oath of office to Ms. Barnes.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Rees asked if it would be possible to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2015 minutes. Clerk Salazar said they are available in draft form and are subject to review and approval. There was consensus that the minutes be reviewed during a break.

Upon motion by the Chair and second by Ms. Barnes the agenda was approved.

IV. Review of the List of Eligible Voters are Required by NMSA 1978, § 1-4-28(E)

Chair Rees noted there was extensive discussion at the previous meeting relating to how the list is created.

For the benefit of Ms. Barnes Mr. Barraza reviewed the process, stating the office sends a

notice to the voter. If it is returned as undeliverable it falls into the NVRA (National Voter Registration Act) process. Confirmation comes from the Secretary of State. A list of address changes from the US Post Office is compared to the statewide voter file. The response to notices sent out determine whether they will be on the list or not.

Ms. Barnes asked what happens if they respond they have moved in state. Mr. Barraza said those are not immediately removed. A notice is sent to the county where they have relocated. After the new county sends confirmation of registration they are removed from the Secretary of State's rolls. He referred to the return postcard. If the response indicates that person has moved out of state they are placed on the list.

Regarding questions from the previous meeting, Mr. Barraza said according to the Secretary of State the guidelines are up to date, and the federal statutory citation should read 42 USC 1973 gg-6(d). Mr. Fredrick confirmed that the state statute is clear on what the board should do.

Turning to the question of how the list was to be reviewed Chair Rees said there are several options. One option would be to look at every single name and get an independent verification of whether they should be on the list. The second option would be to do a random sampling. The third is to accept the list as is. The Clerk has emphasized that those stricken have an opportunity to re-register. Clerk Salazar stated staff has gone through the list and they recommend sending out a press release that the Board of Registration has made the decision to remove those on the list. As calls come in they will be handled individually.

In response to a question from Ms. Barnes regarding how someone would know if they are on the list, Clerk Salazar said they will be directed to Voter View, which is on the Secretary of State's website and can be reached by a link from the County Clerk's page.

Mr. LeDoux asked if there was a time limit. Clerk Salazar said they keep the files beyond the requirements for retention. Mr. Barraza said voter registration cards are retained six-years after the date of removal; signature cards are kept longer.

Chair Rees pointed out the State Archives issues rules regarding retention of records.

Mr. LeDoux stated he did a sampling of the list comparing it to New Mexico Voter View, campaign records, and his own experience and found the list to be accurate.

Ms. Atencio stated they reviewed the list to verify the date of registration was before August 1, 2012.

Mr. Barraza said they found many duplicate registration cards, a situation that can arise if there is a mistake in one digit of a Social Security number, for instance. Clerk Salazar added they have both electronic and paper records. There is a system of checks and balances.

V. Direction to the County Clerk to Cancel the Registration of Voters who Meet the Criteria in NMSA 1978, § 1-4-28(E)

Chair Rees moved to direct the County Clerk to cancel the registration of voters who are on the list before them. Mr. LeDoux seconded.

Ms. Barnes asked the Clerk if she had any hesitation about the list and she replied she did not, given the experience of staff and the recourses available to those who feel they have been eliminated incorrectly.

The motion carried by unanimous [3-0] voice vote.

[The Board recessed from 1:30 to 1:35.]

VI. Consideration of Minutes of the March 4, 2015 Meeting and Schedule Future Meeting to Approve Minutes

Chair Rees put forward a number of typographical errors that were subsequently incorporated into the amended minutes.

Turning to questions left pending at the previous meeting, Chair Rees had asked for a copy of the correspondence between the Secretary of State and Mr. Frederick. Mr. Frederick said the only question was whether a meeting should occur on or before March 15, 2015. The purpose is to verify that state law was followed and proper notice given. Chair Rees expressed an interest in the correspondence and a copy was provided.

Chair Rees moved to adopt the minutes as amended and Mr. LeDoux seconded. The minutes were approved by 2-0 voice vote with Ms. Barnes abstaining due to absence at the March 4, 2015 meeting.

A meeting was scheduled for the purpose of approving the minutes from the current meeting: March 30, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the County Administration Building, 2nd floor, Legal Conference Room.

VII. Adjournment

Upon completion of the agenda and no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rees declared the meeting recessed at 2:00 p.m.

Approved by:

Clifford Rees
Clifford Rees, Chair 4/8/15
Board of Registration

ATTEST TO:

Geraldine Salazar
GERALDINE SALAZAR
COUNTY CLERK
4-9-2015



Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Doyle
Debbie Doyle, Wordswork
453 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BOARD OF REGISTRATION
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 9TH Day Of April, 2015 at 03:43:17 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1761622
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy *Manuela Salazar* County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM