

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

10:00 AM

1122 Lady Street, Suite 500
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Present: Robert Bolchoz, Chairman; Ms. JoAnne Day; Mr. Clifford Edler; Mr. Scott Moseley; Ms. Angela Stringer (via teleconference)

Others Present: Conway Belangia, Executive Director; Jenny Wooten, Chief of Staff; Thomas Nicholson, General Counsel; Elizabeth Harrell, Executive Assistant; Brian Leach, Director of Election Technology

Call to Order

Chairman Bolchoz called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., noting a quorum was present, and advised all notices of the meeting had been posted as required by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Adoption of Proposed Agenda

The Chairman asked if there were any additions to the proposed agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

- April 15, 2026, State Election Commission Regular Meeting
- April 28, 2026, State Election Commission Special Meeting

Chairman Bolchoz introduced the first item of business as approval of the meeting minutes. Upon motion by Chairman Bolchoz and seconded by Commissioner Edler, the minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

2026 Primary information/update

House of Representatives gave 2nd and 3rd reading to the reapportionment to the US House of Representatives and it is now moving to the Senate. We've been involved in answering questions from House members and staff. The special election will cost 3.5 million. County costs will be approximately 1.8 million.

Commissioners asked questions about redistricting and discussions followed.

Election infrastructure security update

The SEC continues to work with our state and national law enforcement and security partners to ensure that elections are secure and accurate in South Carolina.

Election Technology division update

Brian Leach, Chief Information Officer, provided an overview of the Election Technology Services division. Three areas that work together: VREMS (VR system, working with ERIC and motor voter records, and statewide VR, helping counties, making electronic pollbook files), IT (handle IT needs of the agency and counties with new tech that comes along – recently closed the 10,000 ticket between us and the counties), and cybersecurity (go out with homeland security and evaluate physical security of VR offices, where equipment is stored,

COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT BOLCHOZ
Chairman

JOANNE DAY

CLIFFORD J. EDLER

SCOTT MOSELEY

ANGELA STRINGER

Conway Belangia
Executive Director

1122 Lady Street
Suite 500
Columbia, SC 29201

P.O. Box 5987
Columbia, SC 29250

803.734.9060
Fax: 803.734.9366
www.scvotes.gov

and they advise them of rooms for improvement – have helped counties get federal funding before). A total of 7 people.

Chairman Bolchoz asked Mr. Leach if the data transfer to the DOJ would be sent by the deadline and Mr. Leach confirmed that it would be.

Chairman Bolchoz opened the floor for further discussion.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Edler seconded by Commissioner Moseley, the Commission entered executive session by unanimous voice vote.

Executive Session:

Discussion of, and receipt of legal advice regarding, pending and potential litigation, including *Crook v. S.C. Election Commission*; *Public Interest Legal Foundation, Inc. v. Belangia*; *NAACP v. Wilson et al.*; *Reel v. S.C. Election Commission*; *Salonich v. S.C. Election Commission*; and any litigation related to the 2026 elections, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70(a)(2).

No action taken during executive session.

Adjournment

Chairman Bolchoz moved to adjourn, and this was seconded by Commissioner Day. With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned unanimously.