STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
AGENDA
April 21, 2021
10:00 a.m.

1122 Lady Street, Suite 500
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Approval of Minutes: March 17, 2021 (SEC)

New Business:
   House Legislative Oversight Committee

Old Business:
   Senate Oversight Committee
   Reapportionment
   Agency Goals for 2021 Update
   Legislative/Budget Update
   Election Infrastructure Security Update
   Legal Update

Next Meeting(s):
   Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (SEC)
STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2021
10:00 a.m.

1122 Lady Street, 5th Floor
Columbia, SC 29201

Present: Mr. John Wells, Chairman (via teleconference); Ms. Joanne Day; Mr. Clifford J. Edler (via teleconference); Ms. Linda McCall (via teleconference); Mr. Scott Moseley (via teleconference)

Others Present: Marci Andino, Executive Director; Howard Knapp, Director of Voter Services; Daylin Silber, Administrative Coordinator

Chairman Wells called the meeting to order. Ms. Andino advised all notices of the meeting had been posted as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

Approval of Minutes

The first item of business was the approval of minutes for the meeting of March 17, 2021 (SEC). A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Day, seconded by Ms. McCall. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

New Business

The sole item of new business was the House Legislative Oversight Committee (the “HLOC”). Ms. Andino informed the Commission that the HLOC recently indicated it intends to conduct a limited study of the agency’s processes for maintaining the accuracy of the active voter registration list, including how deceased voters are made inactive.

Old Business

The Senate Legislative Oversight Committee (the “SLOC”) was the first item under old business. Ms. Andino informed the Commission she attended the March 25 SLOC meeting which is now scheduled to continue on April 22. She reported the Committee has inquired regarding federal funding, satellite absentee locations, county grants, signature verification with regards to absentee ballot return envelopes, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) registration processes, and updates to the voting system with regards to the screen layout of the ballot-marking devices.
The next item of old business was reapportionment. Ms. Andino advised preliminary census data will be sent to the states in August and official data will be provided on September 30. She stated she hopes to have all election district lines updated, and all voters moved accordingly, before candidate filing in March of 2022.

An update on agency goals for 2021 was the next item. Ms. Andino stated thirty county compliance audits for administration and office procedures have been completed. She added reports of finding and recommendations will be next phase. She advised the next audits will be the voter registration and voting system. Ms. Andino reported the voting system updates for ten counties have been completed.

The legislative and budget update was the next item of old business. Ms. Andino advised S499 regarding SEC restructuring would grant the Senate advice and consent power over the appointment of commission members and the director, and effectively remove all members and the director currently serving. She also reported H4150 is in the Election Law subcommittee. This bill provides for early voting for General Elections, gives counties discretion on whether to conduct in person absentee voting, restricts the reasons someone can vote absentee, prohibits drop boxes, and allows the opening of absentee ballot return envelopes on 7:00 am the day before the election. Ms. Andino reported the House passed the budget, which included state matching funds for the 2020 federal HAVA grant. state match.

The next order of old business was the Election Infrastructure Security Update. Ms. Andino advised no new vulnerabilities have been detected. She stated the Department of Homeland Security will begin penetration testing and security audits of the SEC and all counties. She informed the Commission the SEC is attempting to obtain cybersecurity insurance, but noted carriers are denying that coverage.

The last order of old business was the legal updates. Ms. Andino advised the League of Women Voters et al v. Marci Andino et al. case was remanded by the Fourth Circuit back to Judge Gergel for a determination on the question of mootness. Judge Gergel recently held a hearing and ordered the parties to brief the issue.

Chairman Wells reminded the Commission members the next meeting will be held on May 19, 2021.

With no further business, Mr. Moseley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Edler. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Daylin Silber