



Delaware County Board of Elections
MINUTES of October 8, 2025 Meeting
County Council Room – 201 W Front St., Media PA 19063



Ashley Lunkenheimer, Chair
Scott Alberts, Member
John C. McMeekin II, Member
Jim Allen, Election Director
J. Manly Parks, Solicitor
Lisa Cacharell, Parkside
Howard Pritchard, Parkside
Colleen Guiney, Swarthmore

The Board of Elections meeting was called to order by Chair Lunkenheimer, followed by the pledge of allegiance and consideration of the agenda.

Public Comment

Lisa Cacharell of Parkside spoke on having the polling place in that borough relocated to a school. Howard Pritchard of Parkside spoke on keeping the polling place at the firehouse. Colleen Guiney of Swarthmore spoke on voter intimidation being in the eyes of the victim.

EAC Report on Delaware County Hash Testing

Chair Lunkenheimer introduced the report from the United States Election Assistance Commission, the body that certifies balloting equipment and develops best practices, which commended Delaware County's program at the Union Power Plant and the Voting Machine Warehouse. Both sites perform hash-testing of the voting equipment to verify that the version of the voting-equipment software that was certified by the EAC, and no other code, is in use on the central servers and on randomly selected precinct voting equipment. The Chair quoted the report as saying the hash testing yielded no findings that could potentially impact the security of the system. All hashes (software fingerprints) matched the EAC trusted hashes. The EAC concluded that the Delaware County voting system, facility security and counting-center procedures appear to be comprehensive and thoroughly followed. The EAC noted that Delaware County is one of the only jurisdictions in Pennsylvania to perform hash-verification on its voting system. Director Jim Allen expressed gratitude to the EAC and its recognition of the work by IT Liaison Rob Wright and the Warehouse and Union Power Plant staff members who help perform hash-testing. Mr. Allen said Delaware County was the first county in Pennsylvania to perform hash-testing. It is a test that is not required by law. That is why the EAC decided to study Delaware County with the hope of encouraging other counties in Pennsylvania performing hash testing or encouraging the Department of State to mandating hash testing.

Preparations for the 2025 Municipal Election

Mr. Allen outlined the Voting Machine Warehouse beginning the logic-and-accuracy program of all of the voting equipment, in accordance with state law. Mr. Allen said the first batches of mail/absentee ballots began reaching voters Oct. 4. Staff is working early in the day or late in the evening to keep up with incoming applications for mail/absentee ballots. Mr. Allen recommended voters not wait until the deadline to apply – and if they do, to apply in person at the Voter Service Center – to make sure they are able to vote and return their ballots by Election Day. The Government Center drop box is open now, and the community drop boxes will open 15 days before Election Day. Voter Registration is preparing the electronic poll books. Oct. 20 is the deadline to register to vote or update a registration name/address.



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Polling Place Change – Parkside Borough

Parkside precinct was proposed to relocate to Parkside Elementary School, 2 E Forestview Rd, Brookhaven on petition of voters. Member Alberts moved to approve the change. Chair Lunkenheimer seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-1, with Member McMeekin voted against, stating the petition was not compelling to support the change.

Other Polling Place changes

- Upper Providence 1 – Move to Greater Philly Church, 623 Manchester, Media, due to construction project at the polling place site used for Upper Providence 1 at past elections.
- Radnor 3-2 – Radnor Memorial Library, 114 W Wayne Ave, due to the previous polling place proprietor seeking authority to remove campaign signs.
- Radnor 5-2 – To remain at JCHAI, consistent with the move at the May Primary, rather than changing at each election.

Member McMeekin made a motion to approve these three polling place assignments. Member Alberts seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Director Allen reported that all of the consolidations authorized by the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas are now under review by the Pennsylvania Department of State. That Department of State review process is required under the Election Code. Mr. Allen said that because that process is ongoing, no consolidations will take effect at the upcoming Nov. 4, 2025 Municipal Election. Staff will monitor approvals from the Department of State.

Director Allen reported that the Board of Elections will need to file in the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas to seek approval of the Haverford Township Re-Districting. The Township's plan would shift the boundary between only two of its precincts. Voters in the affected precincts are being notified that the change will not be in effect ahead of the Nov. 4, 2025 Municipal Election.

Campaign Finance Waiver Requests

No campaign-finance waiver requests were filed for consideration at this meeting.

Voter Registration Activities

Voter Registration Chief Clerk Crystal Winterbottom noted that Oct. 20 is the deadline to register or file a name/address change, and that paperwork must be in the office by Oct. 20. Delaware County currently has a little over 408,000 voters. The department has processed 37,000 applications in the current year, and the department is currently working on the Poll Pads and related inventories of supplies. There has been an uptick in applications, more than the May 2025 Primary, but much less than the activity ahead of the 2024 Presidential.

Motion to authorize Election Director contingencies, if necessary

Director Allen asked that the Board authorize the Director and designated staff to fill vacancies on local district boards, make determinations on processing mail/absentee envelopes, make emergency polling-place changes, and take other contingency steps, as needed, for the Nov. 4, 2025 Municipal Election.



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The Chair noted that there are monitoring activities across the county on Election Day, and that the Board historically has authorized staff to take any necessary contingencies. Chair Lunkenheimer made a motion Member McMeekin asked if the Board would be consulted, and Director Allen said the Board would be consulted. Member Alberts seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Parks noted a court ruling has eliminated the requirement that envelopes be dated by the voter. Director Allen said voters are being advised to date their ballot-return envelopes – in the event the court might reverse the ruling.

Solicitor Parks noted that another court ruled (in a case out of Washington County, PA) that counties must notify voters when the voters' mail/absentee envelopes had fatal flaws, such as being unsigned, being unsealed or lacking secrecy envelope. Delaware County already notifies voters in such situations. Lastly, Solicitor Parks said a pro se litigant had filed a case over the County's hash-testing process. The problem with the lawsuit, the solicitor noted, is that the federal EAC has already studied and told the County that its process is gold-standard and state of the art.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the August 2025 meeting of the Board of Election were considered. Board member Alberts made the motion, and Board member McMeekin seconded the motion to approve minutes. Motion was approved.

Outline of schedule of provisional hearing and certification meeting

Director Allen said a meeting at the end of October is not likely to be needed. Then, the Board would convene on Election Day to prec canvass and canvass, and then have a hearing, likely a week after Election Day, on staff recommendations on, and any objections to, provisional ballots, followed by a meeting to certify the election results. Legal notices would be posted on the Board's web site and in newspapers, as needed.

Member McMeekin made a motion and Member Alberts seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion was approved and meeting was adjourned.