

**R. I. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 11, 2013**

The Rhode Island State Board of Elections convened at 3:45 PM at the Rhode Island Board of Elections, a quorum included, Chairman Frank Rego, Vice-Chairman Richard Pierce, Commissioners William West, Susan Farmer, Richard DuBois, Florence Gormley, and Martin Joyce Executive Director Robert Kando and Board legal counsel Raymond Marcaccio were also in attendance.

First order of business: A motion to pass on the approval of the minutes for Board of Elections meetings dated 2/27/13 to the next regularly scheduled board meeting was made by Commissioner Gormley, seconded by Vice Chairman Pierce and passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Discussion and possible vote in regards to election legislation in the R.I. General Assembly; H-5487 relating to elections – Mail Ballots (see attached). Ray Marcaccio, Board's legal counsel addressed the board acknowledging the recommended changes to the legislation. After a brief discussion and duly noted typos, Commissioner Gormley motioned to pass this legislation was seconded by Commissioner Joyce and passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Discussion and possible vote in regards to election legislation in the R.I. General Assembly; H - 5484 relating to elections – Mail Ballots (see attached). Ray Marcaccio, the Board's legal counsel addressed the board acknowledging the recommended changes to the legislation. After a brief discussion a motion to approve this legislation by Vice Chairman Pierce seconded by Commissioner DuBois and passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Discussion and possible vote in regards to election legislation in the R.I. General Assembly; H – 5500 relating to elections – Mail Ballots (see attached). Ray Marcaccio, Board's legal counsel addressed the board acknowledging the recommended changes to the legislation. After a brief discussion a motion to approve this legislation by Commissioner Farmer was seconded by Commissioner Gormley and passed unanimously.

Next order of business: Discussion and possible vote in regards to election legislation in the R.I. General Assembly; S - 0453 relating to elections – Conduct of elections and voting equipment and supplies (see attached). Mr. Marcaccio, the Board's legal counsel addressed the board and recommended changes to the legislation. A motion to reject this legislation and its companion bill was moved by Vice Chairman Pierce seconded by Commissioner West and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gormley moved to reject any other companion bills in association with the bills that are being rejected as well as the actual bill seconded by Commissioner West and passed unanimously.

**R. I. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 11, 2013**

Next order of business: Counselor Ray Marcaccio addressed the board with the recommended changes in legislation regarding RI General Assembly H – 5485 Campaign Contributions and Expenditures reporting legislation.

After a discussion of the board members and testimony from John Marion, of Common Cause and, Steven Brown from the ACLU, the following motions were made: Commissioner Gormley motioned to maintain the current (\$100) contribution limits set forth in our existing statute seconded by Commissioner Farmer passed unanimously; Commissioner Gormley motioned to require all candidates and political action committees to maintain separate bank accounts for the deposit of all contributions seconded by Vice Chairman Pierce and Commissioner DuBois and passed unanimously; Motion by Commissioner Gormley to delete the monetary cap of \$2000 for any fines and fees assessed by the Board motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and passed 6 - 1 with Commissioner Gormley against; Motion by Commissioner Farmer to delete the language that prohibits a person from filing a declaration and running for office seconded by Vice Chairman Pierce and passed unanimously. Commissioner Farmer moved to incorporate upon due process the Board can freeze the activity of a candidate with respect to receiving and/or expending funds seconded by Commissioner West and passed unanimously.

At 4:40 pm Commissioner Gormley motioned to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with R.I. General Laws § 42-45-5(a)(4) and R.I. General Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Pierce and unanimously passed. The Board adjourned into Executive Session.

At 5:38 PM the board returned from Executive session. Commissioner Farmer motioned to seal the minutes of the executive session seconded by Vice Chairman Pierce passed unanimously.

At 5:40 PM Commissioner Farmer moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gormley and passed unanimously.