

LAWRENCE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, February 13, 2024

The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 13, 2024, was called to order by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 8:30 am at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. Administrative Assistant, Kristine Venasco called the roll. Those in attendance were **Tim Germani, Susan Kite, Timothy Buck, Leroy Polding, and Debbie Wachter, New Castle News**. It was stated for the record that the meeting is being taped. Those wishing to speak shall be given five minutes. Those speaking are to state for the record their names, addresses and the nature of their business.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Leroy Polding, elections judge at Clen-More 2-3. Mr. Polding asked how many other precincts would be added to the Clen-More polling place, if they would be responsible for those that are added and if they would get a pay increase.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of November 6, 2023, and November 27, 2023. moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Germani gave the Election Director's Report. He named the offices that are up for election. They will be on both Democrat and Republican ballots. Mr. Germani stated that there are 55,701 registered voters. Democrats- 20,956 and Republicans- 27,908. Currently, the Elections office has processed 2,539 mail-in applications. He also mentioned that from January 1, 2024, the Elections office has spent \$8,475.36 on mail. He also noted that the state has required new envelopes and instructions, which have not taken effect yet. Mr. Germani stated that 6,500 voters will be affected by the changes in polling spots. He will send all voter affected new voter ID cards, post the appropriate signs, and advertise the changes in the paper as the state election laws require. Mr. Germani also responded to Mr. Polding's questions. He stated that there will be 1 precinct added to Clen-More and each precinct will have its own judge.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-2024-01_____

COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, in the Borough of South New Castle the polling place was located at the South New Castle Borough Building, 2411 Adella St., New Castle, PA 16102; and

WHEREAS, South New Castle Borough Building will no longer be available to be a polling site due to its closure; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Elections has received permission to vote at the South New Castle Fire Hall, located at 104 W. Byers Ave., New Castle, PA 16101

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, that:

1. The polling place for South New Castle Borough shall be moved from South New Castle Borough Building to South New Castle Fire Hall, located at 104 W. Byers Ave., New Castle, PA 16101.
2. **NOTICE** of this change has been duly completed per Election Code Statute 25 PS 2726.

APPROVED this date _____, 2024.

Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

CERTIFIED this date _____, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2024-02

COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, in the City of New Castle, Ward 4, District 3, the polling place was located at St. Joseph’s Church, 1111 S. Cascade St., New Castle, PA 16101; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph’s Church will no longer be available to be a polling site due to its closure; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Elections has received permission to vote at DON Services, Inc., located at 831 Harrison St., New Castle, PA 16101

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, that:

1. The polling place for the Fourth ward, Third District, City of New Castle shall be moved from St. Joseph’s Church to DON Services, Inc., located at 831 Harrison St., New Castle, PA 16101.
2. **NOTICE** of this change has been duly completed per Election Code Statute 25 PS 2726.

APPROVED this date _____, 2024.

Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

CERTIFIED this date _____, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2024-03

COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, in the City of New Castle, Ward 4, District 2, the polling place was located at St. Joseph’s Church, 1111 S. Cascade St., New Castle, PA 16101; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph’s Church will no longer be available to be a polling site due to its closure; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Elections has received permission to vote at DON Services, Inc., located at 831 Harrison St., New Castle, PA 16101

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, that:

1. The polling place for the Fourth ward, Second District, City of New Castle shall be moved from St. Joseph’s Church to DON Services, Inc., located at 831 Harrison St., New Castle, PA 16101.
2. **NOTICE** of this change has been duly completed per Election Code Statute 25 PS 2726.

APPROVED this date _____, 2024.

Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

CERTIFIED this date _____, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2024-04

COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, in the Township of Shenango, District 3, the polling place was located at the New Shenango Fire Department, 2424 E Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101; and

WHEREAS, the New Shenango Fire Department will no longer be available to be a polling site due to its restructure; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Elections has received permission to vote at the Shenango Sports Complex, located at 2550 Ellwood Rd., New Castle, PA 16101

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, that:

1. The polling place for the Third District, Shenango Township shall be moved from the New Shenango Fire Department to the Shenango Sports Complex, located at 2550 Ellwood Rd., New Castle, PA 16101.
2. **NOTICE** of this change has been duly completed per Election Code Statute 25 PS 2726.

APPROVED this date _____, 2024.

Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

CERTIFIED this date _____, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2020-05

COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, in the Township of Shenango, District 2, the polling place was located at the New Shenango Fire Department, 2424 E Washington St., New Castle, PA 16101; and

WHEREAS, the New Shenango Fire Department will no longer be available to be a polling site due to its restructure; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Elections has received permission to vote at the Shenango Sports Complex, located at 2550 Ellwood Rd., New Castle, PA 16101

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, that:

1. The polling place for the Second District, Shenango Township shall be moved from the New Shenango Fire Department to the Shenango Sports Complex, located at 2550 Ellwood Rd., New Castle, PA 16101.
2. **NOTICE** of this change has been duly completed per Election Code Statute 25 PS 2726.

APPROVED this date _____, 2024.

Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

CERTIFIED this date _____, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Polding asked Mr. Germani and the board if it would be possible to have a constable present on election day. Mr. Germani said that he would investigate the possibility of having one there. Mr. Polding also inquired about a pay increase. Mr. Germani stated he would look into that as well. Mr. Polding thanked Mr. Germani and his staff for always doing an outstanding job. Mr. Polding asked about signage at the polling places.

Mr. Vogler stated that it is up to the property owner whether signs are allowed.

Mr. Sainato asked if Mr. Germani would be willing to put a list together of which polling places allow signs and which do not.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the county is blessed to have Tim and his staff and thanked all of them.

Mr. Tim Buck, Chair of Democrat party stated that he appreciates the Voter department. He thanked Mr. Germani and his staff for an excellent job.

Debbie Wachter asked if there was a deadline for when polling places must be changed. Mr. Germani said yes.

Motion to recess to adjourn at 9:22 am by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Motion carried 3-0.