

<b>Meeting Agenda:</b>	Board of Elections Meeting		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday, March 9th, 2026	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Start:</b> 11:02 am <b>End:</b> 11:20 am
<b>Meeting Facilitator:</b>	Brianna Nigrone-Souza, Deputy-Chief Clerk	<b>Location:</b>	Lehigh County Government Center, Public Hearing Room

<b>Attendance:</b>	
Timothy Benyo	Chief Clerk of Elections (Via Zoom)
Brianna Nigrone-Souza	Deputy-Chief Clerk of Elections
Joshua Siegel	Lehigh County Executive, Election Board Chair
Michael O’Hare	Election Board Member
Dr. Jennifer Allen	Election Board Member
Sarah Murray, Esq.	Lehigh County Deputy Solicitor

The meeting is called to order by Executive Joshua Siegel at 11:02 am and announced that the meeting is being recorded for public record.

Old Business

- N/A

New Business (Mr. Benyo’s Resignation & Process for Appointment of New Chief Clerk)

- Sarah Murray asked if the Board of Elections would like to appoint the new Chief Clerk and interview applicants as it has been done in the past. Sarah Murray added that Mr. Benyo has been in his role for 16+ years and has updated the job description.
  - o Executive Siegel said he will follow up that the job is posted by the end of the day.
  - o Dr. Jennifer Allen would like to continue the process of the Board of Elections conducting interviews. Executive Siegel and Mr. Michael O’Hare agree.
- Mr. O’Hare asked Sarah Murray where in the Election Code it states about the Board of Elections appointing a new Chief Clerk?

- Sarah Murray said she does not know off the top of her head but will get back to him with the Code section.
- Mr. O'Hare asked if there is a plan in place to handle responsibilities while the role is being filled with the May Primary quickly approaching.
  - Sarah Murray replied that the Voter Registration staff is prepared to continue responsibilities with the transition/temporary vacancy of a Chief Clerk.
  - Mr. O'Hare agreed that Mr. Benyo has trained the staff well.
  - Executive Siegel wants the position filled no later than April.
  - Sarah Murray said the Board of Elections can hold special meetings to fill the position.
  - Dr. Allen said the Board of Elections wants to find someone strong to fill the important position.
- Sarah Murray provided an update that the petition deadline tomorrow, March 10 and the deadline to file petition challenges is next Tuesday, March 17.
- No Public Comment on New Business.

#### 2026 Special Election 1<sup>st</sup> Certification Approval

- Motion for the First Certification of the 2026 Special Election made by Dr. Allen and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. O'Hare. Motion passes 3-0.

#### Public Comment

- Mr. Elbich thanked the Board of Elections and Sarah Murray for their attention uploading the meeting minutes and recordings online.
- Mr. Elbich followed up his letter to the editor expressing concerns of a potential Department of State initiative to upload poll books online.
  - Mr. Elbich is a poll worker and has security and validity concerns. Encourages Board of Elections to oppose this.
  - Sarah Murray said this can be added to the next meeting agenda and Mr. O'Hare has suspicions of how it will be perceived by the public.
  - Executive Siegel and Dr. Allen agreed on adding it to the next agenda and addressing the Department of State on the Board of Election's concerns.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. O'Hare and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Allen, meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.