

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 15, 2022  
10:00 a.m.**

1122 Lady Street, 5th Floor  
Columbia, SC 29201

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

Others Present: Howard Knapp, Executive Director; Chris Whitmire, Deputy Executive Director; Thomas W. Nicholson, General Counsel; Barbara Pittelli, Administrative Coordinator

**COMMISSIONERS**

JOHN WELLS  
Chairman

JOANNE DAY

CLIFFORD J. EDLER

LINDA MCCALL

SCOTT MOSELEY

Chairman Wells called the meeting to order. Mr. Knapp 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 May 18, 2022 (SEC) meeting, and the May 20, 2022 (SBC) meeting. A motion to approve both sets of minutes was made by Ms. Day, seconded by Ms. McCall. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

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HOWARD M. KNAPP  
Executive Director

**New Business**

The first item under new business was the 2022 statewide primaries debrief. Mr. Knapp informed the Commissioners, a little over one half million votes were cast which represented about 17-18 percent of all eligible voters. He stated the early voting total was 100,650 votes cast and the number of returned absentee by mail ballots was 16,826. Mr. Knapp advised there were nine state level races with runoffs, and four state level races with recounts. He further advised there were two issues of note during the primaries. Storms caused power outages in several counties, but only a few polling places had to fully utilize paper ballots. There was a redistricting issue in Beaufort County that caused ninety-two voters to receive the wrong county council district race on their ballot, which in turn caused a delay in processing the results and transmitting them to the SEC.

The second item of new business was the office lease RFP. Mr. Knapp stated the current office lease ends in the spring of 2023 and the Department of Administration's Real Property Office has issued an RFP for office space for the agency.

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The last item under new business was the agency head annual review process. Mr. Knapp advised the time for the agency head evaluation and planning stage for the next fiscal year is approaching and forms will be sent to the board members.

### **Old Business**

Statewide standardized procedures update was the first item under old business. Mr. Knapp stated SEC staff were working with consultants to update the draft of the voter registration procedures section with the relevant pieces of the new election reform law, Act 150.

The second item under old business was the FY2022/2023 budget request update. Mr. Knapp advised the Legislative Budget Conference Committee had voted to fully fund the agency's budget request. He further advised the General Assembly was returning that same day, June 15, 2022, to vote on a budget bill to send to the Governor for vetoes.

The election infrastructure security update was the next item under old business. Mr. Knapp advised the agency continues to work with its federal, state, and private security partners to secure the state's election infrastructure.

The last item under old business was the legal updates of:

S.C. NAACP, et al v. Alexander, et al  
Osborne, et al v. S.C. State Election Commission, et al  
Curry v. S.C. State Election Commission  
Covert, et al v. S.C. State Election Commission, et al

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to go into executive session to receive and discuss legal advice. Mr. Edler made said motion, seconded by Ms. McCall. The motion passed by unanimous vote and the board went into executive session. No votes were taken during executive session.

Upon returning to open session, Chairman Wells reminded the Commissioners the next SEC meeting would be on July 20, 2022.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Pittelli